Instructions for Contributors

Revised on 4 October 2013

Basic Guideline: Plant Production Science (PPS) is an international research journal published four times a year by the Crop Science Society of Japan (CSSJ). Submitted papers must be written in English and their essential contents must not have been previously or simultaneously submitted to, or published in other scientific journals. At least the first-named author of a paper must be an individual subscriber of PPS or Japanese Journal of Crop Science before acceptance of manuscript. For subscription rates, refer to “Subscription and Submission to Plant Production Science”.

Scope: PPS publishes original research reports on field crops and resource plants, their production and related subjects, covering a wide range of sciences; physiology, biotechnology, morphology, ecology, cropping system, production technology and post harvest management. Studies on plant production with special attention to resource management and the environment are also welcome. Field surveys on cropping or farming system are also accepted. Articles with a background in other research areas such as soil science, meteorology, biometry, product process and plant protection will be accepted as long as they are significantly related to plant production.

Type of Papers: Regular papers and short reports will be accepted for publication after critical review. A regular paper is a full-length article of original research findings and a short report is published about apparatus, experimental techniques and observations of unique phenomena, etc. Review articles by invited or volunteer authors will also be published.

Publication charges: (1) No page charge will be required for pages one through six, four and eight for a regular paper, short report and review article, respectively. Extra charge will be needed beyond this limit. (2) No charge will be required for one color page in each article. Extra charge will be needed for additional color pages. (3) All accepted manuscripts will be sent to the English Technical Editor for PPS editorial corrections, and the cost depending on the quality of English writing will be charged to the authors.

Submission: Manuscripts should be submitted as electronic files via website. Go to http://mc.manuscriptcentral.com/pps3 and log in as a user. Enter the necessary information and upload your manuscript according to “Manuscript Arrangement For Contributors” described there. If you are unable to complete the submission, contact to the editorial office by E-mail: cssj-jim@cropscience.jp, or by postal service: THE CROP SCIENCE SOCIETY OF JAPAN, c/o Kyoritsu Publishing Co. Ltd., Shinkawa 2-22-4, Chuo-ku, Tokyo 104-0033, Japan (fax:+81-3-3553-2047).

Review Procedures: The submitted manuscript will be sent to a handling editor for peer review. The manuscript will be returned to the corresponding author with the evaluation approximately two or three months after submission. When a revision of the manuscript is required by the editor, the author must respond within three months, or the manuscript may be considered withdrawn. The revised manuscript may be reviewed several times. The final decision will be made by the Editor-in-Chief based on the report from the editor.

Copyright: Copyright of papers will be transferred to CSSJ after publication.

More Information to Contributors: For more information on manuscript preparation before submission and after acceptance, and publication charges see our website (http://mc.manuscriptcentral.com/pps3, “Manuscript Arrangement For Contributors”). CSSJ site (http://www.cropscience.jp).

Manuscript Arrangement For Contributors

Manuscript Format: The manuscript should be typewritten 30-36 lines per sheet with 11 or 12 pt. type, allowing more than three cm margins on all sides. Use white sheets of A4 size (210 by 297 mm) or letter size (8.5 by 11 inch). Every page and line should be numbered sequentially, including references, table/fig. captions, tables and figures. One printed page of PPS consists of two columns of 57 lines and approximately 50 letters on each line. Estimate the length of the paper considering this format. Consult carefully the latest issue of PPS for general layout. Authors whose native language is not English are advised to have the manuscript checked by a native English speaking colleague prior to submission.

Manuscript Arrangement: Manuscripts for regular papers should be arranged in the following order in principle. However, manuscripts for short reports do not necessarily need the arrangement of the main text; introduction, materials and methods, results and discussion. See the latest issue of PPS.

- Running title, Title, Names of authors, Institution, Address, Zip code and Nation, Footnotes
- Abstract, Key words
- Introduction, Materials and method, Results, Discussion, Acknowledgments
- References: Table and figure captions
- Tables/Figures and/or photographs (with explanations)
Running title
The running title should be shorter than 100 letters including the author’s name.

Title and byline
The title of the paper is printed in Gothic, while the subtitle, if any, is not. The initial letter of all words in the main title should be capitalized except for articles, prepositions and conjunctions. In the case of two authors, use ‘and’, and more than two authors, separate names with commas.

Institution, address, zip code and nation are printed in Italics. All the institutions and addresses of multiple authors should be noted, with indications by superscripts on the respective author’s names.

Abstract: Normally in a single paragraph of less than 250 words for Regular paper/Review and 150 words for Short Report, respectively. Do not cite tables, figures or literature.

Key words
Not to exceed seven key words. Arrange in alphabetical order. Start every key word with a capital letter, separate them with commas and use a final period.

