

Tropical Grasslands — Notes for Contributors

Tropical Grasslands publishes original papers on research and development into the evaluation, management and utilisation of pastures and fodder crops in tropical and subtropical agriculture. Topics may include: assessment, establishment, soil fertility, nitrogen fixation, ecology, physiology, pests and diseases, management, nutritive value, animal production, description and analysis of crop-livestock systems including agroforestry, and economics. Review articles are welcomed. Publication in the Journal is open to all persons whether they are members of the Tropical Grassland Society of Australia Inc. or not.

Papers should aim to develop concepts as well as presenting results. They must be as concise as possible and include only information essential to the understanding of the paper. It is expected that articles submitted to the Journal have been through a process of peer review.

Papers are accepted for review by the Journal on the understanding that the material presented has not been and will not be published elsewhere, and has been approved by all authors and the organisation sponsoring the research.

Manuscripts

The responsibility for preparation of the paper rests with the author(s). Reference should be made to current issues of the Journal for guidance on layout and style of text, tables, figures and references. The initial submission should be typed or printed to letter quality on one side of A4 paper with wide margins, double spaced, all pages numbered and two copies submitted. At this stage, a copy on disk should **not** be sent. Where facilities allow, authors will be requested to submit the revised or a final copy in IBM compatible disc format in addition to a typed copy. This may be in any of the widely used word-processing formats or DCA, RFT or ASCII format.

Manuscripts and all correspondence should be addressed to: Mr L. Winks, Editor, Tropical Grasslands, McNeill's Road, MS 825, Peak Crossing, Qld 4306, Australia.

Title page

A separate title page should bear the title, followed by the name(s) of the author(s) and, in brief form, the address(es) of the place(s) where the work was carried out. A footnote at the bottom of the page should indicate the postal address of the corresponding author plus an e-mail address. An abbreviated title for use as a page heading can be included.

Headings

Headings should be left-aligned with a capital used only in the first letter: Main headings in **bold** type and first subheadings in *italic* type on a separate line of type; second subheadings in *italic* type incorporated in the text.

In most papers, the main headings will be: **Abstract, Introduction, Materials and methods, Results, Discussion, Acknowledgements and References.**

Abstract

An abstract not exceeding 200 words should be typed on a separate page together with the title of the paper. This should include the objectives, main findings and conclusions of the work. Avoid repeating words in the title and the use of abbreviations.

Introduction

This should explain briefly the nature of the investigation and the reasons for conducting it. The objectives must be spelt out clearly. A detailed literature review is not required.

Materials and methods

A concise statement or tabular presentation of all treatments should be made near the beginning of this section. Include the name used for classification and the physical, chemical and biological (where appropriate) characteristics of the soil when defining a particular site. Well recognised procedures need not be described but an appropriate reference should be given.

Results

Data may be presented in the form of tables or figures but not in both forms and definitely not repeated in detail in the text. Data which are not relevant to the particular topic being presented in the paper should not be included. Appropriate statistical analysis should be carried out on the data. It is usually preferable to present the *Results* in a separate section from the *Discussion*.

Discussion

This is a consideration of the results in relation to the objectives outlined in the *Introduction*. Presentation of results should not be repeated nor new information introduced. The *Discussion* should indicate the author's(s') command of knowledge of the field under study, including that from other localities and countries. It should also include a clear statement of the importance of the conclusions and their application.

Tables and Figures

Tables and Figures should be attached at the end of the paper, on separate sheets and numbered. Take account of the size and shape of the Journal page when designing them. They will be set in 65 mm single column or 136 mm double column width with a maximum length of 200 mm. Avoid a landscape format. Indicate their point of insertion in the text and refer to them in the text as 'Table' or 'Figure'.

Tables. The units should be given in the column or row headings immediately above the data. Footnotes should be used only when essential and referred to by a superscript numeral. Avoid very long or wide tables and also tables where the data could be described in the text.

Figures. The originals should be suitable for 50% reduction and drawn in Indian ink, or the equivalent, on stout white paper, tracing paper or feint-blue graph paper, with lettering and legends in pencil only. Wherever possible lettering between the axes should be avoided. Copies of the original diagrams with and without lettering should be provided for editing purposes. Graphs generated with computer packages are acceptable where the above conditions are met. Computer graphs with lines too thin for reduction or including permanent lettering are not acceptable.

Closed symbols (s, n, h, ●, ◀, ■) are preferred to open symbols (×, +, -). Curves should not be drawn beyond experimental points. Where an axis scale does not begin at zero, draw it with an open section near the origin. Where feasible, several graphs should be plotted on a single pair of axes rather than as separate figures, and related graphs grouped together.

List all captions for Figures on a separate sheet and write the author's name and Figure number in pencil on the back of each Figure.

References

Responsibility for correct and complete citation of the references lies with the author(s).

