

## **Guide lines for authors**

### **Preparation of manuscripts:**

The text, which should not exceed 7000 words, is to be typed, double spaced on one side of A4 size good quality white paper. English and spelling should conform to the Oxford Dictionary. Times New Romans with font size 12 should be used. The top bottom and side margins should be 33 mm each. Pages should be numbered in Arabic numbers at the bottom centre starting with the title page.

Manuscripts should follow the order 1) title page, 2) abstract (in English) and keywords, 3) introduction, 4) materials and methods, 5) results and discussion, 6) conclusions, 7) acknowledgement (if any), 8) references, 9) figure legends, 10) tables (full with caption and footnotes) and 11) figures.

Authors are advised to refer to a recent issue of the journal for style and formatting.

### **Title page:**

Title page should contain:

- i) Title of the manuscript, brief and informative, reflect the contents of the paper and be suitable for indexing,
- ii) Author(s) name(s) and affiliation(s), if authors are differently affiliated Arabic numbers, as superscripts together with footnotes, are to be used to indicate affiliations and
- iii) Name, postal and e-mail addresses, as well as telephone number, of corresponding author (indicated by asterisk) to whom all correspondence pertaining to the manuscript are to be made.

### **ABSTRACT**

Abstract should not exceed 300 words, and should be written as a block paragraph. It is a brief description of the entire paper. It should contain a brief and concise description of the problem, objectives, methodology, findings with statistical significance, conclusions and implications of the work.

### **KEYWORDS**

The keywords (3-5) should be i) carefully selected and ii) not included in the title.

## **INTRODUCTION**

The author(s) has to i) introduce the investigated problem, ii) provide a concise review of relevant previous researches citing significant findings and major conclusions, iii) the approach adopted to solve the problem and iv) relevant hypothesis, objectives and rationale for the study.

## **MATERIALS and METHODS**

This section has to describe where, when and how the study was conducted, materials and equipments used. The description should be in sufficient details that the experiment can be replicated or re-evaluated by peers. The materials and methods section may be divided into subsections as needed. Although the subsections may vary across disciplines, the most common are materials, apparatuses and procedures. Materials, technical specifications, source or method of preparation, should be detailed. Scientific names should be used with the common name in parenthesis for the first time. Thereafter the common name may be used throughout. Methods have to be enlisted in chronological order. Known methods need to be mentioned, but not described. New methods or techniques should be detailed. All quantities should be in the international system (SI) of units.

## **RESULTS**

This section summarizes the data collected and the type of statistic used for analysis. It should include description of the results and not an explanation of the results. Tables and figures are normally used to present results and supplement the text. However, good quality photographs may sometimes be used. All figures (not more than 5), photographs and tables (not more than 5), should be numbered by Arabic numbers.

## **DISCUSSION**

In this section results are evaluated and interpreted, but not repeated. Consistency and relationships of the results with previous researches and theories are to be discussed. Practical impact and implications on future researches should be pinpointed. If the discussion is relatively brief it could be combined with the result section as results and discussion.

## **REFERENCES**

The journal is adopting the Harvard System (H-S). In the text, a reference identified by means of an author's name should be followed by the date of the reference in parentheses. When there are more than two authors, only the first author's name should be mentioned, followed by '*et al.*'. In the event that an author cited has had two or more works published during the same year, the

reference, both in the text and in the reference list, should be identified by a lower case letter like 'a' and 'b' after the date to distinguish the works. References should be listed at the end of the paper in alphabetical order. Articles in preparation or articles submitted for publication, unpublished observations, personal communications, etc. should not be included in the reference list but should only be mentioned in the article text. The author with initials and year should be included, in text, in parenthesis e.g. (Ali, G. A., 2011, unpublished data or Ali, G. A., 2011, personal communication). All sources cited in the text must appear in the reference list. Authors are fully responsible for the accuracy of the references. The reference listing format below has to be strictly adhered to:

**Articles from Journals:**

Author(s) surname(s) + author(s) initials + (year of publication). + title of article. + journal title (Full and in italics) + volume number (in bold): + pages inclusive (first – last).

**Example:**

Kubu, L. and Ayafor, T. (1990). Structure of a novel phytoecdysteroid from *Vitex fisherii*. *Journal of Chemical Ecology* **16**: 2581-2588.

**Books:**

Author(s) surnames, + author(s) initials, + (year of publication). + title of book (in italics) + volume number (in italics). + publisher + city and country of publication.

**Example:**

Heibron, D. S., Cadogan, J. C. and Slater, C. A. (1974). *Dictionary of Organic Compounds Volume 4*. Eyre and Spottiest wood Publishers Ltd. London.

**Edited books:**

Author(s) name(s), + author(s) initials + (year of publication). + title of publication + Title of book (in italics) + editors in parenthesis. + pages inclusive. + Publisher+ City and country of publication.

**Example:**

Dayan, F. E. and Duke, S. O. (2006). Clues for the search for new herbicides. In: *Allelopathy a Physiological Process with Ecological Implications* (M. J. Manuel, N. Pedrol and L. Gonzalez eds). Pp 63-84. Springer the Netherlands

**Conferences and workshops Proceedings:**

Author(s) name(s), + author(s) initials + (year of publication). + title of article. + Title of conference symposium or workshop (in italics) + editors in parenthesis. + pages inclusive. + Publisher and City or country of publication.

**Example:**

Salle, G. Dembele, B. Raynal-Roque, A. Hallaia, M. F. Tuquest, C. (1987). Biological aspects of *Striga* species, pest of food crops. In: *Proceeding of the Fourth International Symposium on Parasitic Weeds* (H. C. Webber and W. Forstreutereds). Pp367-375. Philips Universitat. Marburg, Germany.

**Theses and dissertations:**

Author(s) name(s), + author(s) initials + (year of publication). + title of thesis (in italic). + University, + country of publication.

**Example:**

Babiker, A. G. T. (1976). *Behaviour and Fate of Pesticides in Plant-Soil Systems*. University of Glasgow, Galsgow UK.

**Websites:**

Reference to websites should give author(s) name, if known + title of cited page + URL in full + date of posting (in parenthesis).

**Example:**

<http://davesgarden.com/guids> (retrieved23 May2009)

**Submission of manuscripts**

All articles submitted to the journal should comply with the set of guidelines stated above. The original manuscript and electronic copy in Word format should be submitted to the journal editorial office (editor-in-chief).

Articles also can be submitted via email to:

[jst@sustech.edu](mailto:jst@sustech.edu)

OR by online submission through the link:

<http://journal.sustech.edu/>

Submissions should be accompanied by a covering letter containing the title of the article. As a rule registered mail should be used. The journal is to confirm reception of the manuscript. The

referee's reports, the decision of the editorial board on publication of the article and any other relevant instructions will be sent to the corresponding author.

The manuscript should be amended and sent back to the journal. Upon acceptance of the amended article the author(s) will be asked to provide a final version soft copy of the entire manuscript. A proof of the article will be sent to the corresponding author to correct typographic errors only. The proof should be returned within 14 days. A delay in response delays publication.

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Articles will not be published until a signed form is received.

On publication an issue of the journal containing the article together with five reprints will be sent to the corresponding author.