



## GUIDELINES FOR AUTHORS

### JOURNAL POLICIES

#### Aims and Scope

*Tropical Life Sciences Research* (TLSR) formerly known as *Journal of Bioscience* seeks to publish relevant ideas and knowledge addressing vital life sciences issues in the tropical region. The Journal's scope is interdisciplinary in nature and covers any aspects related to issues on life sciences especially from the field of biochemistry, microbiology, biotechnology and animal, plant, environmental, biomedical and pharmaceutical sciences. TLSR practices double blind peer review system to ensure and maintain the good quality of articles published in this journal. Two issues are published annually in printed and electronic form. TLSR accepts review articles, experimental papers and short communications. The Editor-in-Chief would like to invite researchers to use this journal as a mean to rapidly promote their research findings.

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Each manuscript undergoes a double-blind peer review. If found to be of suitable quality and meets the aims and scope of the journal, it will then be sent to at least two reviewers. Where

manuscript revision is required, authors are urged to ensure that the necessary corrections are made before the manuscript can be accepted for production.

### **Manuscript Preparation**

Manuscripts must be prepared using Microsoft Word and must be typed using Arial 12 pt and double-spaced. Manuscripts should be clearly and concisely written in English (UK). Manuscripts may be rejected on the basis of unsatisfactory command of the English language.

Manuscripts should be organised in the following order:

- a. Title
- b. Abstract
- c. Keywords
- d. Introduction
- e. Materials and Methods
- f. Results
- g. Discussion
- h. Conclusion
- i. References
- j. Appendices (where applicable)
- k. Figure caption(s)

\*Table(s) and Figure(s) must be uploaded separately

#### ***Title***

Should be as concise as possible but informative enough to facilitate information retrieval and try to avoid abbreviations. Provide also a suitable running head (within 50 characters) derived from the title.

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Name of author(s) and affiliation(s) should be provided separately as Title Page. The corresponding author should be indicated together with the e-mail address. Please give first, middle and last name but omit titles. Give the affiliation of each author and complete mailing address of the institution where the work was conducted. If current address of an author is different, include it in the footnote on the title page. Authors must attest that all persons designated as authors qualify for authorship and all those who qualify are listed. All co-authors must have seen and approved the final version of the paper and agreed to its submission for publication. Authors must: (1) have contributed substantially to one or more of the following aspects of the work: conception, planning, execution, writing, interpretation, and statistical analysis; and (2) be willing to assume public responsibility for the validity of the work. For more information on authorship please visit [http://www.icmje.org/ethical\\_1author.html](http://www.icmje.org/ethical_1author.html) for guidance.

#### ***Acknowledgements***

The acknowledgement section gives an opportunity for the author(s) to thank people with the study or preparation of the paper. Examples are people who provided purely technical help or writing assistance. This is also where the author should indicate that the results of this study were presented in another form such as a poster or abstract or at a symposium. All research articles should have a funding acknowledgement in the form of a sentence as follows, with the funding agency written out in full, followed by the grant number. Multiple grant number should be separated by comma and space. Example: This work was supported by World Health Organisation, (grant number xxxxx). This section must be **included in the Title Page** also.

#### ***Abstract***

The abstract should be no longer than 200–300 words. The abstract should give a clear, concise and informative summary with scope and purpose, significant results and major conclusions as well as an indication of any new findings. Abstract should not contain literature

citations that refer to the main list of references attached to the complete article nor allusions to the illustrations. Define all nonstandard symbols, abbreviations and acronyms. The abstract should be written as one paragraph and should not contain displayed mathematical equations or tabular material. Manuscripts with author(s) from Malaysia are required to also provide the abstract in Bahasa Malaysia.

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Be sure to mention every figure and table in the text. Each figure and table must have a caption that is complete and intelligible by itself without references to the text. Number figures and tables in the order in which they appear in text and each must be provided as a separate file. Please do not combine figure/table and caption in a textbox or frame.

### Figures/electronic illustration

Place the figures in sequence after the collected captions. Label all figure parts with (a), (b), etc. Avoid any large disparity in size of lettering and labels used within one illustration. Ensure that lettering and lines are dark enough, and thick enough, to reproduce clearly, especially if reduction is necessary. Remember that fine lines tend to disappear upon reduction. Please make sure that artwork files are in acceptable format (TIFF or EPS) and with the correct resolution. The table below shows the image specifications.