References should be made in the text by giving the author's name with year of publication in round brackets:

- one author — Smith (1983) or (Smith 1983);
- two authors — Ladd and Jones (1972) or (Ladd and Jones 1972);
- more than two authors — Jones *et al.* (1985);
- multiple papers — Smith (1985a);
- multiple references — (Smith 1983; 1984).

All references cited in the text should be listed alphabetically by the author's surname in the list of *References* using the following style:

Journals —

HACKER, J.B. and MINSON, D.J. (1972) Varietal differences in *in vitro* dry matter digestibility in *Setaria* and the effects of site, age, and season. *Australian Journal of Agricultural Research*, **23**, 959-967.

For papers accepted for publication but not yet published, add 'in press' after the volume number.

Books —

ORAM, R.N. (1990) *Register of Australian Herbage Plant Cultivars*. 3rd Edn. (CSIRO: Melbourne).

Where reference is made to particular page numbers in a book these should be listed after the name of the book, that is, after 'Edn' in the example above.

Chapters —

BOND, J.G., TURNER, N.C. and BEGG, J.E. (1978) Responses of pasture plants to water deficits. In: Wilson, J.R. (ed.) *Plant Relations in Pastures*. pp. 50-60. (CSIRO: Melbourne).

Conference series —

MANNETJE, L. 't (1974) Relations between pasture attributes and liveweight gains on a subtropical pasture. *Proceedings of the XII International Grassland Congress, Moscow, 1974*. **3**, 299-304.

Reports —

JONES, R.J. (1969) Beef production from intensively grazed pastures. *Annual Report 1968-69, Division of Tropical Crops and Pastures, CSIRO, Australia*. pp. 47-48.

Bulletins —

MALCOLMSON, G.H. (1988) Leucaena establishment and extension. *Bulletin Series Q088007. Queensland Department of Primary Industries, Brisbane*.

Theses —

CARVALHO, M.M. de (1978) *A comparative study of the responses of six Stylosanthes species to acid soil factors with particular reference to aluminium*. Ph.D. Thesis. University of Queensland.

Conventions*Type face*

Use initial capitals for proper names and adjectives derived from them — months, plant families, cultivar names, generic names, references to specific tables, figures and experiments, and for common names of plants only when they incorporate a proper name.

Use italics for scientific names of plants and Latin phrases, e.g. *in vitro*; *i.e.*; *Macroptilium atropurpureum*.

Hyphens

Use hyphens in compound numbers and fractions (one-third); in compound modifiers (6-weekly cuts); and in ranges (23-26%).

Numerals

Use numerals for all measurements in the text (except at the commencement of a sentence or when one numeral qualifies another, e.g. 2 plots, two 0.5m² quadrats) and as superscripts for footnotes.

Time

Dates should be given in the form January 23, 1989. In tables they can be abbreviated to the form 'Jan 23' or 23.1.89. Use the 24-hour clock for reporting times of the day.

Units

All numerical data must be presented in SI units except for those units noted below. Abbreviations should be used without a full stop, e.g. day d,

minute min, hour h, year yr, gram g, litre l, degree Celsius °C.

Exceptions. Concentrations in SI units are expressed in terms of the unit of mass or volume as the numerator and denominator, e.g. g/kg. However, it is acceptable to express concentrations of macro-nutrients as a percentage and micro-nutrients as ppm. Avoid referring to a 'concentration' as 'content'. Digestibilities can be expressed as a percentage or fraction.

Units should be expressed using a slash (/), e.g. kg/ha not kg ha⁻¹. The descriptor should not be included within the unit, e.g. use 'kg/ha P' rather than 'kg P/ha'.

Abbreviations

Abbreviations may be used for the more common physical quantities provided they are given in full when first mentioned in the paper, e.g. dry matter (DM).

The conventional symbols for statistical significance — NS for non-significant, * for P<0.05 (5%), ** for P<0.01 (1%) and *** for P<0.001 (0.1%) can be used in tables without explanation but in the text should be given in the form (P<0.05). The following statistical terms may also be used without explanation:

| | |
|------------------------------|------|
| coefficient of variation | CV |
| correlation coefficient | r |
| degrees of freedom | d.f. |
| least significant difference | LSD |
| probability | P |
| standard error | s.e. |
| variance ratio | F |

Chemical symbols

For fertilisers, N, P, and K may be used without definition. For other elements, the name should be given at the first mention followed by the symbol in brackets. Fertiliser composition should be given as N:P:K and not as N:P₂O₅:K₂O. Ionic charge is indicated by superscripts following the symbol, e.g. Ca²⁺, and numbers of atoms in molecules by superscripts preceding the symbols, e.g. ¹⁵N.

Scientific names

Where the scientific name is repeated, the generic name may be abbreviated to its initial letter. The authority for the name is not included unless it is relevant to the content of the paper.