

Guidelines to the Authors

The NBU Journal of Plant Sciences (NBUJPS) publishes peer-reviewed Original Research, Review and Short communication in the areas of plant and microbial sciences. Review articles from specialists in the subject will be considered for publication.

Generally, submission of papers will imply that it contains unpublished original work and that are not submitted elsewhere even in part for publication. If any related paper is published or is in the press, a copy of the same must be enclosed along with the manuscript. *The journal uses software to screen for plagiarism and any manuscript found to be plagiarized will be immediately returned.*

Categories of manuscripts

1. Full-Length Research Papers (not exceeding 6000 words excluding Tables, Figures and References):

The paper should describe new and confirmed findings. The article should comprise -

- (a) **Abstract** – In 200-250 words to precisely present the summary of the paper,
- (b) **Keywords** – not more than 5,
- (c) **Introduction** – This section should precisely introduce the subject, background and significance of the work with citation of the relevant literature,
- (d) **Materials and methods** – This section should describe the experimental procedures with sufficient details for others to repeat the work,
- (e) **Results** – This should include tables and figures to present the findings in simple language. The results should be presented comprehensively along with the statistical interpretation. Don't repeat the same data in tables and figures,
- (f) **Discussion** – This section should present the outcome of the study by comparing and deriving meaningful interpretation of the results by citing previously published works,
- (h) **Acknowledgements** – The acknowledgement to funding agencies and others should be included in this section,
- (i) **Other disclosures** – Declaration of competing interests, authors contribution, and ethical approval should be presented in this section,
- (g) **References** – References should be incorporated in the correct format in the text and also in the reference section as described below.

2. Review articles (not exceeding 8000 words excluding Tables, Figures and References):

Review articles should be comprehensive i.e. up to date and critical on a recent topic of importance. It should cite the latest references and identify the gaps for future research. It should also contain an abstract, keywords, acknowledgements and references. *Review articles will be generally solicited by the Editors, however, interested authors can share their review ideas with the Editors before submission of their articles.*

2. Short communication (not exceeding 1500 words):

Short communication should be a record of a completed short investigation giving details of new methods or findings. It should not exceed 4 to 5 typed pages with an abstract followed by

the keywords. The body of the texts will not have any title, like material and methods, results and discussion except the acknowledgements and references.

Text Formatting

Manuscripts should be submitted in Word (.doc/ .docx format).

Use 12-point Times Roman, 1.5 line spacing for text.

Use the automatic page numbering and continuous line numbering function.

Use the tab for indents for all the paragraphs except the first paragraph of any section.

Referencing

Citation in text

Cite references in the text by name and year in parentheses.

(Alscher 1989) / Alscher (1989) or

(Upadhyay and Panda 2004) / Upadhyay and Panda (2004) or

(Upadhyay et al. 2008) / Upadhyay et al. (2008)

Journal article

Alscher RG (1989) Biosynthesis and antioxidant function of glutathione in plants. *Physiol Plant* 77:457–464. DOI of the article (if available)

Book

South J, Blass B (2001) *The future of modern genomics*. Blackwell, London.

Book chapter

Brown B, Aaron M (2001) The politics of nature. In: Smith J, Morris B (eds.) *The rise of modern genomics*, 3rd edn. Wiley, New York, pp. 230-257.

Tables: Tables should be numbered with a brief title. The placement of tables in the manuscript should be clearly indicated. The Table should be cited in the text as “Table 1” and likewise.

Figures: Illustration/ Graph/ Photo/ diagram should be of good quality and presented as Figures. The figures should be written as Fig. 1 and likewise in the text and the position of the Figures should be clearly indicated.

**** Articles will be returned immediately without any further review if all the sections are not correctly represented.**

Submission of manuscript

The articles following the journal guidelines along with the original figures and supplementary files should be directly submitted to njps@nbu.ac.in

Review process

All the manuscripts are subject to the peer-review process, and the Editor-in-Chief will make the final decision concerning acceptance or rejection.

The journal follows a double-blind peer-review system i.e. the identity of both authors and reviewers are completely masked from each other during the review process. This ensures an unbiased review system at the end of the reviewers.

Open Access policy

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Proofreading

The articles will be sent to the corresponding author once the article is accepted for publication. The authors' responsibility is to check for typesetting and correctness of text, tables and figures. Substantial changes in content, e.g., the inclusion of new results, changes in title and authorship are not allowed.

Online First

The article will be published online after receipt of the corrected proofs. This is the official first publication citable with the DOI. After the release of the printed version, the paper can also be cited by issue and page numbers.

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All correspondence should be made to:

Editor-in-Chief

NBU Journal of Plant Sciences
Department of Botany
University of North Bengal
Siliguri 734013, WB,
India
E-mail: njps@nbu.ac.in