Ceylon Journal of Science (Biological Sciences)

Instructions to Authors for Manuscript Preparation and Submission

The Scope
The Ceylon Journal of Science (Biological Sciences) [CJS (Bio. Sci.)] accepts original research articles in all areas of Life Sciences, which would be of general interest to biologists, for publication. The journal also publishes invited lead articles, review papers, short communications and book reviews. Manuscripts written only in English are accepted. There are no page charges for authors.

The submission of a manuscript will be taken to imply that the work is original, and it or a similar paper (other than an abstract) has not been, and will not be submitted elsewhere for publication. The contents of the manuscripts are the sole responsibility of the authors.

Refereeing
All manuscripts are peer reviewed. Authors must provide names of 3-4 potential referees with complete postal and email addresses. However, the editors are not obliged to use any of the referees provided by authors.

Preparation of manuscripts
Manuscripts must be typed using Times New Roman size 12 font in double space throughout Title page, Abstract, Text, References and Tables. Indicate the authority for all Latin names only once, when the name is first mentioned in the text. All abbreviations should be spelt out at first mention in the abstract as well as in the text body. Thereafter, only these abbreviations are to be used. Full length original research papers should include the following: Title page, Abstract, Key words, Introduction, Materials and Methods, Results, Discussion, Acknowledgements, References, Tables and Figures. Review papers should include an Abstract, an Introduction that outlines the main points, text under brief sub headings and References. Both research papers and review papers are generally limited to 15 pages. Short communications should contain novel findings written in the form of a concise, independent report representing a significant contribution to the field of study. It should be written under the subheadings as in a research paper but should include only few key references. It may include a 1-2 tables or figures and the word count should be confined to a maximum of 3000. Research notes briefly explains new research findings. Reviews of scientific books should be comprehensive and should not exceed 2000 words.

Opinion should be written on a topical theme in the form of a concise, independent report. It should not exceed 1500 words. Commentaries and notes should address personalities and institutions of importance, appreciations and obituaries. Photographs can be included. It should not exceed 2000 words.

1. Title page
Title, name(s) of authors(s) and complete postal address of the institution(s) where the work was carried out should be included in a separate page. Surname(s) of the author(s) with initials should be provided. Title should be concise, informative and typed in 'Sentence case' bold letters. Author affiliations should be given in separate lines. The email address and telephone number of the corresponding author should also be provided.

2. Abstract and Key words
Abstract for full papers and reviews must not be more than 200 words and for short communications not more than 100 words. Do not give authority and year for species/genus names in the abstract. The abstract should be followed by a list of up to 5 key words. Key words should not include words from the title.

3. Main text
The text should begin on a fresh page and arranged according to the guidelines given above. The metric system must be used and SI units where appropriate. Literature in the text should be cited with only the surname(s) of the author(s) with initials followed by year. If there are several publications by the same author(s) in the same year use a, b, c, etc. after the year. For two authors, use both names, and et al. should be used for three or more authors. References should be arranged in alphabetical order according to author(s) name(s) and in chronological order if there are more than one publication by the same author(s) in the same year, with a, b, c, etc. after the year.

4. Illustrations
Authors should keep in mind the dimensions of the printed page (A4) when preparing figures for publication. All illustrations (maps, graphs, drawings and photographs) are considered as figures, and should be numbered in consecutive order in Arabic numerals as Figure 1, Figure 2 etc. Where applicable, a metric scale should be indicated in each figure. Legends for figures should be concise,
explanatory and with sufficient information to make it intelligible without reference to the text. Tables and figures should be included at the end of the manuscript. Graphs drawn in Excel should be sent separately as an Excel file.

5. Line drawings
These must be of high standard and drawn in black Indian ink on white paper, tracing paper or board. Drawings should be lettered with the aid of a stencil, and lettering should be large enough to be legible after a 50-60% reduction. Graph curves may be indicated by solid, pecked or dotted lines while solid or open circles, squares, triangles and inverted triangles may be used to denote points. Line drawings should be scanned and sent to the editor in jpg or tiff format. The minimum resolution of line drawings should be 600 dots per inch (dpi).

6. Photographs
All photographs should be of high quality, in black and white or colour. They should be trimmed to show only the essential features and should be forwarded only in the form of jpg or tiff images.

7. Tables
All the Tables should be numbered in Arabic numerals, typed on separate sheets and placed after the References. The number of tables should be limited as much as possible and tables should not repeat data available elsewhere in the paper. They should carry a title (above the Table) and footnotes to the table (below the table).

8. References
List all references cited in the text in alphabetical order, giving the name (title) of the journal in full. List the names of all authors in the reference. The references are structured in the order: author’s surname, initials, year of publication (in parentheses), title of paper, name of journal (in italics), volume number (bold) and first and last page numbers. Book titles should be in Italicics, and followed by publisher, place of publication and page numbers.

Research article

Book

Book chapter

Proceedings of Symposia

Internet resources
Author (2002). Title of website, database or other resources, Publisher name and location (if indicated), number of pages (if known). Available from: http://xxx.xxx.xxx/ (Date of access).

Submission of Manuscripts
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