

## INSTRUCTIONS TO CONTRIBUTORS

Journal of Science and Technology in the Tropics (JOSTT) is a multi-disciplinary journal and published on-line by Confederation of Scientific & Technological Association in Malaysia (COSTAM) and Akademi Sains Malaysia (ASM). The JOSTT publishes original research articles, reviews, short communications, book reviews and letters to Editor on all aspects of science and technology relating to the tropics. All manuscripts are reviewed by at least two referees, and the editorial decision is based on their evaluations.

Manuscripts are considered on the understanding that the contents have not been previously published, and the manuscript also are not being considered for publication elsewhere. The authors are presumed to have obtained approval from the responsible authorities, and agreement from all parties involved, for the work to be published.

Submission of a manuscript to JOSTT carries with it the assignment of rights to publish the work. Upon publication, the Publishers (COSTAM and ASM) retain the copyright of the paper.

### Manuscript preparation

Manuscripts must be in English (British English), not exceeding 3500 words excluding Abstract and References. Type double-spaced font Times New Roman, using MS Word, on one side only of A4 size with at least 2.5 cm margins all round. Number the pages consecutively and arrange the items in the following order: Title page, Abstract, Key words, Text, Acknowledgements, References, Tables, Figure legends. Authors should state the authority that gave ethics approval for the study.

#### Guidelines for Short Communication

- (a) Total number of words should not exceed 2000
- (b) References should be limited to 10
- (c) Tables and Figures should not exceed two

#### Title page

Include (i) title, (ii) names, affiliations and addresses of all authors, (iii) running title not exceeding five words, and (iv) email of corresponding author.

#### Abstract and key words

The abstract, not more than 250 words, should be concise and informative of the contents and conclusions of the work. A list of not more than five key words must immediately follow the abstract.

#### Text

Original research articles should be organized as follows: Introduction, Materials and Methods, Results, Discussion, Acknowledgement, References. The International System of Units (SI) should be used. Scientific names and mathematical parameters should be in italics.

#### Conflict of Interest

Authors should declare if they have any conflict of interest at the end of the article before References.

#### Units and Abbreviations

All measurements should be reported using the metric system. Explain any abbreviations unless immediately obvious.

#### Proofs reading

Authors will receive proofs of their papers before publication.

## References

References should be cited in the text as numbers enclosed with square [ ] brackets. The use of names in the text is discouraged. It is the authors' responsibility to check all references very carefully for accuracy and completeness. In the text, total number of references should not exceed 30 with the exception of review articles.

In the reference section, the following examples should be followed:

### 1. Articles in Journal

Yong H.S., Dhaliwal S.S. and Teh K.L. (1989) A female Norway rat, *Rattus norvegicus*, with XO sex chromosome constitution. *Naturwissenschaften* **76**: 387-388.

Skinner M.K., Manikkam M., Guerrero-Bosagna C. (2011) Epigenetic transgenerational actions of endocrine disruptors. *Reproductive toxicology* **31**: 337-343.

### 2. Books and Monographs

Beveridge W.I.B. (1961) *The Art of Scientific Investigation*. Mercury Book, London.

Berryman A.A. (1987) *The theory and classification of outbreaks*. In Barbosa P. and Schultz J.C. (eds.) *Insect outbreaks* pp. 3-30. Academic Press, San Diego.

Institute of Medicine (2010). *Dietary Reference Intakes for Calcium and Vitamin D*. Ross AC, Taylor CL, Yaktine AL & Del Valle HB (eds). National Academy of Sciences, Washington, DC.

### 3. Online Sources

Bischoff, SC (2011). Gut health: a new objective in medicine? *BMC Medicine* 2011, 9:24. From <http://www.biomedcentral.com>. [Retrieved April 25 2011].

Landsberger, J (no date). In: *Study Guides and Strategies*. From <http://www.studygs.net/citation.htm>. [Retrieved Feb 15 2010].

## Tables

Tables should be typed on separate sheets with short, informative captions, double spacing, numbered consecutively with Arabic numerals, and do not contain any vertical lines. A table should be set up to fit into the text area of at most the entire page of the Journal.

## Illustrations

Black-and-white figures (line drawings, graphs and photographs) must be suitable for high quality reproduction. They must be no bigger than the printed page, kept to a minimum, and numbered consecutively with Arabic numerals. Legends to figures must be typed on a separate sheet. Total number of tables and illustrations should not exceed five with the exception of review articles.

## Acknowledgement

This should be included whenever appropriate as a separate section before Reference section.

The submitting author is responsible for ensuring that the article's publication has been approved by all the other co-authors. It is also the authors' responsibility to ensure that the articles emanating from a particular institution are submitted with the approval of the necessary institution. Only an acknowledgment from the editorial office officially establishes the date of receipt.

Further correspondence will be sent to the author(s) before publication unless otherwise indicated. It is a condition of submission of a paper that the authors permit editing of the paper for readability. All enquiries concerning the publication of accepted papers should be addressed to the Editor-in-chief.

All manuscripts are to be submitted in electronic format to Editor-in-Chief:

Editor-in-Chief: Prof Dr Mansor Ahmad

Email: [editor@costam.org.my](mailto:editor@costam.org.my).

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