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Journal of Agricultural Sciences

Editorial Policy

The Journal of Agricultural Sciences is a peer reviewed journal aiming to publish high quality articles on topical issues in Agriculture, and publish three issues of the journal annually; 1st January, 1st May and 1st September. The journal provides a forum for Sri Lankan and international scholars to publish authoritative and well referenced articles in agriculture related areas. The journal publishes original research works, book reviews, short communications and comparative articles.

Research papers submitted for publication should have a sound disciplinary basis, although cross disciplinary contributions are also accepted. Papers submitted for publication are mainly peer reviewed. However, guest papers from senior scholars are subject to the review of editorial board only.

Manuscripts submitted by the authors are subject to a preliminary screening based on appropriateness of the theme and quality of the content of the manuscript. Those manuscripts that are cleared the initial screening then undergo a double-blind peer review process. Two reviewers in the same or related field are assigned by Editor in Chief in consultation with Coordinating Editor to carry out the review based on the evaluation criteria. Based on the evaluation report of the reviewers, the Editor in Chief and the editorial team then make a final decision for acceptance or rejection of the paper.

Publication Ethics & Publication Malpractice

Funding of the JAS publication is exclusively from the Sabaragamuwa University funds. Also research funders should be acknowledged by the authors on all research papers.

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Editorial Foreword

The main purpose of writing a research paper is to disseminate and exchange knowledge and expertise with peers and scientists, locally and internationally. Along with this purpose, researchers aims are career development and personal satisfaction. After writing the first draft of the manuscript researcher's main question is where to publish it. The answer is very simple. As the author you have to select a recognized journal in your field for which the manuscript is appropriate. The most important thing is to match your manuscript to the most appropriate journal, given the substantive fit and the writer's circumstances.

The most important point is how to write a publishable manuscript. First, you have to ensure that the results of your research provide a new insight to the particular field of study. Second, you have to be very clear that the journal you have selected to publish your manuscript is a recognized and publishes on time. Third, you have to read carefully the author's guidelines of the journal and start to write or organize your manuscript accordingly. Forth, your writing style should conform to standards of high quality scientific writing. In this process, you can write the first draft of your paper by ensuring that it encompasses the background of the research, research method, research findings and critical discussion and conclusions. The composition of a manuscript is a journey through the tangled under a bush of your unformed ideas. After completing the first draft, it is appropriate to send it to a senior colleague and get his comments. For amateur writers it is extremely important to go through this exercise under close supervision of a senior scientist.

Writing a research paper is the last step of the research and it requires rigorousness. The researcher should follow an academic style of writing. The language of the research paper should be simple and easy to understand. The Journal of Agricultural Sciences always looks for high quality manuscripts and will look for rigorousness, accuracy, clarity, conciseness, validity, preciseness, originality, coherence and generalizability of the findings of the research.

Today I am very happy and proud to say that JAS is making significant progress and receiving recognition from research community in its field of study. There were many people behind this success. This credit must go to Dr. Chandrika Dissanayake, Coordinating Editor of JAS, Mr Prasad Iddamalgoda, Ms Suiox Cummings of SLJOL, all the authors, reviewers and editorial committee members.

Prof Rohana P Mahaliyanaarachchi
Editor in Chief
01st September 2014