

## Guidelines for authors of *Quality Assurance and Safety of Crops & Foods*

### Scope

*Quality Assurance and Safety of Crops and Foods* publishes research and review papers associated with the quality and safety of crops. It targets plant-based primary raw materials, their harvesting, storage and conversion to human foods. There is a strong focus on the development and application of new analytical tools and their potential for quality assessment, assurance, control and safety. The scope includes issues of risk assessment, traceability, authenticity, food security and socio-economic impacts. Manuscripts presenting novel data and information that are likely to significantly contribute to scientific knowledge in areas of food quality and safety will be considered.

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The [publication license agreement](#) must be signed and returned to the publisher of *Quality Assurance and Safety of Crops & Foods* before the manuscript can be accepted for publication.

More information can be found at <https://www.wageningenacademic.com/journals/qas/submitting-a-paper>

### Manuscripts

- Indicate the type of manuscript. Your manuscript must contain title, author(s) and affiliation(s) and the requirements for the manuscript type (see the Table below).
- Your paper should be within the range of pages given for the type of manuscript (see the Table below). Contact the editorial office if your manuscript exceeds the page range.

Manuscript type	As a MS-word file	In the Journal	Manuscript should contain
			title, authors, affiliations +
Research article <sup>1</sup>	6-14 pages	4-10 pages	abstract, keywords, introduction, materials and methods, results, discussion and conclusion (combined or separate), acknowledgements (optional), references
Review article <sup>1</sup>	6-20 pages	4-15 pages	abstract, keywords, introduction, several subject sections, acknowledgements (optional), references
Letter to the editor <sup>2</sup>	2 pages	1 page	original article title and authors, commentary text, references
Book review <sup>2</sup>	2 pages	1 page	book name, authors and publisher, review text
Opinion paper <sup>3</sup>	4-8 pages	2-6 pages	abstract, keywords, introduction, subject sections, acknowledgements (optional), references
Hypothesis paper <sup>3</sup>	6-8 pages	4-6 pages	abstract, keywords, introduction, subject sections, acknowledgements (optional), references

<sup>1</sup> Submit your manuscript via internet through <http://mc.manuscriptcentral.com/qas>.

<sup>2</sup> Should be submitted to the editor-in-chief.

<sup>3</sup> Please contact the editor-in-chief before submission.

## General

**During processing for publication, standard house formatting will be applied by Wageningen Academic Publishers.**

- Submit your manuscript as MS Word file.
- Use a general available font such as Times New Roman, font size 12, single spacing, A4 paper and 2.5 cm margins on all sides. Please try to avoid symbol font for special characters.
- Use British English spelling.
- Authors who believe that their manuscripts would benefit from professional editing, prior to submission, are encouraged to use a language-editing service before submission (<http://www.wageningenacademic.com/author-info/language-editing>). Manuscripts not written in acceptable UK English will either not be considered for publication or the authors will be charged for language-editing.

## Manuscript heading

- Title: bold, sentence case, and no longer than 20 words.
- Authors: all sentence case. Use initials for the first names of the authors.
- Affiliations: all sentence case; affiliations include the full address of all authors and including the e-mail address of the corresponding author.
- Running header: not longer than 75 keystrokes.

## Abstract and keywords

- The abstract should be clear on itself and not containing more than 300 words.
- Abbreviations should be given in full on first use and are followed by the abbreviation in parentheses.
- Do not mention references in the abstract.
- Use 3-5 keywords (do not repeat any of the words of the title of the manuscript). Keywords should be lower case, separated by a comma.

