

Seed Technology

Instructions to Authors

Seed Technology is an international journal that publishes original papers, review articles, technical notes and symposia in all areas of seed science and technology. This includes information from applied and basic seed research in physiology, pathology and biology for all plant species. The journal relates to individuals interested in seed production, sampling, testing, conditioning, distribution and storage of agronomic, horticultural and forest seed crops. Papers are accepted on the understanding that they have not been published or submitted to any other scientific journal. The criteria for acceptance are originality, quality of research and interest to readership. Manuscripts are peer-reviewed by two or more anonymous reviewers, with final acceptance resting with the Editorial Board. The journal is published two times per year and is available as paper copies by contacting: Society of Commercial Seed Technologists, 653 Constitution Avenue NE, Washington, DC 20002. Subscription information and order forms are available online at: <http://www.seedtechnology.net/journal.htm>.

Manuscripts must be clearly written using proper English. If English is not the primary language of the author, the manuscript should be reviewed by someone proficient in English prior to submission to the journal. Manuscripts should be submitted online; see “Guidelines for Submission” at the end of the instructions. Five types of submissions will be considered for publication:

- a. **Full-length manuscripts** should report new information to the subject area or expand on established knowledge to contribute additional information of value. Manuscripts undergo peer review to determine that adequate scientific methods were applied, that interpretations and conclusions are valid, and that all aspects of the study are adequately presented.
- b. **Seed Tech Notes** are appropriate for the reporting of seed laboratory or seed production research that may not justify a full paper, but provide important information of potential practical importance. This may include new techniques or developments, standardization of old techniques or anatomical, pathological or other documentation of seed or seedling development. The requirements for such notes are described below.
- c. **Technical Papers** presented orally or by poster at the annual meeting of the Association of Official Seed Analysts (AOSA) and Society of Commercial Seed Technologists (SCST) are invited, which cover topics of general interest to the seed biologist or technologist.
- d. **Symposia** or workshops presented to the AOSA/SCST membership may be recorded in the journal for future reference. Organizers should prearrange with the Editor to receive papers from the presenters of symposia and workshops within a specified timeframe for inclusion in a single journal issue.
- e. **Review articles** are welcomed by special prior arrangement with the Editor. Reviews should cover a summary of a seed biology or seed technology topic or an evaluation of a seed science or technology related publication. The content of reviews should have a strong technical and/or scientific base.

INSTRUCTIONS FOR FULL LENGTH MANUSCRIPTS

Instructions for full length manuscripts should be carefully reviewed to ensure that the submitted manuscript complies with *Seed Technology* standards and requirements. **If these guidelines are not closely adhered to, papers will be returned to authors for revision or released from further consideration for the journal.**

Manuscripts should be arranged in the following order: **Title** (no separate title page), **Author(s)**, **Abstract**, **Text**, **Acknowledgments**, **References**, **Tables**, **Captions for Figures** (separate page) and **Figures**. The title should be concise (10 to 12 words) but informative, containing key words which describe the subject matter for use in abstracting systems. The name

of the author(s) should be placed below the title with an asterisk (*) after the name of the corresponding author.

The **abstract** should concisely summarize the entire scope of the paper including findings and conclusions without reference to text or figures. **All categories of manuscripts or papers submitted to the journal must have an abstract.** It should appear immediately below the title and authors and consist of not more than 250 typed words. **Authors may provide a translation of the abstract in one additional language, which will be printed in the journal following the primary abstract in English.** Availability of abstracts in alternate languages should be discussed with the Editor early in the submission process. Accuracy in regard to content and grammar of the second abstract is the responsibility of the corresponding author. Do not include a list of key words.

The **text** of the manuscript should normally have the subject matter grouped under the following major headings: **Introduction, Materials and Methods, Results, Discussion** (Results and Discussion may be combined), **Acknowledgments** (optional) and **References**. Main headings are centered on each page and capitalized in bold type. Secondary headings begin at the left margin (do not indent) with the first letter capitalized and the entire heading in bold print. Use of a previous issue of the journal as a guide to format is recommended.

Author-Paper Documentation. Author-paper documentation is a single paragraph at the bottom of the first page (under abstract). The first sentence lists the authors (without professional titles) and their complete addresses. If the author has moved, provide the current address. Always end the author-paper documentation with: *Corresponding author (e-mail address of corresponding author). Received _____.

