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**INTERNATIONAL JOURNAL OF  
AGRICULTURE,  
FORESTRY AND LIFE SCIENCES**

Int J Agric For Life Sci

**e-ISSN: 2602-4381**

[dergipark.gov.tr/ijafis](http://dergipark.gov.tr/ijafis)

**June 2021  
Vol. 5, No.2**





**International Journal of Agriculture,  
Forestry and Life Sciences**

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**e-ISSN: 2602-4381**

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<https://dergipark.org.tr/ijafsl>

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**Volume: 5**

**Issue: 2**

**Year: 2021**

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## Production Information

Journal Name	International Journal of Agriculture Forestry and Life Sciences
Abbreviation	Int J Agric For Life Sci
Subjects	Agriculture Forestry and Life Sciences
e-ISSN	2602-4381
Publisher	Volkan Okatan
Owner	Volkan Okatan
Language	English
Frequency	Biannually
Type of Publication	International Scientific Open Access Double-Blinded peer review Widely distributed periodical
Manuscript Submission and Tracking System	IJAFLS uses the submission system of TUBITAK Journalpark open journal system. <a href="http://dergipark.org.tr/ijafls">http://dergipark.org.tr/ijafls</a>
License	Journal is licensed under a Creative Commons Attribution 4.0 International License.
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Indexed and Abstracted in	Google Scholar, Index Copernicus, ROAD, CiteSeerX, Scientific Indexing Services, ResearchBib, Eurasian Scientific Journal Index, Rootindexing, Microsoft Academic, JournalTOCs, J-Gate,
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## Aim and Scope

The original scientific double blind peer-reviewed papers published in IJAFLS journal cover main aspects of agriculture, forestry and life sciences.

### A. Agriculture

1. Agronomy
2. Horticulture
3. Plant Protection
4. Animal Science
5. Veterinary Medicine
6. Land Reclamation, Earth Observation & Surveying, Environmental Engineering
7. Biotechnology
8. Management and Economics in Rural Areas
9. Food Engineering
10. Landscape Architecture
11. Ornamental Plants
12. Integration of Agriculture and Tourism

### B. Forestry (If it is about Agriculture)

### C. Life Sciences (If it is about Agriculture)

1. All departments of **BIOLOGY** (If it is about Agriculture and Forestry)
  2. All departments of **CHEMISTRY** (If it is about Agriculture and Forestry)
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## PLAGIARISM POLICY

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### PLAGIARISM POLICY

An initiative to help editors verify the originality of submitted manuscripts. As part of this process, selected submitted manuscripts are scanned and compared with the CrossCheck database.

Plagiarism is when an author attempts to pass off someone else work as his or her own. Duplicate publication, sometimes called self-plagiarism, occurs when an author reuses substantial parts of his or her own published work without providing the appropriate references. This can range from getting an identical paper published in multiple journals, to salami-slicing, where authors add small amounts of new data to a previous paper.

### PLAGIARISM PRIOR PUBLISHING:

IJAFLS will judge any case of plagiarism on its limits. If plagiarism is detected by the editorial board member, reviewer, editor etc., in any stage of article process- before or after acceptance then we will alert the same to the author(s) and will ask them to rewrite the content or the to cite the references from where the content has been taken. If more than 30% of the paper is plagiarized- the article may be rejected and the same is notified to the author.

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## **WHEN DOES THE PLAGIARISM CHECK DONE?**

All the submitted manuscripts for publication are checked for plagiarism after submission and before starting review.

## **HOW IS PLAGIARISM HANDLED?**

The manuscripts in which the plagiarism is detected are handled based on the extent of the plagiarism. >5%

Plagiarism: The manuscript will be given an ID and the manuscript is sent to author for content revision.

5- 30% Plagiarism: The manuscript will not be given an ID and the manuscript is sent back to author for content revision.

>30% Plagiarism: The manuscript will be rejected without the review. The authors are advised to revise the manuscript and resubmit the manuscript.

## **WHY MANUSCRIPTS WITH >30% PLAGIARISM IS REJECTED:**

If the plagiarism is detected more than 30%, it is found that the authors are very unlikely to revise the manuscript and submit the revised version. However, authors are welcome to do the required revisions and submit the manuscript as a new submission.

## **WHAT CAN YOU DO IF YOU COME ACROSS A CASE OF PLAGIARISM IN ANY JOURNAL FROM ANY PUBLISHER?**

If you come across a case of plagiarism in any journal from any publisher, please do inform the editorial office(s) of all the involved journals, giving them the journal names, title of manuscripts, name of authors, volume number, issue number, year of publication and any other information that you have. The editorial offices will handle the cases as per their policy.

