Revised Publication Policies and Instructions for Prospective Authors

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Revised Publication Policies and Instructions for Prospective Authors

The JOURNAL OF THE ARKANSAS ACADEMY OF SCIENCE is published annually. It is the policy of the Arkansas Academy of Science that 1) at least one of the authors of a paper submitted for publication in the JOURNAL must be a member of the Arkansas Academy of Science, 2) only papers presented at the annual meeting are eligible for publication, and 3) the manuscript is due at the time of presentation. In accordance with this policy, manuscripts submitted for publication should be given to the section chairman at the time the paper is being presented. Correspondence after that time should be directed to Dr. Chris T. McAllister, Managing Editor, JOURNAL OF THE ARKANSAS ACADEMY OF SCIENCE.

Each submitted paper should contain results of original research, embody sound principles of scientific investigation, and present data in a concise yet clear manner. SCIENTIFIC STYLE AND FORMAT, The CBE Manual for Authors, Editors, and Publishers, Sixth Edition, published by the Style Manual Committee, Council of Biology Editors, is a convenient and widely consulted guide for scientific writers and will be the authority for most style, format, and grammar decisions. Authors should use the active voice for directness and clarity. Special attention should be given to consistency in tense, unambiguous reference of pronouns, and to logically placed modifiers. All prospective authors are strongly encouraged to submit their manuscripts to other qualified persons for a friendly review of clarity, brevity, grammar, and typographical errors before submitting the manuscript to the JOURNAL.

Preparation of Manuscript

1. Use Microsoft Word 6.0 or better for preparation of the document.
2. Save figures as tif or jpeg files.
3. Double space the manuscript and all associated text including the Literature Cited on 8.5 x 11 inch bond paper. SINGLE SPACED MANUSCRIPTS WILL BE REJECTED UNREAD.
4. Use 12 point font in Times New Roman for text.
5. Use one-inch margins.
7. Do not submit word-processed copy printed with justified right-hand margins.
8. Set words in italics that are to be printed in italics (e.g., scientific names).
10. Include a separate title page with authors' names and addresses.
11. Indicate on the title page which author is the correspondence author and include that author's email address, phone number, and fax number.
12. An abstract summarizing in concrete terms the methods, findings, and implications discussed in the body of the paper must accompany a feature article. The abstract should be completely self-explanatory.
13. Most feature articles should include the following sections: Abstract, Introduction, Materials and Methods, Results, Discussion, Conclusions, Acknowledgments, and Literature Cited. These section headings should be centered and in bold.
14. A feature article includes approximately 6 or more typewritten pages. A JOURNAL printed page is equal to approximately 3/2 typewritten pages, and the author is assessed a page charge (see Review Procedure section).
15. Indent paragraphs and subheadings 3 spaces.
16. Subheadings should be italicized, in bold, and followed by a general note. A general note is usually 1 to 3 typewritten pages and rarely utilizes subheadings. The first page with the body of the paper following. Abstracts are not used for general notes.
17. The metric system of measurements and weights must be employed. Grams and kilograms are units of mass.
18. In scientific text, Arabic numerals should be used in preference to words when the number designates anything that can be counted or measured: 3 hypotheses, 7 samples, 20 standard deviations. However, numerals are not used to begin a sentence; spell out the number, reword the sentence, or join it to a previous sentence. Also, 2 numeric expressions should not be placed next to each other in a sentence. The pronoun "one" is always spelled out.
19. Tables and figures (line drawings, graphs, or black and white photographs) should not repeat data contained in the text. Tables and figures must be numbered and have short legends. Author(s) must place reference to each to them in the text. Tables should immediately follow the Literature Cited. Legends for figures should be typed on a separate page, which should follow the tables and precede the figures. Do not run tables and figures in the text. Illustrations must be of sufficient size and clarity to permit reduction to standard page (or % page) size; ordinarily they should be no larger than twice the size of intended reduction and no larger than a manuscript page for ease of handling. Photographs must be printed on glossy paper. Sharp focus and high contrast are essential for good reproduction. Figures and labeling must be of professional quality. Figure number, author's name, and top of figure must be written in pencil on the back of each figure. Tables must be of professional quality when submitted. Indicate preferred placement of figures and tables in the margins of the manuscript. Do not submit original artwork, photos, tables, or figures with the review copies of the manuscript.

