

Guide for Authors

Aims and scope

Scientia Horticulturae is an international journal publishing research related to horticultural crops. Articles in the journal deal with open or protected production of vegetables, fruits, edible fungi and ornamentals under temperate, subtropical and tropical conditions. Papers in related areas (biochemistry, micropropagation, soil science, plant breeding, plant physiology, phytopathology, etc.) are considered, if they contain information of direct significance to horticulture. Papers on the technical aspects of horticulture (engineering, crop processing, storage, transport etc.) are accepted for publication only if they relate directly to the living product. In the case of plantation crops, those yielding a product that may be used fresh (e.g. tropical vegetables, citrus, bananas, and other fruits) will be considered, while those requiring processing (e.g. rubber, tobacco, tea, and quinine) will not.

Types of contributions

1. Original full papers (Regular Papers)
2. Review articles
3. Short Communications
 - 3.1 Report of preliminary results of important research (pilot investigation; e.g. no duplications or with other restrictions).
 - 3.2 Report on research with restricted originality; modification of earlier reported research with no or limited explanatory aspects.
 - 3.3 Newly developed methodology or modification of existing methodology, possibly description of first test.
 - 3.4 Results of the application of an earlier published research methodology on other crops or under different conditions (fact finding or recipes), that are nevertheless of interest to an international readership.
4. Book Reviews

Original papers should report the results of original research. The material should not have been previously published elsewhere, except in a preliminary form.

Reviews should cover a part of the subject active current interest. They may be submitted or invited.

Short Communications should be as completely documented, both by reference to the literature and description of the experimental procedures employed, as a regular paper. They should not occupy more than 4 printed pages (about 8 manuscript pages, including figures, etc.).

Submission of manuscripts

Submission of an article implies that the work described has not been published previously (except in the form of an abstract or as part of a published lecture or academic thesis), that it is not under consideration for publication elsewhere, that its publication is approved by all Authors and tacitly or explicitly by the responsible authorities where the work was carried out, and that, if accepted, it will not be published elsewhere in the same form, in English or in any other language, without the written consent of the Publisher.

Upon acceptance of an article, Authors will be asked to transfer copyright (for more information on copyright see <http://authors.elsevier.com>). This transfer will ensure the widest possible dissemination of information. A letter will be sent to the corresponding Author confirming receipt of the manuscript. A form facilitating transfer of copyright will be provided.

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On-line submission to the journal prior to acceptance

Submission to this journal proceeds totally on-line. Use the following guidelines to prepare your article. Via the “Author Gateway” page of this journal (<http://authors.elsevier.com>) you will be guided stepwise through the creation and uploading of the various files. Once the uploading is done, our system automatically generates an electronic (PDF) proof, which is then used for reviewing. All correspondence, including notification of the Editor’s decision and requests for revisions, will be by e-mail. In general, no separate proof is sent to you: the PDF is your proof. A proof will be provided only when the final layout of the article has to differ significantly from that in the initial PDF.

The above represents a very brief outline of this form of submission. It can be advantageous to print this “Guide for Authors” section from the site for reference in the subsequent stages of article preparation.

Electronic format requirements of accepted articles

General points

We accept most wordprocessing formats, but Word, WordPerfect or LaTeX is preferred. Always keep a backup copy of the electronic file for reference and safety.

Wordprocessor documents

It is important that the file be saved in the native format of the wordprocessor used. The text should be in single-column format. Keep the layout of the text as simple as possible. Most formatting codes will be removed and replaced on processing the article. In particular, do not use the wordprocessor’s options to justify text or to hyphenate words. However, do use bold face, italics, subscripts, superscripts etc. Do not embed ‘graphically designed’ equations or tables, but prepare these using the wordprocessor’s facility. When preparing tables, if you are using a table grid, use only one grid for each individual table and not a grid for each row. If no grid is used, use tabs, not spaces, to align columns. The electronic text should be prepared in a way very similar to that of conventional manuscripts (see also the Author Gateway’s Quickguide: <http://authors.elsevier.com>). Do not import the figures into the text file but, instead, indicate their approximate locations directly in the electronic text and on the manuscript. See also the section on Preparation of electronic illustrations.

To avoid unnecessary errors you are strongly advised to use the ‘spellchecker’ function of your wordprocessor.

Preparation of manuscripts

1. Articles must be written in good English. Authors whose native language is not English are strongly advised to have their manuscripts checked by an English-speaking colleague prior to submission.
English language help service: Upon request, Elsevier will direct authors to an agent who can check and improve the English of their paper (*before submission*). Please contact authorsupport@elsevier.com for further information.
2. Manuscripts should be prepared with numbered lines, with wide margins and double spacing throughout, i.e. also for abstracts, footnotes and references. Ensure that each new paragraph is clearly

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