

SHORT GUIDANCE NOTES FOR THE PREPARATION OF PAPERS BEING SUBMITTED FOR PUBLICATION IN “JOURNAL OF BIOCHEMICAL TECHNOLOGY”

You will need to produce a perfect copy of your paper that is ready for printing from your electronic submission.

If your first language is not English, we would urge you to seek help from someone who is fluent in English. The use of professional paper writing agencies is strongly encouraged where authors may have major problems in writing their work clearly or concisely.

General points

Covering Letter: A cover letter should be submitted by authors together with the manuscript, which includes the following points:

- 1) All authors agree to submit the work to “Journal of Biochemical Technology”
- 2) The work has not been published/submitted or being submitted to another journal,
- 3) The novelty and significant contribution of the submitted work are briefly described.

Overall length

Full length articles should not generally exceed 25 double-spaced pages of text (not including the references) and should not contain more than 15 figures and/or tables.

Short communications should not exceed 10 double-spaced pages of text (not including the references) and no more than 5 figures and/or tables.

Reviews should not generally exceed 20 double-spaced pages of text (not including the references) and should not contain more than 10 figures and/or tables.

Accelerated publications can sometimes be taken into consideration. The authors should then clearly motivate the reasons of the accelerated way in the cover letter.

List all count towards the final length of your paper. Please ensure that **all** pages are numbered. All material must be in double-spaced typing; this included Tables and Figure legends.

Supplementary Information

Lengthy information that is not essential for the understanding of the paper can be given as Supplementary Tables and Figures. Authors should consider using these for information such as DNA and protein sequences, identification of new isolates, ancillary data about protocols or minor results. These will not be counted as part of the length of the final paper.

Title

This must be accurate and informative; please avoid phrases such as “The effect of", “Studies on.....,” etc. Specify clearly any organism or cell system you have used.

Key words

up to 6 words suitable for indexing should be given. Use *words* not abbreviations.

Before the Abstract, please leave 4 cm space for insertion of dates of receipt and acceptance of your paper.

Abstract

This must be both informative and concise. Avoid phrases such as “This paper describes" or

"These experiments are evaluated here...". Also do not use words such as "high", "low", "rapid", "slow", "increased" etc. but give the key quantitative results; what may be a "high" activity to you may be a moderate one to someone else. **Such words have no scientific value.** All non-Standard abbreviations must be defined. Do not include references unless essential and then the reference must be given in full. The overall length should not exceed 100 words.

Introduction

Please keep this as short as possible (usually no more than 300-350 words); do not give a minireview of the literature; give key references to recent, relevant publications; historical references are rarely useful. Space is precious - keep it for your results.

Methods

Give concise information concerning the key protocols only. Avoid describing routine or trivial matters such as how the micro-organisms are maintained, how and when the cultures were sampled. The latter information is easily understood from the tables or figures. Suppliers of chemicals and manufacturers of equipment should only be given if these are not generally available or are in some way unusual or are crucial for success. Suppliers such as Sigma, Aldrich etc. are given without addresses. There is no need to give references to standard procedures, e.g. Lowry or Bradford methods etc. We encourage authors to place as much relevant information in the footnotes and legends of their tables and figures to increase understanding of these illustrations.

Results

Results, given in tables and figures, do not need to be described again at length in the text. This is a very common fault and leads to Results sections often being far too long. Focus the reader's attention on your key results. The *Results* and *Discussion* sections may be combined. An ideal Results section might simply say: "The results are given in Tables 1 and 2 and further details are shown in Figures 1 and 2."

Discussion

Put your key results into the context of current information, avoid unwarranted or unsupported speculations. Keep your discussion short and focused on explaining the significance of your results.

Tables

These should be given, together with their title, on a separate sheet for each table at the end of text after the References. Their lay-out should be suitable for printing as either single column (7.5 cm) or double column (16 cm) width. Avoid vertical rulings (lines) and keep horizontal rulings to a minimum. Please ensure 100% relative values are also given as actual, absolute values in a footnote. Do not quote values beyond the inherent accuracy (or inaccuracy) of the methods. Again, this is a very common fault. State clearly how many times each complete experiment was done and how many times each individual determination was done. Understanding the likely reproducibility of your measurements is of crucial concern. Data given in Tables and Figures should be understandable without recourse to the text: you can add key information regarding experimental procedures in footnotes and omit such details from the Methods section. It is essential that all non-standard abbreviations used in the Table are re-defined. Indicate the approximate position of the Table by a note in the margin of the text.

Figures

Make sure these will reproduce satisfactorily: lines, symbols and lettering must be clear, of equal blackness and are thick enough to be easily read when reproduced at a single column width (7.5 cm). Please do not use color when the figure can be easily printed in black and white. Please give adequate footnotes so that figures can be understood without recourse to the text. Please ensure 100% relative values of data are also given in actual absolute values in the legend. Figures should be given on separate sheets with their number clearly stated. The captions should be

grouped together and placed on another separate sheet that follows the Tables but precedes the Figures. If a figure requires to be printed in color, please advise the Editor why this is justified. Please indicate the approximate position for the figure with a note given in the margin of the text.

Photographs

These must be high-contrast and be in black and white that will show the key details when printed. Colour photographs may be printed without charge if, in the opinion of the Editor, color will enhance the illustration. Do not copy print-outs from recorders or computers attached to instruments - these are rarely of publishable quality. Do not scan-in material as it is impossible for such material to be processed later. Avoid making black and white copies from coloured photographs - these do not have sufficient contrast. For photomicrographs, scale bars must be added on the print itself and the size of the bar then given in the legend.

Gene sequences The accession number of the sequence should be quoted in the manuscript. If parts of these sequences are relevant to the paper, then they may be given as Supplementary Data – see above.

References

No more than 15 are usually necessary; if more, then you are probably over-reviewing the past literature and please consider if the number can be decreased. **Please ensure the references in the text match the ones given in the list.**

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