21. Literature Cited: Authors should use the Name-Year format as illustrated in The CBE Manual for Authors, Editors, and Publishers and as shown below. The JOURNAL will deviate from the form given in the CBE Manual only in regard to placement of authors' initials and abbreviation of journal titles. Initials for second and following authors will continue to be placed before the author's surname. JOURNAL titles will no longer be abbreviated. The general formats for a journal article and a book are shown below along with examples. Note that authors' names are in bold, double spacing occurs after periods, and second and following lines are indented 5 spaces. Do not cite abstracts and oral, unpublished presentations.

Author(s), Year. Article title. Journal title volume number (issue number):inclusive pages.

Author(s) [or editor(s)]. Year. Title of Book. Place of publication: publisher name. Number of pages.

Standard Journal Article


Form of Citation: (Davis, 1993)


Form of Citation: (Steiner et al., 1992)


Form of Citation: (Zheng and Luh, 1989)

Electronic Journal Articles and Electronic Books should be cited as standard journal articles and books except add an availability statement and date of accession following the page(s).


Books, Pamphlets, and Brochures


Form of Citation: (Box et al., 1978)

Form of citation: (USGS, 1979)

Published Conference Proceedings – General format is given first.

Editor(s). Date of publication. Title of publication or conference. Name of conference (if not given in the 2nd element); inclusive dates of the conference; place of the conference. Place of publication: publisher. Total number of pages.


Grammar and Usage –
The following is not comprehensive, but highlights common mistakes.

Numbers, units and symbols. Use digits for numbers unless a number is the first word of a sentence, or it is used as a pronoun (e.g., at least one was captured), in which case the number is spelled out. Avoid using introductory phrases such as “A total of . . .”. Spell out ordinal numbers (e.g., first, fifth) in text, but use digits for adjectives such as 2-fold and 3-way.

Hyphenate number-unit phrases used as adjectives (e.g., 8-m plots, 1-year-old-males) but not those used as predicate adjectives (e.g., the plots were 8 m). Do not insert a comma or hyphen between consecutive, separate numbers in a phrase (e.g., 23 2-m plots). Do not use naked decimals (i.e., use 0.05, not .05).

Italicize Roman letters in the text used as symbols for statistics, tests, or variables. Insert symbols from your word processing program’s symbols directory as opposed to creating the symbol with keyboard functions. Insert a space on either side of symbols when used in an equation (e.g., n = 12, P = 0.002), but not when used as “adjectives” (e.g., >20 observations).

Dates and years. Date sequence is day-month-year without punctuation (e.g., 4 Feb 1947). Spell out months, except in parentheses and table and figure bodies, where 3-letter abbreviations are used without a period. Do not use an apostrophe when referring to an entire decade (i.e., 1940s, not 1940’s).

Punctuation. Commas.
1. Use a comma before the conjunction in a serial list of >2 items (e.g., red, black, and blue). Do not use a comma to separate 2 items in a series.
2. Use a comma to set off an introductory clause beginning with a subordinating conjunction (if, although, because, since, when, while).
3. Use a comma to set off a transitional or parenthetic word or phrase (to be sure, of course, after all, finally).
4. Use a comma to separate a nonrestrictive clause or appositive from the rest of the sentence. Nonrestrictive clauses usually begin with “which.” They provide additional information but are not necessary to understand the sentence (e.g., These fish, which were found in a cave, are blind and depigmented). Commas do not separate restrictive clauses from the rest of the sentence. Restrictive clauses usually begin with “that” and are necessary for the meaning of the sentence (e.g., Fish that live in caves are usually blind and depigmented.)
5. Use a comma to separate different elements of an address or geographic designation (e.g., The frogs were collected in Conway County, Arkansas, on February 21).