## Text

- Use a maximum of two heading levels:
  - Level 1: Boldface, sentence case.
  - Level 2: Italic, sentence case.
- Italics should be used for non-English expressions, e.g. species names like *Aspergillus*, gene names and words like *in vivo*.
- Commas are used for numbers greater than 1000. Ordinal numbers less than 10 are preferably spelled out. Periods are used for decimals. Use a 0 before the decimal point for numbers below 1 (e.g. 0.005).
- Authors should use SI units. Abbreviations should be used for all units; units should be given as kg/ha rather than kg ha<sup>-1</sup>.
- Other abbreviations should be given in full on first use and are followed by the abbreviation in parentheses.
- Numerical values should be given in figures.
- Manufacturer or supplier names and location (city and country) are given for special chemicals, software, equipment and other products.
- Use single quotation marks in the text.
- Numbered lists should be provided with Arabic numbers or lower case alphabet. Use a period after the number or letter (e.g. 1. or a.). Unnumbered lists should be provided with bullets.
- Do not indent paragraphs. Use the tab function to place words at a certain position in the text, not spaces.

## Footnotes

- Footnotes should be avoided. If absolutely necessary, they should be numbered in the text, indicated by superscript numbers.

## Appendices

- Appendices appear after the references; must contain a title and should be numbered when more than one.
- They are referred in the text as Appendix A, B, etc.

## Tables

- Avoid large tables. Tables should fit within the journal size (maximum size per page 20×27 cm). Landscape format is acceptable only by exception; this will be decided by the publisher.
- Tables should be numbered in Arabic numbers according to their sequence in the text.
- Each table should have a brief title. Please try to avoid abbreviations in the title as much as possible.
- Each table should be mentioned in the text. Use 'Table' followed by the number in the text, not an abbreviation, e.g. Table 1.
- Tables should be included in the text at the right place.

- Tables should be clear without reading the text. Column headings should be brief and clear.
- Any necessary explanations essential for understanding the table should be given as a footnote at the bottom of the table. Use either numbers or letters for footnotes.

### **Formulae and equations**

- Formulae should be typewritten, if possible. Word Equation Editor/MathType should be used only for formulae that cannot be produced using normal text or Symbol font.
- We do not recommend using the Word 2007, 2008, 2010 or 2011 equation editor. This can in some cases result in display errors. Instead, use the legacy equation editor in word (Insert menu; select insert object; select Microsoft equation) or use Mathtype (recommended).
- Subscripts and superscripts should be clear.
- Give the meaning of all symbols immediately after the equation in which they are first used.
- Equations should be numbered in Arabic numbers serially at the right-hand side in parentheses.
- When referring to equations in the text use 'Equation' followed by the number, not Eq.

### **Figures**

**Wageningen Academic Publishers will not artificially enhance the quality of photos or redraw results presented in figures. Authors therefore should supply figures that are suitable for publication. Figures that lack the quality standard (see below and in the Appendix) will not be considered for publication.**

- All figures should be black and white. Full colour figures will be converted to black & white. If coloured figures are needed in print you can ask the publisher for information regarding extra costs.
- Do not insert your figures in the Word.doc file, but submit them separately.
- If photographs are necessary, submit digital photographs. Only original photographs with good contrast and intensity are acceptable. Photographs should be submitted as jpg or pds files with a resolution of at least 300 dpi.
- All other figures (line-art or a combination of photographs and labels) should be submitted as EPS files.
- Text in figures should be in an editable format.
- Use font size 7-9 for the text in your figures.
- Figures should be numbered in Arabic numbers according to their sequence in the text.
- Each figure should be mentioned in the text. Use 'Figure' followed by the number in the text, not Fig.
- Each figure should have a brief title. Type this title in the text where the illustration should be placed.
- Please try to avoid abbreviations in the title as much as possible.
- Any necessary explanations essential for understanding the figure should be given as a note at the bottom of the figure. Use either numbers or letters for footnotes.

### **Electronic Supplementary Material**

- Online-only material will not be edited by the publisher.
- Online-only material should be numbered in Arabic numbers according to their sequence in the text.
- Each online-only material should be mentioned in the text. Use, for example, 'Figure' or 'Table' followed by a S and the number in the text (e.g. Figure S1, Table S3).
- Online-only material should have a brief title.
- Any necessary explanations essential for understanding online-only material should be given as a footnote at the bottom of the online-only material. Use either numbers or letters for footnotes.
- A graphical abstract, which is an one-image file summarising the main findings of the article, can be submitted as a separate file during submission of the manuscript. Any text or label must be part of the image file. Please choose 'Supporting information for online publication only' when uploading your graphical abstract file. Please use 'graphical abstract' in the name of the file. The graphical abstract will be displayed online, but will not appear in the article PDF file. See for an example <https://doi.org/10.3920/JIFF2016.0060>.