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**Colour figures:** When preparing illustrations that will appear in colour in the online journal and in black and white in the printed journal, authors must ensure that: (i) colours chosen will reproduce well when printed in black & white and (ii) descriptions of figures in text and captions will be sufficiently clear for both print and online versions. This is the author's responsibility.

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Column heading for the tables should be clear and concise with appropriate units. Units of measurement should be placed in parentheses on the line below the appropriate heading. Do not use internal horizontal and vertical grids. Place footnotes to table below the table body and indicate them with superscript lowercase letters (<sup>a</sup>, <sup>b</sup>, <sup>c</sup>, etc., with a new sequence starting with <sup>a</sup> for each table). Use En-dash (–) to indicate missing values. Be sparing in the use of tables and ensure that the data presented in tables do not duplicate elsewhere in the article.

Please do not provide tab-delimited tables. Table should consist of rows and column. Data must be typed inside the table cells using the font and font size as specified below:

Font type: Arial

Font size: 9

Font style: Non-bold, non-italic (except special and scientific names)

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Graphs should be self-explanatory, their purpose evident without reference to the text. Indicate clearly what is being plotted, in both horizontal and vertical directions. Include appropriate units. Orient letters and numbers so that they may be easily read from the bottom or the right hand side of the graph. Relevant nongraphic material, such as the key to the symbolism in the graph, maybe included within the confines of the graph frame if it will fit without crowding; otherwise put the explanatory material in the caption.

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The use of units and symbols provided by the International Bureau of Weights and Measures (BIPM) of The International System of Units (SI) is recommended. Commonly used unit: - g (gram), ml (millilitre), m (meter), mol (mole), min (minute). All similar-looking letters, numbers, and unusual/special symbols whose identity may not be obvious must be identified the first time they appear, and at all subsequent times when confusion might arise [for example, the number 'one' (1) and the letter 'ell' (l); the Roman letter 'kay' (k) and the Greek letter 'kappa' ( $\kappa$ ); the 'proportional to' symbol ( $\propto$ ) and the Greek 'alpha' ( $\alpha$ )].

### ***References***

All references in the text should be presented in a list of reference following alphabetical order. The manuscript should be carefully checked to ensure that the information given in the text is exactly the same as that given in the reference list. Authors are required to provide the DOI for references which are assigned one and are responsible for the accuracy of the references. References to the literature should be made according to the system described here:

#### References in text: -

Single author – ... as described by Davidson (2009) ... OR  
... (Davidson 2009) ...

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List of references. Examples: -

Book

- Single  
Allan J D. (1995). *Stream ecology. Structure and function of running waters*. London: Chapman and Hall, 113–118. <http://dx.doi.org/10.1007/978-94-011-0729-7>
- Multiple  
Krebs C J, Shikman N L and Hoosea G. (1989). *Ecological methodology*, 2<sup>nd</sup> ed. New York: Benjamin Cumming.
- Articles/chapters in book  
Kessler B, Kraak M N, Ren Q, Klinke S, Preto M and Witholt B. (1998). Enzymology and molecular genetics of PHA mcl-biosynthesis. In A Steinbüchel (ed.). *Biochemical principles and mechanisms of biosynthesis and biodegradation of polymers*. Weinheim, Germany: Wiley-VCH, 48–56.
- Web resources  
Siti S I and Devi L M. (2002). *List of endangered birds in Asia*. <http://listofbirds/book/.pdf> (accessed on 13 July 2011).

Journal

- Single  
Baulenga G B R M. (1998). A new way to perform DNA fingerprinting in mice samples. *Tropical Journal of Biomolecular Studies* 66(5): 98–107.
- Multiple  
Braunegg G, Sonnleitner B and Lafferty R M. (1978). A rapid gas chromatographic method for the determination of poly- $\beta$ -hydroxybutyric acid in microbial biomass. *Journal of Applied Microbiology and Biotechnology* 6(1): 29–37. <http://dx.doi.org/10.1007/BF00500854>
- Forthcoming  
Grismer L L, Wood P I Jr. and Grismer J L. (forthcoming). A new insular species of skink of the genus *Sphenomorphus* Strauch 1887 (Squamata: Scincidae) from Pulau Perhentian Besar, Terengganu, Peninsular Malaysia. *Tropical Life Sciences Research*.
- Web resources  
Rabbani S I, Devi K and Khanam S. (2010). Role of pioglitazone with metformin or glimepiride on oxidative stress-induced nuclear damage and reproductive toxicity in diabetic rats. *Malaysian Journal of Medical Sciences* 17(1): 3–11. <http://ernd.usm.my/journal/journal/02-171OA1pioglitazone.pdf> (accessed on 21 March 2010).
- Special Issue  
Washington J F. (1991). The study of water vending and willingness to pay for water in Nigeria. Special issue, *World Development* 23(2–3): 23–31.