Headings
The introduction has no heading. All other headings are printed in Gothic letters. Secondary or more headings should be numbered in the following arrangement order; 1, 2, 3; (1), (2), (3); 1), 2), 3); a, b, c.

Footnotes
At the bottom of the first page. The submitted date and the date of final decision will be given by the Editorial Board. Available access to the corresponding author (e-mail and/or fax) should be stated as a footnote. If the address of the corresponding author has changed, the current institution and address also must be noted. While only one of the authors can be the corresponding author, information on such as contribution of each author could be provided in footnotes. If necessary, financial support given for the research may be stated. Listing abbreviations used in the paper in alphabetical order is preferred. Avoid excessive use of footnotes. An example of the style is given below.

Received 10 October 2000. Accepted 20 March 2001. Corresponding author: R. Ishii (abcrop@mail.ecc.u-tokyo.ac.jp, fax +81-3-5841-5041, present address; Graduate School of Agricultural and Life Sciences, The University of Tokyo, Bunkyo, Tokyo 113-8657, Japan). This research was supported in part by a Grant-in-Aid for Scientific Research (No.06660111) from the Ministry of Education, Culture, Sports, Science and Technology, Japan. Abbreviations: NR, nitrate reductase; TNC, total nonstructural carbohydrate.

Nomenclature
State Latin nomenclature (in Italics), the authority (in Romans) and, if necessary, cultivar name (in Romans) at the first mention of plant and other biological materials in the abstract or main text, e.g., Setaria italica Beauv. var. Gemanicum Trin.. Consult the International Code of Botanical Nomenclature.

Chemicals and abbreviations
Normally, chemical elements should be represented by names rather than symbols. Exceptions are allowed for chemicals with complicated structures. Abbreviations including those commonly used must be identified where first mentioned in the abstract and text. Excessive abbreviations are to be avoided.

Units
All measurements should be in the metric system and SI units are preferred. To avoid possible confusion among volumetric and gravimetric contents of substances, describe them as, g g⁻¹, g L⁻¹ and mL L⁻¹ rather than “%”. Do not use a slash mark for combinations of units, such as m/s and g/m²/s. They should be described as m s⁻¹ and g m⁻² s⁻¹, and one space should be inserted before unit and between units for multi-unit values. Year, month, week, day, hour, minute and second should be described as yr, mo, wk, d, hr, min and s. Describe the time as 0800 or 1400 instead of 8:00 am and 2:00 pm. Citing tables and figures: “Table#” and “Fig. #” for citation of tables and figures. Photographs also may be cited using “Fig.”.

References
• The “author and year” style of reference citation should be used in the “text”, e.g., Ishii (2000) or (Ishii, 2000), Ishii and Smith (2000) or (Ishii and Smith, 2000) and Ishii et al. (2000) or (Ishii et al., 2000) for references by one, two and three or more authors, respectively.
• Two or more references should be arranged chronologically in the “text”, e.g., (Yamada, 1996; Ishii, 1998; Adams, 2008), (Ishii and Smith, 1996; Ishii, 2000), (Ishii, 2000, 2004) and (Ishii, 2004a, 2004b, Adams, 2008).
• “References” should be arranged alphabetically beginning with the first author’s family name, and then chronologically for the same author’s literature. If the first author’s name and year of publication are the same for more than one book, the references are arranged in the order of single authors, dual authorship, and three or more authors’ literature. After that, the dual authors’ references are arranged alphabetically for the second author’s family name. References with three or more authors are arranged according to the order used (referred) in the main text. If there is more than one publication in the same year for the same author(s) or even more than two authors, the letters “a”, “b”, etc. should be added to the year. Electronic sources such as CD-ROMs and online-only publications should also be cited with similar information.
The abbreviation of Japanese Journal of Crop Science published in 1977 (vol.46) and later is “Jpn. J. Crop Sci.”, while “Proc. Crop Sci. Soc. Jpn.” was used for earlier volumes. If a reference written in non-English language is cited, indicate superscript and note the language at the end of “References”. Examples of literature citation are given below.

- Insert a colon and a space between the volume number of journal and the number of pages, e.g., 13: 1-10.
- Use italics for names of magazines and In for books.
- In “References” of a short report, omit the title. Describe only the name of the first author and use “et al.” for three or more authors.

References (Regular paper and Review)


* In Japanese with English abstract. (For vol. 57 and later volumes)

** In Japanese with English summary. (For vol. 56 and earlier volumes)

References (Short report)


* In Japanese with English abstract. (For vol. 57 and later volumes)

** In Japanese with English summary. (For vol. 56 and earlier volumes)

Tables and figures

Authors are requested to prepare tables and figures ready for photographic printing. If they are not of sufficient quality for printing, the author will be charged for the expenses of remaking. Include the statistical descriptions in tables and figures as much as possible. Put yellow marks on the words where each table and figure is first cited in the text. The table/figure number, reduction rate and author’s name should be indicated on the margin of each sheet.