Style Manual. *Scientific Style and Format: The CBE Manual for Authors, Editors, and Publishers*, 6th edition or later, prepared by the Style Manual Committee of the Council of Biology Editors and published by the Cambridge University Press should be followed for writing papers submitted to *Seed Technology*. *The Publications Handbook and Style Manual* of the American Society of Agronomy can also be used as a detailed guide for both paper and electronic manuscript preparation and can be accessed online at

<https://www.crops.org/publications/style/>

Abbreviations. Use standard abbreviations (for example, Fig., RH, °C) listed in *Scientific Style and Format* without definition. Other abbreviations should be defined at first usage and may be used thereafter without further definition. Names of states, provinces and countries should be abbreviated following city names, using appropriate abbreviations of the postal service in that country.

Units. Metric units must be used for all measurements and the SI system (Système International d'Unités) used insofar as possible.

Numbers. Use Arabic numerals for all numbers with two or more digits and for all numbers that appear in conjunction with units of measurement, except when the number is the first word in a sentence. Spell out numbers when they are the first word in a sentence or when they are a single numeral from one to nine and not measurements, except when in a series in which one figure has two or more digits. Decimals should be expressed using a period (5.05, for example). The percentage sign should be used in conjunction with a number (5 %), but percentage should be written in full when used as a noun (germination percentage). Dates should be given as 2 December, 1998, for example.

Nomenclature. Species should be described by their scientific (Latin) names. At first mention in the main text the full binomial and authority must be given, but subsequently the genus should be abbreviated to its initial letter and the authority omitted. Authorities are not quoted after Latin names in the title or abstract. At first mention, crop varieties should be identified by single quotation marks, for example, 'Ranger' alfalfa (*Medicago sativa* L.)

Experimental Design and Data Analyses. Enough details of experimental conduct and design should be reported for readers to judge the validity of results. Treatment details, number

and type of experimental units, factor levels, experimental layout, number of replications, and how measurements were made should be sufficiently described whenever appropriate. A measure of precision, usually standard error of treatment means, should be included with all data. Mean separation procedures should not be misused and authors should be aware of the limitations to the use of multiple comparisons. Treatment comparisons are appropriate when the relevant F value is significant, but should be avoided when treatments have a logical structure, as in factorial designs. In that case, the use of orthogonal contrasts is appropriate.

Tables. Tables should be numbered consecutively with Arabic numerals and should be reduced to the simplest form. Each table should be typed on a separate page from the main text. Table headings should be brief but complete and self-contained. Any explanation essential to the understanding of the table should be provided as a footnote at the bottom of the table. Use the following symbols for footnotes, in this order: †, ‡, §, ¶, #. Asterisks are used only to indicate statistical significance, with * and ** representing significance at the 0.05 and 0.01 probability levels, respectively. **Do not duplicate table information in figures.**

Figures. All electronic images should be submitted in their native, highest possible resolution file format without insertion into a .DOC or text file, such as MS Word or WordPerfect. This is necessary because any graphic files embedded into a text file must be extracted for use with layout software during typesetting. Graphic files extracted from a text file are not as useable as the form they were in before insertion. Examples of acceptable graphic file types would be .TIF, .JPG, .BMP and .EPS. Images should be high resolution without compression. Alternatively, high quality original prints of photographs or halftone reproductions may be provided with good dark and white contrast. Photographs should only be submitted if they are essential for understanding the manuscript. Submit original printouts, not poor quality copies. All figures should be of sufficient size and quality to allow for reduction by half or more for printing. Lettering should be kept at a minimum in graphs. All lettering, symbols and lines must be large enough, clear enough and thick enough to still be easily read and prominent after reduction. Preferred symbols for line art figures are black and white open and closed squares, circles and triangles. Do not use colors, shades of gray, or fine screens or patterns to fill bars on graphs or wedges on pie charts. Use solid black or white, well-spaced parallel lines, widely spaced dots, or other black and white line art methods. Any patterns and lines should be able to withstand reduction by half or more. Figure captions should be brief, self contained and listed consecutively on a separate sheet at the end of the manuscript.

Acknowledgments. This section lists institutional sponsors with identification of the research project including granting agency recognition, if appropriate. This segment can also be used to thank anyone who was instrumental in or contributed to the completion of this study.

