

Avian Health - an official journal of AAHP

Guidelines for Authors

Journal Mission Statement

Avian Health is the medium for exchange of information on original research into all aspects of poultry health and medicine. Areas of interest regularly covered by this e-journal include studies of avian pathogens, host-pathogen relationships, pathophysiology, poultry disease diagnostics, vaccines, therapeutics, epidemiology of poultry pathogens, disease resistance, food safety and biosecurity.

Guidelines for Authors

1. Aims and scope

Avian Health is the official peer-reviewed e-journal of The **Association of Avian Health Professionals** (AAHP), published quarterly in English. The e-journal publishes original research articles, reviews, brief communications, case reports, thesis/dissertation abstracts on avian health and letters to the editor.

2. Editorial policy

Peer review

All contributions are reviewed by independent referees and Editorial Board reserves right to make final decision on acceptance or rejection of a manuscript.

Ethical approval and other ethical considerations

Studies involved in original research articles submitted for publication must be approved by the Institutional Animal Ethics Committee (IAEC). Experiments involving challenging studies of poultry health must be approved by Institutional Animal Ethics Committee (IAEC), Institute Biosafety Committee (IBSC) and Committee for the Purpose of Control and Supervision of Experiments of Animals (CPCSEA). Wherever possible, the standard international nomenclature is to be followed. A sentence mentioning the date of approval by the IAEC/IBSC/CPCSEA should appear as per requirement of research studies mentioned in each manuscript, and approval certificate should be made available by corresponding author, if requested by the Editorial Board.

Permissions

For copyright material to be included in the manuscript an acknowledgement of permission to reproduce previously published copyright material is required with a written consent of the copyright holder and full reference should be included in the reference list.

Copyright

The authors of the manuscripts accepted for publication will be required to assign copyright to *Avian Health* and a form for this purpose will accompany the proofs.

Manuscript Review and Status

The Editor reviews all submissions and makes an initial determination regarding suitability for publication. Before being sent for peer review, newly submitted manuscripts are screened to ensure that the text, figures (charts, graphs, images), and tables comply with criteria described in *Guidelines for Authors*. All manuscripts undergo thorough peer review, typically by two reviewers with relevant experience. Selection of the panel of reviewers ultimately is prerogative of the Editor.

3. Types of articles

The *Avian Health* accepts following manuscript types:

i. Research Article

Research article describing original or substantially incremental research falling in the purview of *Avian Health* e-journal is considered for publication under this category. These articles should be up to 4000 words and cited references limited to 40.

Manuscript structure: Title page; Abstract; Introduction; Materials and Methods; Results; Discussion; Acknowledgement; References; Tables and Figure legends. Figures should be limited to 6.

ii. Review articles

Reviews should define the present level of understanding of subject pertaining to topic and suggest new insights or possible implication for future investigation. Prospective authors are encouraged to review their ideas and raise any questions with a member of the Editorial Team should they wish. The Review articles should be up to 5500 words maximum with cited references limited to 75.

Manuscript structure: Title page; Abstract; Introduction; content-appropriate headings; Conclusion; Future Prospects; References; Tables and Figure legends. Figures should be limited to 6.

iii. Brief Communication

Brief Communications may report significant new data and new findings arising from problems with narrow, well-defined limits, or important findings that warrant rapid publication before broader studies are complete. The brief communications should be up to 1500 words maximum with cited references limited to 15.

Manuscript structure: Title page; content-appropriate headings; Summary; References; Tables and Figure legends. Figures should be limited to 3.

iv. Case Reports/Clinical Reports

Case reports with significant and original observations will be considered for publication. They should focus on history, new improvements in clinical and diagnostic aspects, new therapeutic regimes along with care and management of poultry. They should be up to 1200 words maximum with cited references limited to 10.

Manuscript structure: Title page; content-appropriate headings; Summary; Reference; Tables and Figure legends. Figures should be limited to 3.

v. Thesis/Dissertation abstracts

Thesis/Dissertation abstracts of Postgraduate diploma/Postgraduation/Ph.D./Post-doc pertaining to poultry health should be accompanied by the consent from the major advisor/guide. Abstract should be limited to 300 words maximum.

vi. Letters to the Editor

Letters to the Editor will be considered for publication but only on issues related to the scientific or ethical content of the journal, and authors will be permitted the opportunity to publish a reply to any letters.

4. How to submit a manuscript

All submissions should be in English be accompanied by a cover letter. The cover letter should not exceed single page, and include the following information:

- a statement acknowledging the manuscript is not currently under consideration for publication elsewhere,
- a statement that all co-authors have reviewed and approved the manuscript submission,
- the intended genre of the submitted manuscript,
- an anti-plagiarism statement mentioning that “The manuscript has been checked for plagiarism using (Name of software) with no plagiarism or less than 20% plagiarized content and words limited to 10”.
- a brief description of how the manuscript relates to the scope of *Avian Health* (optional),
- suggestions for potential reviewers of the submitted manuscript (optional), and
- signature of the corresponding author.

Author’s certificate:

A certificate to be signed by all the authors and indicating that all the contributors have been given due credit and placed as per the contribution.

Manuscripts should be prepared in accordance with the guidelines given below.

Manuscript preparation guidelines:

Manuscript formatting should be in Times New Roman with 12 size font, double line-spaced, left alignment, with headings and subheadings in bold case and suitable for reading at 100% zooming. Standard grammar and spelling should be considered.

Title page of manuscript should contain full title of the manuscript, a short title, initials, and last names of all authors and their affiliations, the department(s) and institution(s) where work was carried out, name, postal and email addresses, telephone and fax numbers of the author responsible for all communications about the manuscript and proofs. The title should be concise, informative and must not be unnecessarily punctuated. The short title should be no more than six words long.