## **WHAT IF PLAGIARISM DETECTED AFTER PUBLICATION**

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If a case of plagiarism comes to light after a paper is published in a Scholarena journal, the journal will conduct a preliminary investigation. If plagiarism is found, the journal will contact the author's institute and funding agencies. A determination of misconduct will lead the Scholarena journal to run a statement, bidirectionally linked online to and from the original paper, to note the plagiarism and to provide a reference to the plagiarised material. The paper containing the plagiarism will also be obviously marked on each page of the PDF. Depending on the extent of the plagiarism, the paper may also be formally retracted.

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### **Publishers Ethic Rules**

" International Journal of Agriculture, Forestry and Life Sciences" (IJAFLS) is an international journal, which publishes at the highest scientific level on original research and review articles dealing with Agriculture, Forestry and Life Sciences.

Originality, high scientific quality, and citation potential are the most important criteria for a manuscript to be accepted for publication. Manuscripts submitted for evaluation should not have been previously presented or already published in an electronic or printed medium. The journal should be informed of manuscripts that have been submitted to another journal for evaluation and rejected for publication. The submission of previous reviewer reports will expedite the evaluation process. Manuscripts that have been presented in a meeting should be submitted with detailed information on the organization, including the name, date, and location of the organization.

All authors submitting their works to The International Journal of Agriculture, Forestry and Life Sciences for publication as original articles attest that the submitted works represent their authors' contributions and have not been copied or plagiarized in whole or in part from other works.

It is necessary to agree upon standards of expected ethical behavior for all parties involved in the act of publishing: the author, the journal editor, the peer reviewer and the publisher.

International Journal of Agriculture, Forestry and Life Sciences ethic statements are based on COPE's Best Practice Guidelines for Journal Editors.

### **Publication Decisions**

The editor is responsible for deciding which of the articles submitted to the International Journal of Agriculture, Forestry and Life Sciences should be published. The editor may be guided by the policies of the IJAFLS's editorial board and constrained by such legal requirements as shall then be in force regarding libel, copyright infringement and plagiarism. The editor may confer with other editors or reviewers in making this decision.

### **Fair Play**

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### **Publishers Ethic Rules**

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An editor at any time evaluate manuscripts for their intellectual content without regard to race, gender, sexual orientation, religious belief, ethnic origin, citizenship, or political philosophy of the authors.

**Confidentiality**

The editor and any editorial staff must not disclose any information about a submitted manuscript to anyone other than the corresponding author, reviewers, potential reviewers, other editorial advisers, and the publisher, as appropriate.

**Disclosure and Conflicts of Interest**

Unpublished materials disclosed in a submitted manuscript must not be used in an editor's own research without the express written consent of the author.

**Duties of Reviewers**

**Contribution to Editorial Decisions**

Peer review assists the editor in making editorial decisions and through the editorial communications with the author may also assist the author in improving the paper.

**Promptness**

Any selected referee who feels unqualified to review the research reported in a manuscript or knows that its prompt review will be impossible should notify the editor and excuse himself from the review process.

**Confidentiality**

Any manuscripts received for review must be treated as confidential documents. They must not be shown to or discussed with others except as authorized by the editor.

**Standards of Objectivity**

Reviews should be conducted objectively. Personal criticism of the author is inappropriate. Referees should express their views clearly with supporting arguments.

**Acknowledgement of Sources**

Reviewers should identify relevant published work that has not been cited by the authors. Any statement that an observation, derivation, or argument had been previously reported should be accompanied by the relevant citation. A reviewer should also call to the editor's attention any substantial similarity or overlap between the manuscript under consideration and any other published paper of which they have personal knowledge.

**Disclosure and Conflict of Interest**

Privileged information or ideas obtained through peer review must be kept confidential and not used for personal advantage. Reviewers should not consider manuscripts in which they have conflicts of interest resulting from competitive, collaborative, or other relationships or

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connections with any of the authors, companies, or institutions connected to the papers.

### **Duties of Authors**

### **Reporting Standards**

Authors of reports of original research should present an accurate account of the work performed as well as an objective discussion of its significance. Underlying data should be represented accurately in the paper. A paper should contain sufficient detail and references to permit others to replicate the work. Fraudulent or knowingly inaccurate statements constitute unethical behavior and are unacceptable.

### **Data Access and Retention**

Authors are asked to provide the raw data in connection with a paper for editorial review, and should be prepared to provide public access to such data (consistent with the ALPSP-STM Statement on Data and Databases), if practicable, and should in any event be prepared to retain such data for a reasonable time after publication.

### **Originality and Plagiarism**

The authors should ensure that they have written entirely original works, and if the authors have used the work and/or words of others that this has been appropriately cited or quoted.

All submissions are screened by a similarity detection software.

We are using iThenticate plagiarism solution and our maximum allowed score, for the document in which the Materials and Methods and References sections truncated, is 20%. Higher scores are not allowed and the author will be given the plagiarism report and the manuscript will be returned to the authors.