### **References**

- References concerning submitted, but not yet accepted manuscripts, unpublished data or 'personal communications' should not be cited in the reference list, but may be mentioned in the text as (unpublished data) or (Initials + Family name, personal communications).
- Work accepted for publication, but not yet published or first published online should be referred to as 'in press'. If possible provide a DOI for these manuscripts.
- In the text, refer to the author's name (without initials) and year of publication. Publications from the same authors in a single year should use a, b, etc.
- If reference is made to a publication written by more than two authors, the name of the first author should be followed by '*et al.*'. Use 'and' and not '&' for two authors.
- References without an author should be referred as Anonymous.
- References cited together in the text should be arranged alphabetically.
- All publications cited in the text should be presented in an alphabetical list of references at the end of the

manuscript (no numbering).

- The list of references should be arranged alphabetically by authors' names.
- All authors of each article should be mentioned in the reference list. Institutional authors, like World Health Organisation (WHO) or United States Department of Agriculture (USDA), should be written out in the reference list.
- Use full journal names for the references.
- Provide a DOI for each reference if possible. (This will crosslink to the original article in the published article pdf).
- For internet resources use the direct link to the website of the paper if possible. If a paper is undated use the date (year) of access.
- An Endnote style and a Reference Manager style are available at [www.wageningenacademic.com](http://www.wageningenacademic.com).
- Use the following system for arranging your references (see also the reference list in the example research article):
  - a. *For periodicals:*
    - Bugyi, Z., Török, K., Hajas, L., Adonyi, Z., Popping, B. and Tömösközi, S., 2013. Comparative study of commercially available gluten ELISA kits using an incurred reference material. *Quality Assurance and Safety of Crops & Foods* 5: 79-87. <https://doi.org/10.3920/QAS2012.0174>
    - Tittlemier, S.A., Cramer, B., Dall'Asta, C., Iha, M.H., Lattanzio, V.M.T., Malone, R.J., Maragos, C., Solfrizzo, M., Stranska-Zachariasova, M. and Stroka, J., in press. Developments in mycotoxin analysis: an update for 2017-2018. *World Mycotoxin Journal*, <https://doi.org/10.3920/WMJ2018.2398>.
  - b. *For books:*
    - Van der Meulen, B. and Van der Velde, M., 2008. *European food law handbook*. Wageningen Academic Publishers, Wageningen, the Netherlands, 640 pp. <https://doi.org/10.3920/978-90-8686-246-7>
    - Van Huis, A. and Tomberlin, J.K., 2017. *Insects as food and feed: from production to consumption*. Wageningen Academic Publishers, Wageningen, the Netherlands, 448 pp. <https://doi.org/10.3920/978-90-8686-849-0>
  - c. *For multi-author books and conference proceedings:*
    - Pedersen, L.J., Malmkvist, J. and Andersen, H.M.L., 2013. Housing of sows during farrowing: a review on pen design, welfare and productivity. In: Aland, A. and Banhazi, T. (eds.) *Livestock housing. Modern management to ensure optimal health and welfare of farm animals*. Wageningen Academic Publishers, Wageningen, the Netherlands, pp. 93-112.
    - Bacon, C.W. and Hinton, D.M., 2000. Biological control of *Fusarium moniliforme* in corn by competitive exclusion using *Bacillus mojavensis*. In: USDA-ARS (ed.) *Proceedings of the aflatoxin/fumonisin workshop, October 25-27, 2000, Yosemite, CA, USA*, pp. 35-37.
  - d. *For internet resources:*
    - World Health Organisation (WHO), 2004. *Surveillance programme for control of foodborne infections and intoxications in Europe. Seventh report. The 1993-1998 country reports*. WHO, Geneva, Switzerland. Available at: [http://www.bgvv.de/internet/7th report/threp fr.htm](http://www.bgvv.de/internet/7th%20report/threp%20fr.htm).