References. The author-year notation should be used in the text. Citations by authors in the text should appear as Smith (1996) or (Smith, 1996). Use “et al.” each time when there are three or more authors for a reference in the text, but give all authors in the reference list itself. In the reference list, arrange all published citations alphabetically by author; last name and then initials of the first author, with each subsequent author listing arranged with first name initials first and then last name. Citations should include names of all authors, year, complete title, abbreviated journal title, volume number and inclusive pages. Cite personal communication and unpublished work only in the text, not in the reference list. Examples of acceptable references are:

Koning, G., D.M. TeKrony, T.W. Pfeiffer and S.A. Ghabrial. 2001. Infection of soybean with soybean mosaic virus increases susceptibility to *Phomopsis* spp. seed infection. *Crop Sci.* 41: 1850–1856.

Bernard, R.L. and M.G. Weiss. 1973. Qualitative genetics. p. 117–154. *In Soybeans: improvement, production, and uses* (B.E. Caldwell, R.W. Howell, J.W. Judd and H.W. Johnson, eds.), 1st ed. Agron. Monogr. 16. ASA, CSSA, and SSSA, Madison, WI.

Fehr, W.R. and C.E. Caviness. 1977. Stages of soybean development. Spec. Rep. 80. Iowa Agric. Home Econ. Exp. Stn., Iowa State Univ., Ames.

McGee, D.C. 1992. Soybean diseases. Am. Phytopathol. Soc., St. Paul, MN.

AOSA. 2010. Rules for testing seeds, Vol. 1: Principles and procedures. Assoc. Offic. Seed Anal., Ithaca, NY.

It is always preferred for papers to have references, but some papers based on presentations or workshops may be acceptable without them by prior arrangement with the Editor.

Proofs, publication charges and reprints. One set of page proofs in Adobe Acrobat format will be returned to the corresponding author by e-mail attachment. Corrections should be restricted to printer's errors and returned to the Editor promptly. *Seed Technology* does not require page charges, however reprints can be ordered from the publisher when returning corrected proofs.

GUIDELINES FOR SUBMISSION

All manuscripts should be submitted online (<http://scst.expressacademic.org/login.php>). New users should first register before logging in. Once logged in, the website will prompt authors through the process. The manuscript should be double spaced with ample margins, line numbers, and numbered pages. Macintosh and Windows versions of MS Word or WordPerfect may be used for submission. Files can also be accepted in MS-Works, RTF, ASCII and other formats if the preferred options are not available.

Address all inquiries **to the Editor or Assistant Editor:**

Riad Baalbaki, Editor
Senior Seed Botanist
California Department of Food and Agriculture
Plant Pest Diagnostics Branch
3294 Meadowview Road
Sacramento, CA 95832-1448
Phone: (916) 262-3292
Fax: (916) 262-1190

Susan Alvarez, Assistant Editor
Registered Seed Technologist
US Agriseeds Seed Lab
3424 Roberto Court
San Luis Obispo, CA 93401
Phone: (805) 540-6753
Fax: (805) 540-6767

INSTRUCTIONS FOR *SEED TECH NOTES*, TECHNICAL PAPERS AND SYMPOSIA OR WORKSHOPS

The format for *Seed Tech Notes*, technical papers and presentations from symposia or workshops is as for full length papers insofar as practical. The text headings may be the same as a full paper or may be arranged by **Abstract, Experimental Techniques, Results and Discussion, and References**, if that format is more suitable to the presentation of the material. The Experimental Techniques section should include a brief narrative of those elements normally included in the Introduction and Materials and Methods sections of full length papers. *Seed Tech Notes* and technical papers are usually much shorter and may present only preliminary research data compared to full length papers. These papers usually do not exceed four pages of printed text and a maximum of two figures, tables or photographs. Papers presented at committee meetings, symposia and workshops not containing cited references or other conventional journal paper elements may be considered for publication if these presentations contain information of a practical nature or general interest in seed biology and technology.

SYMPOSIA PUBLICATIONS

Manuscripts resulting from symposia on seed biology or technology topics will be considered for publication in a single volume of *Seed Technology* by prearrangement with the Editor. Manuscripts may originate from symposia sponsored by the Association of Official Seed Analysts or the Society of Commercial Seed Technologists or from appropriate seed symposia sponsored by other organizations. Symposia organizers desiring to publish a set of manuscripts

in *Seed Technology* must solicit the Editor with the following information: (i) title, date and location of the symposium, (ii) the organization affiliated with the symposium, (iii) names, addresses, e-mail and telephone numbers of symposium organizers and (iv) titles and abstracts for each paper to be considered for publication. Symposia papers are subject to the usual format described above for *Seed Technology* and will be reviewed by the editorial board prior to acceptance for publication.