Table: Do not use vertical lines in tables. The desirable font size is between 10 to 12 pt.when a reduction rate of 2/3is...
assumed. Do not use Gothic in tables.

Figure: The original figure must include axes, labels and inside legends (if any). Lettering for labels and inside legends should be a consistent size and style. The preferred size of the original drawing is approximately 1.5 times the published size. The letter size should be decided carefully considering the rate of reduction to the printed size. Art paper for photographs should be used only if absolutely essential, and the authors will be charged for the expenses.

Table and figure captions: At the captions, titles and footnotes for tables, and titles and explanations for figures, should be typewritten together on a separate page(s). Use a final period at the end of each title.

Submission of Manuscript after Acceptance

Editorial correction 1) For editorial correction, please send your manuscript to the Managing Editor, (Dr. T. Tanaka), by e-mail (tanakato@kais.kyoto-u.ac.jp) as an attached file in Microsoft Word format within a week. If the figures and the tables are not formatted in Word file, please send a Word file including text and captions with a PDF file of the figures and the tables. 2) After the Managing Editor receives your manuscript for editorial correction, it will be sent to our English Technical Editor for editorial correction. After these procedures you will soon receive information about finalizing the manuscript.

Abstract for insertion in Japanese Journal of Crop Science (JC) (Japanese-speaking authors only)

Since PPS and JC are companion journals, abstracts of all papers published in PPS will appear in JC after translation. Once a paper is accepted, the author will be requested to prepare an extra copy of the abstract for insertion in JC. This should be attached to the finalized main manuscript and also in the disk. It must include the title, byline and abstract. Japanese-speaking authors of regular papers, short reports and review must prepare the title-byline-abstract for JC in Japanese following the author guideline provided by JC and the latest as follows and send by email to cssj-jim@cropscience.jp within two weeks after acceptance.

Title:
Authors: xxxx1) xxxx2) xxxx3)
(1) xxx Department, xxxx University, 2) xxxx Section, xxxx Prefecture, .....

Abstract: 300 to 600 letters in Japanese (normally about 400 letters)

Offering for cover pictures

PPS welcomes suitable pictures for our cover illustration each issue. Authors of accepted paper are invited to submit a picture for possible display on the front cover. Send a high-quality picture to the Managing Editor (Dr. T. Tanaka*, Kyoto University) by e-mail (tanakato@kais.kyoto-u.ac.jp). Pictures you send to us should have some connections with the topic of the manuscript. The editorial board will give priority to these pictures in the selection of the front cover picture. The editorial board may choose one from other pictures described below, not limited to the authors in the issue, if the board considers that the ones submitted by the authors are difficult to use as the cover design.

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*Managing Editor will change at the end of March, 2014

Instruction for manuscript for print

After the layout revision by the editorial board and English revision by the English Technical Editor, the author finalizes the manuscript for print according to the Technical Editor’s comments.

Recommended application software and file formats:

- **Main manuscript**: Word (ASCII and RTF versions are also acceptable)
- **Tables**: Word or Excel (Prepare tables using cells even if you use other software.)
- **Figures**: Word, Excel, PowerPoint or EPS
- **Photographs**: JPEG, TIFF, BMP or EPS
- Put red marks on Italics, bold, superscripts and subscripts and Greek character and “Table#” and “Fig. #” in the main manuscript using the highlighter function. However, you need not put red marks on fixed character styles of PPS; title (bold), author (bold), address (Italic) and headings (Abstract, Key words, M&M, Results, Discussion,
Acknowledgments, References, etc. Underlines and changes in font colors are not required either.

- **Minimize use of tabs**: Use of tabs to create blanks should be avoided. Use repeated spaces instead.
- **Do not hyphenate artificially**: Do not divide a word into two lines artificially by typing a hyphen, though auto-hyphenation provided by the word processor is acceptable.
- **Be consistent in description of measurement values**: Insert a space between a value and its unit. For units, see a separate sheet.

**Proof**

One set of proofs will be sent to the corresponding author. Only typesetting errors can be corrected; no changes or additions to the manuscript will be allowed. Author will be charged for changing page formation, if it is caused.

**Publication Charges**

Before printing the manuscript, you will be notified the publication charge by editorial office by E-mail: cssj-jim@cropscience.jp All charges must be paid in Japanese yen. Nonresidents in Japan should note that publication charges must be calculated according to the currency exchange rate at payment.

- Fixed charge per single paper but no charge for the condition below:
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  - Regular paper within six pages,
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An additional charge for covers if ordered

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http://www.cropscience.jp/pps/subscription.html