## Ethics

- Authors should ensure that the work described is entirely original. If authors use the work and/or words of others this should be cited or quoted appropriately. Plagiarism in all its forms is unacceptable.
- It is accepted that authors sometimes need to manipulate images for clarity, however, manipulation for purposes of deception or fraud will be seen as scientific ethical abuse.
- Wageningen Academic Publishers is a participant of Similarity Check, a service offered by CrossRef and powered by iThenticate software. iThenticate is a plagiarism screening service that verifies the originality of written work.
- If plagiarism or manipulation is identified, manuscripts will either not be considered for publication or if already published the paper will be withdrawn from the electronic version of the journal.
- Authors need to confirm that all the research meets the ethical guidelines, including adherence to the legal requirements (for human and animal studies) of the study country.
- *Quality Assurance and Safety of Crops & Foods* requires that all authors disclose any potential sources of conflict of interest.



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# Appendix: Preparing artwork for print



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## Size and arrangement of figures

- Provide figures approximately at the size at which they will be printed.
- Try to keep figures compact and clear.
- maximum figure size is a width of 78 mm (single column) or 165 mm (double column).
- In figures consisting of multiple parts, these parts should be arranged in such a way that the maximum size is not exceeded.

## Using texts in figures

- Arial is the recommended font for all texts in artwork.
- Font size for basic texts should be 9 pt; font size 7 or 8 pt (never smaller than 7 pt) can be used for less important text as an exception.
- Do not rasterise or convert text into outlines.
- In figures consisting of multiple parts, each part should be labelled with a capital character A, B, C, etc.

## Graphical items

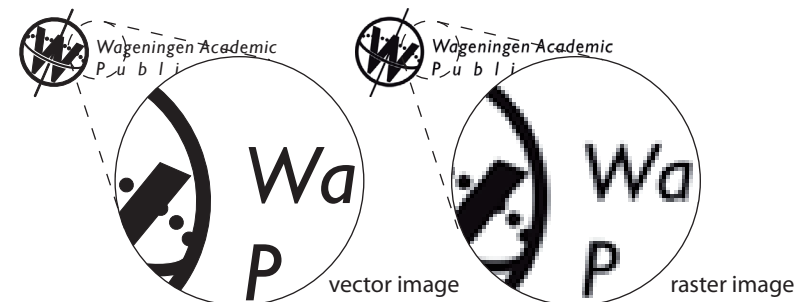
- Line weights should be 0.5 pt; only if necessary for clear distinction line weights between 0.25 and 1 pt can be accepted.
- Do not use drop shadows.
- Do not use 3-D graphs when there is no scientific reason to do so.

## Colours

- Photographs can be submitted in colour, but they will be converted to greyscale for print. Note that converting to greyscale may result in serious loss of information.
- All other figures should be submitted in greyscale (black and white).
- Figures will only be published in colour if judged essential by the editors (additional costs can be charged).

## Image types and acceptable file formats

There are two basic types of images: vector images and rasterised (or bitmap) images. Vector images can be upscaled without loss of quality, while rasterised images cannot. Photographs are rasterised images; for all other figures we only accept vector images.



- We prefer all vector images to be submitted as **EPS** or **PDF**. Graphs made in MS Excel can be submitted directly as **XLS** files.
- Almost all common imaging programmes allow you to export graphs or images as **EPS** or **PDF** files by using the 'Save as' or the 'Export as' function. If asked, always choose for all fonts to be embedded (don't convert text to outlines). Always check the export options to ensure that images are not downsampled or rasterised.
- Photographs should be submitted as **JPG**, **TIFF** or **PDS** files with a resolution of at least 300 dpi. Please note that artificial upgrading of the resolution of a photographic image will not improve its quality.
- Only original photographs with good contrast and intensity are acceptable.
- Files combining rasterised and vector images should be submitted as unflattened vector **EPS** files.
- When in doubt, or in need of help or advice, please e-mail one of our editors at [editorial@WageningenAcademic.com](mailto:editorial@WageningenAcademic.com).