Unnecessary and Incorrect Uses of Commas
1. Do not use a comma to separate a compound sentence before the conjunction unless the sentence will be confusing otherwise (e.g., “Use an infrared scope at night and use a regular scope during the
day," not "Use an infrared scope at night, and use a regular scope during the day.").
2. Do not use a comma to set off a short introductory phrase or clause of the comma would not contribute to clarity or ease of reading.
3. Do not use a comma to set off a restrictive appositive (a defining word or phrase needed for the desired meaning). The species **Pseudacris streckeri** is a small burrowing frog.
4. Do not use commas to separate prepositional phrases, even those beginning with "with."
5. Do not separate a compound predicate with a comma. We captured 46 bats and tagged 38 of them.
6. Do not use a comma to separate name modifiers from the stem name. Franklin D Roosevelt Jr [not "Franklin D. Roosevelt, Jr."] Note the absence of periods also.

**Hyphen**

1. Do not hyphenate prefixes, suffixes, or combining forms (e.g., post partum) unless necessary to avoid misreading.
2. Hyphenate compounds used as adjectives (e.g., 1-m plot, 2-day period, 14-cmdbh).
3. Although the rules for hyphenation are complex, there are a few basic principles:
   a. a phrase containing a participle or an adjective is hyphenated as a compound when it precedes the word modified (e.g., home-range estimation) and is written without a hyphen when it follows the word modified (estimation of home range);
   b. a modifier containing a number is usually hyphenated (e.g., 3-month-old lawn); and
   c. a 2-word modifier containing an adverb ending in -ly is not hyphenated (e.g., publicly owned land).

**Colon**

1. A colon can only follow a complete independent clause.
2. A colon may be used to separate two independent clauses where the second clause amplifies or clarifies the first.
3. A colon may be used to introduce a list. We used 3 morphological measures in our analysis: snout-vent length, tibia length, and mass.
4. A colon should not be used after a title, text heading or subheading, equation, or formula standing separate from text.
5. A colon may not split an infinitive. The objectives of the study were to determine population heterozygosity, compare frequency of specific alleles in different populations, and estimate size of evolutionary units. (not "The objectives of the study were to determine population . . .")
6. A colon may not separate a verb and its object. The 3 proteins studied were actin, keratin, and myosin. (not "The 3 proteins studied were: actin, keratin, and myosin.")

**Possessives**

The general principle of adding an apostrophe and "s" holds for most nouns, including proper nouns, that end in "s." Pronunciation can serve as a guide: if one would pronounce the possessive "s," it should appear in the written form.

- the grass's texture (but better "the texture of the grass")
- Williams's work on the topic
- Charles's suggestion
- Arkansas's lakes and mountains
- Agassiz's theories on glaciation
- Descartes's essays

But
- Archimedes' screw
- Hippocrates' teachings
- Rameses' tomb

**Review Procedure**

**Evaluation of a paper** submitted to the JOURNAL begins with a critical reading by the Managing Editor. The paper is then submitted to referees for checking of scientific content, originality, and clarity of presentation. Attention to the preceding paragraphs will greatly speed up this process. Judgments as to the acceptability of the paper and suggestions for strengthening it are sent to the author. If the paper is tentatively accepted, the author will rework it, where necessary, and return two copies of the revised manuscript together with the original to the Managing Editor. Usually a time limit for this revision will be requested. If the time limit is not met, the paper may be considered to be withdrawn by the author and rejected for publication. All final decisions concerning the acceptance or rejection of a manuscript are made by the Managing Editor and/or Editor-in-Chief.

When a copy of the proof, original manuscript, and reprint order blanks reach the author, they should be carefully read for errors and omissions. The author should mark corrections on the proof and return both the proof and manuscript to the Managing Editor within 48 hours or the proof will be judged correct. Printing charges accruing from excessive additions or changes in the proofs must be assumed by the author. Reprint charges are placed with the printer, not the Managing Editor. Page changes are $50 printed page. These changes and excessive printing charges will be billed to the author by the Academy of Science ($4.00 per word). A page charge will be billed to the author of errata.

**ABSTRACT COVERAGE**

Each issue of the JOURNAL is sent to several abstracting and review services. The following is a partial list of this coverage.

- Abstracts in Anthropology
- Abstracts of North America Geology
- Biological Abstracts
- Chemical Abstracts
- Mathematical Reviews
- Recent Literature of the Journal of Mammalogy
- Science Citation Index
- Sport Fishery Abstracts
- Zoological Record
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