

Information for Contributors

Journal of the Mississippi Academy of Sciences

Submit three clear copies of the manuscript, together with a covering letter, to the editor of the journal. The covering letter should authorize publication; give the full names, addresses, and telephone numbers for all authors; and indicate the author of correspondence to whom bills, proofs, reprints, and other correspondence should be sent. Notify the editor of any changes prior to publication. All manuscripts should be typed, double spaced throughout, including literature lists, tables, and figure legends, on 8½ x 11 inch paper with 1 inch margins on all sides. Place the last names of each author, an abbreviated title, and the page number at the top of each page.

General articles. The format for general articles is flexible. You may use any style and organization appropriate to the subject matter. However, if the manuscript includes literature citations, tables, or figures, these should conform to the style and format given below for research papers.

Research papers. The following sequence should be used:

1. Title page. Give the concise title of the paper and the full name and complete address of each author. If a scientific name of an organism appears in the title, include an indication of its taxonomic position (e.g., "Survival of *Scenedesmus acuminatus* (Chlorophyceae) in darkness"). Indicate with a superscript number the author to contact regarding correspondence and reprints if there are multiple authors.
2. Abstract. Include a concise abstract of no more than 250 words. This abstract should contain only objectives, results, and conclusions, and should not make reference to tables or figures or to literature. It should be useable by abstracting services without change.
3. Introduction. Discuss briefly the rationale for and purpose of the investigation. You may include important findings. Consider that many readers will not be expert in the particular field.
4. Materials and methods. Include sufficient detail so that the results of your investigation could be duplicated.
5. Results. Report data you have collected. Tables and figures may be appropriate, but a prose description of significant data is necessary. Note that the significance of your data should be reported in the Discussion section. Metric units (International System of Units, SI) must be used for quantitative data.
6. Discussion. Report the significance of the results of your research here. In this section you must convince your readers that you accomplished the purpose of your research described in the introduction. You may combine results and discussion into one section, in which case a brief Conclusions section may be appropriate.
7. Acknowledgments. Financial or other assistance should be acknowledged in this section rather than in the body of the text.
8. Literature cited. List references alphabetically. Cite references in the text by author and year of publication (e.g., Smith, 1975; Black and Jones, 1982; Smith et al., 1989; Jones, 1985a, 1985b). The following examples illustrate the style to be used in the literature list.

Wilson, M.C. 1988. Euphoria and other behavioral sequelae to

cocaine abuse. *J. Miss. Acad. Sci.* 33:25–27.

Evert, R.F., R.D. Warmbrodt, and S.E. Eichhorn. 1989. Sieve-pore development in some leptosporangiate ferns. *Amer. J. Bot.* 76:1404–1413.

Bold, H.C., C.J. Alexopoulos, and T. Delevoryas. 1980. *Morphology of plants and fungi*, 4th ed. Harper and Row, NY. 819 pp.

Keohn, R.K., A.J. Zera, and J.G. Hall. 1983. Enzyme polymorphism and natural selection. Pages 115–136 in M. Nei and R.K. Koehn, eds. *Evolution of genes and proteins*. Sinauer Associates, Sunderland, MA.

9. Tables. Reference tables sequentially in the text. Type each table on a separate page. A descriptive title including the table number in Arabic numerals must appear at the top of each table. Keep footnotes to a minimum. Use superscript lower case letters to mark footnotes.
10. Figures. Reference figures sequentially in the text. Submit original art with black ink or laser print on white paper or a glossy black and white photograph. Plan drawings so that lettering and lines will remain visible if reduction is necessary for journal page constraints. Drawings and photographs where a scale is needed must contain a measured mark. Type figure legends double spaced on a separate page from the figures. Number legends sequentially with Arabic numerals followed by a descriptive title. Include sufficient explanatory material to interpret the figure.

Laboratory and field exercises. Descriptions for laboratory or field exercises should include the title page, introduction, and literature cited sections as described for research papers. The general format is flexible, but should include sections describing objectives, materials needed, length of the exercise, any necessary teacher background information, and procedural notes including any required advance preparation. The inclusion of questions for students is appropriate.

Brief communications. Manuscripts under two pages concerning any aspect of science in Mississippi are considered. An abstract is not required and the format is flexible.

Consult recent issues of the journal for further guidance. The editor uses the Council of Biological Editors Style Manual for guidance.

All correspondence concerning publication should be directed to the office of the Mississippi Academy of Sciences:

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