

INSTRUCTIONS TO AUTHORS

*Authors are advised to consult a recent issue of **Malaysian Applied Biology** to acquaint themselves with the general layout of articles.*

Malaysian Applied Biology publishes scientific articles on original research in all fields of biology or in any related scientific field provided it has not been considered for publication in other journals. Acceptance for publication is based on contribution to scientific knowledge, originality of data, ideas or interpretations and on their conciseness, scientific accuracy and clarity, as judged by two referees appointed by the Editorial Board.

Manuscripts

- The preferred format for submitted manuscript is Microsoft Word. Submitting your manuscript in this format ensures it will be handled in the most efficient manner.
- Manuscripts should be 1.5 spaced and 12-points Times New Roman throughout i.e. including title, heading, abstract and references with wide margins.
- A separate title page should include the title, author's name, affiliation, running title, key words, address and email of corresponding author.
- The title should be repeated in the full article.
- Every page of the manuscript, including references, tables etc., should be numbered in the upper right-hand corner.
- Words that should be in italics, must be typed as such or underlined. Do not underline any other word.
- The full paper should not exceed eight printed pages. Authors will be charged for additional pages printed.
- The manuscript should be divided into the following sections: INTRODUCTION, MATERIALS and METHODS, RESULTS/and DISCUSSION, ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS (if any), REFERENCES.
- Headings of sections should be capitalized, flushed to the left.
- Sub-headings should be typed in lower-case, flushed to the left.
- The text should be typed two spaces below the section heading.
- The manuscript in general should be organized in the following order:

Title: should be concise and descriptive, capitalized, centered.

Name(s) of author(s): Capitalized, and centered.

Present address(es): lower-case, centered.

Abstract: The abstract should be clear and informative when read in isolation. It should not be longer than 200 words. The heading should be capitalized followed by the text. The abstract should be in English and Bahasa Malaysia (optional).

Tables

- Authors should take note of the limitations set by the size and layout of the journal. Large tables should be avoided.
- Each table should be typed on a separate page of the manuscript. All captions to tables should be typed together in lower-case.
- Double space title box headings and all other lines. Avoid unnecessary use of abbreviations.
- Each table should be provided with a brief and self-explanatory title.
- Vertical lines should not be used to separate columns.
- Wherever possible, large data sets should be presented in two or more tables for clarity.

Illustrations

- Figures and photographs are to be labelled as figures (Fig.). Each figure should be submitted on a separate page.
- Captions to all figures should be typed in lower-case together on a separate page.
- Illustrations should be numbered according to their sequence in the text. References should be made in the text to each illustration.
- Line drawings and letterings should be bold enough to allow a reduction of 50% without becoming illegible.
- Fonts in the illustrations should be standardized.
- Identify each figure lightly in pencil on the back.
- Photographs should be supplied as black - and - white high contrast glossy prints. Colour photographs may be printed at the expense of the authors.
- Do not paste photographs on cards.

Scientific names

- The complete Latin name (genus, species and authority) must be given in full for every organism when first mentioned in the text.
- Italicise Latin names of genera and species.

Units, symbols and abbreviations

- Only SI units should be used, e.g. gm (gram), µl (microlitre), kg (kilogram), cm (centimeter), ha (hectare), g (gravity), hr (hour), min (minute), sec (second), °C (centigrade).
- With abbreviations, as few periods as possible should be used. Write LSD, SE, IAA, EDTA etc.
- Isotopes should be indicated: ¹⁴C, ³²P and not C₁₄ or P₃₂; the exception being carbon-14 etc.

References

- References to unpublished work and personal communications should be kept to a minimum.
- All papers cited in the text should be given in parentheses, e.g. (Child, 1992; Smith & Cohen, 1993; Joshi *et al.*, 1994) except when the author is mentioned e.g., “and the study of Hillman and Tasca (1990) and Joshi *et al.* (1994)”.
- The list of references should be arranged alphabetically according to authors’ names and chronologically for each author.
- In cited references, papers with single authorship should be cited before joint authorship.
- Publications by the same author(s) in the same year should be listed as 1984a, 1984b etc.
- Journal names should be spelled out in full.
- Use the following system to arrange your references :

Periodicals

Tay, T.W., Marina, M.T., Wong, C.H., Zubaid, A. & Kamis, A.B. 2001. Reproductive cycle of *Hipposideros larvatus* from an undisturbed lowland tropical forest. *Malaysian Applied Biology*, **30(1 & 2)**: 93–98.

Books

Ismail, B.S. 1992. *Sains Rumpai*. Dewan Bahasa dan Pustaka, Kuala Lumpur. 242 pp. (Malay).

Hall, J.L., Flowers, T.J. and Robert, R.M. 1982. *Plant Cell Structure and Metabolism*. 2nd Ed. Longman, Singapore. 544 pp.

Work in an edited collection

Shukor, J. and Ismail, B.S. 1989. Effects of shade and flooding on growth and development of *Asystasia intrusa*. In: *Weed Management*. B.A. Auld, R.C. Umaly and S.S. Tjitrosomo (Eds.). Biotrop Special Publication No. 38, Seameo-Biotrop, Bogor. pp. 63-69.

Abbreviation of author's name:

The recommended style is as in the following example: Abdul Rahim bin Hj. Mohamed Ali should be abbreviated as: Abdul-Rahim, M.A. or Mohamed-Ali, A.R. or Ali, A.R.M.

Language and editing

- Manuscripts submitted containing many English typographical errors will not be published. Authors from non English language countries who have poor English language written skills, are advised to contact the professional language editing company prior to submit their manuscript to the journal. Manuscripts which are accepted for publication on condition that the written English submitted is needed to be corrected, must provide proof from professional language editing company to ensure the manuscripts free from English typographical errors.