Abstract should be unstructured with not more than 250 words that sequentially summarize the background, rationale, methods, results, and conclusions of work along with a list of up to five key words, must accompany all original research articles, review articles. Thesis/dissertation abstract should be no more than 300 words. Abstract is not required for Letters to the Editor.

Body of the manuscript includes Introduction, Material and Methods, Results, Discussion, Figures and Tables. Use coded or non-proprietary language throughout the manuscript. Define all nonstandard abbreviations and acronyms at first use. Limit the number of novel abbreviations used.

- **Introduction**
 - Provide rationale and supporting background for the submitted article and its importance and relevance.
 - Extensive reviews of the existing literature are inappropriate for research reports and case studies/reports.
- **Materials and Methods**

- Describe the animals, husbandry, tests, equipment, procedures, reagents, and services used in detail with citation of published references.
- Cite the proprietary, brand, or vendor name associated with an assay, instrument, machine, service, or compound.
- Include statistical methods and define level of significance where relevant and cite the software program used.
- Include a statement regarding Institutional Animal Ethics Committee approval (or equivalent) for procedures and protocols involving animals.
- Insert callouts (in parentheses) for all Figures and Tables, which are numbered in order of their mention in the text.
- Standard nomenclature for scientific names of microbes, lab animals, genes, genetic markers, alleles, mutations etc. should be followed.
- Wherever possible, use International System of Units base and derived units for numerical data.
- **Results**
 - Accompany statements of differences between groups with appropriate statistics.
 - Summarize selected data from Figures and Tables in the Results section; do not merely repeat all information presented in tables and figures.
- **Discussion**
 - Begin discussion with a brief summary and data interpretation of the key findings mentioned in results.
 - Address any limitations of the study and directions for potential future research.
 - Probable Impact of findings.
- **Tables**
 - Tables must be prepared using Table feature of word processor. Tables should not duplicate information given in text, should be numbered sequentially as per text. All tables should be given a brief title depicting the table number in the order in which they are mentioned in text. Each Table should be given as part of the text file on a separate page at the end of the manuscript. Vertical rules and/or background shading should not be used. The legend of a table should be concise and enable the reader to understand the data without excessive reference to the text. The table should be designed in such a way that it conveys the information without extensive footnotes.
- **Figures**
 - All figures/photographs should be numbered in the order in which they are mentioned in text and should be accompanied by a figure legend. Listing of figures at the end of main text file is required if figures are attached in separate files.
 - Line drawings should be produced electronically and clearly labeled. Graphs may be supplied as Excel spreadsheets (one per sheet). Other line drawings should be supplied in a suitable vector graphic file format (e.g., .eps).
 - All photographic images should be submitted in camera-ready form (*i.e.*, with all extraneous areas removed), and where necessary, magnification should be shown using a scale marker.
 - **Digital figure guidelines:**
 - To ensure the highest quality reproduction in the journal, original digital figures are preferred.
 - **Formats:** For publication, use TIFF, EPS, or postscript files in PC or MacIntosh format, preferably from Photoshop or Illustrator software.
 - **Resolution and figure quality:** Figure files must be submitted at an appropriate resolution for print publication:

- Color, 300 dpi minimum, convert all color files into CMYK mode.
- Grayscale, 600 dpi minimum for black & white photographs.
- Line art, 1200 dpi minimum for graphs and illustrations.
- **Summary/Conclusions**
 - For brief communications and Case reports summary of the findings should be limited to 100 words maximum and conclusion and prospects for review articles should be limited to 150 words maximum.
- **Acknowledgments**
 - Recognize (with their permission) and acknowledge people and institutions whose contributions of funding, technical assistance, reagents, data collection and analysis, and other services that do not meet the criteria for authorship.
- **References**
 - Only essential references should be included. Authors are responsible for verifying them against the original source material. The in-text citations and all references should adhere to American Psychological Association (APA) style as per (<https://apastyle.apa.org/>).
- **Abbreviations**
 - Symbols and abbreviations should be those currently in use. Authors should not create new abbreviations and acronyms. References to animal strains should be in accordance with current nomenclature. For reference, use The International Index of Laboratory Animals, 6th edn. (Festing M, 1993); the Mouse Genome database and the Rat Genome Database.
- **Units**
 - All measurements should be expressed in SI units.

Conflict of interest

- Authors must declare whether the submitted work was carried out in the presence of any personal, professional, or financial relationships that could potentially be construed as a conflict of interest. This declaration provides information concerning authors who profit in some way from publication of the paper. For example, one or more of the authors may be employed by a pharmaceutical company that manufactures a drug or vaccine tested in the study reported. Other examples include consultancies, stock ownership, honoraria, paid expert testimony, patent applications/registrations, and grants or other funding. If there is no conflict of interest to declare, the statement under the “Conflict of interest” heading is “None reported.”

Disclaimer

- The following disclaimer statement is required in all *Avian Health* manuscripts. Authors are also required to discuss issues specific to their manuscript. “Scientific manuscripts published in the *Avian Health* are peer reviewed. However, information on medications, vaccinations and management techniques may be specific to the research or commercial situation presented in the manuscript.

The manuscripts should be submitted as single word file addressed to the Chief Editor, *Avian Health*, via email: editorah@gmail.com. Unless given alternate instructions at the time of submission, we will correspond with the corresponding author.

Each submitted word file should have a cover letter, author’s certificate, and manuscript.

5. Proofs and e-prints

Proofs will be sent by email to the designated corresponding author as a PDF file attachment and should be corrected and returned promptly; corrections should be kept to a minimum. A PDF e-print of each published article will be supplied free of charge to the author for correspondence.

6. Processing fee

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