Others

- Web references  
FAO (2004). *Food and Nutrition*. <http://www.fao.org/rice2004/en/f-sheet/factsheet3.pdf> (accessed on 12 February 2004).
- Conferences  
Zarul Hazrin H, Shah A S R M and Khoo K H. (2004). Physico-chemical overview of two selected rivers in Temenggor Reservoir. In A S R M Shah, K Y Chan, H Zarul Hazrin, A R Emi Sherizan, W M Wan Fatma Zuharah and N R Nik Fadzly (eds.). *Proceedings of the 2<sup>nd</sup> Life Sciences Postgraduate Conference, Life Sciences: The*

*power to explore, discover and stimulate*. Universiti Sains Malaysia, Pulau Pinang, 1–3 April 2004.

Rodolfi M, Lorenzi E and Picco A M. (2006). Fungal pathogens on Italian rice (*Oryza sativa* L) seed. *3<sup>rd</sup> International Seed Health Conference of Seed Pathology Section*. Bydgoszcz, Poland, 6–8 September 2006, 76–77.

- Thesis

Anderson J A R. (1961). The ecology and forest types of the peat swamp forests of Sarawak and Brunei in relation to their silviculture. PhD diss., University of Edinburgh.

Nor Azfa J. (2002). Kesan antibakteria ekstrak Dukung Anak (*Phyllanthus niruri*) dan Rumput Sambau (*Eleusine indica*). Undergraduate diss., Universiti Kebangsaan Malaysia.

- Multiple authors (list all names for 10 authors, if more than 10 authors, list the first 7 authors followed by “*et al.*”)

Larkin M A, Blackshields G, Brown N P, Chenna R, McGettigan P A, McWilliam H, Valentin F *et al.* (2007). Clustal W and Clustal X version 2.0. *Bioinformatics* 23(21): 2947–2948. <http://dx.doi.org/10.1093/bioinformatics/btm404>

### **Formula/equations**

Subscripts and superscripts should be clearly indicated. Take special care to clearly show the difference between zero (0) and the letter O, and between one (1) and the letter l. Give the meanings of all symbols immediately after the equation in which they are first used. For simple fractions use the solidus (/) instead of a horizontal. Equations should be aligned to bring out their structure, displayed on separate lines set off from the text above and below and sequentially numbered (using Arabic numbers in parentheses flush right to the right margin). In general, only equations explicitly referred to in text need be numbered. Mathematical operation signs indicating continuity of the expression should be placed at the left of the second and succeeding lines. The use of fractional powers instead of root signs is recommended. Also powers of e are often more conveniently denoted by exp.

Example: -

The Shannon-Wiener Diversity Index ( $H'$ ) was calculated using the following formula:

$$H' = - \sum_{i=1}^s p_i \ln p_i$$

where,

- s = the number of species
- $p_i$  = the proportion of individuals or the abundance of the  $i$ th species expressed as a proportion of total abundance
- ln = log base e.

Do not submit equation as an image.

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First level heading (uppercase, bold, flush left)

Example: **INTRODUCTION**

Second level heading (upper lowercase, bold, flush left)

Example: **Second Level Heading**

Third level heading (upper lowercase only for first word (the rest lowercase) bold, flush left)

Example: **Third level heading**

Fourth level heading [upper lowercase only for first word (the rest lowercase) italic, flush left]

Example: Fourth level heading

### **Listings**

Listings in the text should be written as follows:

The classes are given as follows: (1) crown illumination class, (2) crown shape class, (3) log grade class, and (4) climber infestation class. OR

This study includes discussion of:

1. habitat
  - a. river
  - b. mangrove forest
  - c. reserve forest
2. eating habits
  - a. herbivore
  - b. omnivore
3. etc ...

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- Keywords (3 to 5)
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- All tables (including title and description)
- References in the correct format
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