### **Multiple, Redundant or Concurrent Publication**

An author should not in general publish manuscripts describing essentially the same research in more than one journal or primary publication. Submitting the same manuscript to more than one journal concurrently constitutes unethical publishing behaviour and is unacceptable.

### **Acknowledgement of Sources**

Proper acknowledgment of the work of others must always be given. Authors should cite publications that have been influential in determining the nature of the reported work.

### **Authorship of the Paper**

Authorship should be limited to those who have made a significant contribution to the conception, design, execution, or interpretation of the reported study. All those who have made significant contributions

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should be listed as co-authors. Where there are others who have participated in certain substantive aspects of the research project, they should be acknowledged or listed as contributors.

The corresponding author should ensure that all appropriate co-authors and no inappropriate co-authors are included on the paper, and that all co-authors have seen and approved the final version of the paper and have agreed to its submission for publication.

#### **Hazards and Human or Animal Subjects**

If the work involves chemicals, procedures or equipment that have any unusual hazards inherent in their use, the author must clearly identify these in the manuscript.

#### **Disclosure and Conflicts of Interest**

All authors should disclose in their manuscript any financial or other substantive conflict of interest that might be construed to influence the results or interpretation of their manuscript. All sources of financial support for the project should be disclosed.

#### **Fundamental Errors in Published Works**

When an author discovers a significant error or inaccuracy in his/her own published work, it is the author's obligation to promptly notify the journal editor or publisher and cooperate with the editor to retract or correct the paper.

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### **Peer Reviewing Instructions for the "International Journal of Agriculture, Forestry and Life Sciences" Journal**

#### **Introductions**

The primary aims of peer review are to decide whether or not an article should be published (based on quality and relevance to the journal), and to improve the article before publication. All submissions first go through an internal peer review process: an assigned editor makes an initial decision to accept or to reject the manuscript (e.g. topic is outside the scope of the Journal, important flaws in scientific validity, etc). If the editor believes the article may be of interest, it is sent out for external peer review. The reviewers are selected by area of expertise (reviewers who grant high quality reviews within the requested time are preferred). The editorial board is frequently consulted. Once reviews are obtained, the editor makes a judgment considering the critiques and recommendations from reviewers, and other factors such as relevance to the Journal's aims and usefulness to clinicians or researchers.

#### **Peer Review Process**

#### **Peer Reviewer Selection**

Reviewers are selected according to their background and experience in some aspect of the subject. The most desirable reviewers identify the strengths and weaknesses of the submitted paper, and analyze it from different viewpoints. The peer reviewers are asked to read and analyze the assigned manuscript and provide a written opinion of its quality, novelty, relevance and suitability for publication in The " International Journal of Agriculture, Forestry and Life Sciences " Journal. Peer reviewers also make suggestions to assist the authors in improving the article. Reviewers must not only analyze and comment on the paper, but also provide opinions about general concerns such as clarity and quality

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of the writing, validity of scientific approach, and whether the article provides new information.

### **Ethical Guidelines for Journal Peer Reviewers**

When a selected individual accepts a peer reviewing assignment, the reviewer implicitly agrees to the ethical standards that are commonly accepted in biomedical publishing. Ethical guidelines for reviewers, authors, and editors are reported by the International Committee of Medical Journal Editors in the 'Uniform Requirements for Manuscripts Submitted to Biomedical Journals' available from: [www.icmje.org](http://www.icmje.org).

Reviewers for The " International Journal of Agriculture, Forestry and Life Sciences " Journal must agree to:

Produce as careful and objective a review as possible Respect the editor's deadline. Consider with an open mind innovations or approaches different from those of one's own.

Provide a balanced critique targeted not only to identify the strengths and weaknesses of the paper, but also to provide useful feedback to the authors to improve their manuscript, without being overly critical of minor points.

- ☐ Avoid scientific misconduct such as the misappropriation of intellectual property.
- ☐ Each manuscript should be treated as an extremely confidential document.
- ☐ The privacy of the authors' ideas must always be guaranteed.
- ☐ Direct comments about ethical concerns confidentially to the editors.
- ☐ Contacting an author with questions about the manuscript is not allowed.
- ☐ All critiques, including the latter, must be reported in the written critique.
- ☐ Declare any conflict of interest (real or perceived) identified to the editor before the end of review. Not every potential conflict necessitates a rejection.
- ☐ Reviewers are encouraged to discuss potential conflicts with the editors if they believe they can provide a fair review.
- ☐ Reject an assignment if the following conflicts are present: Financial interests (e.g. paid consultancies, stock holdings), significant professional or personal relationships or rivalries, antipathy toward study question/approach, political or special interest affiliations (e.g. religious or deep convictions that conflict with the manuscript topic).

### **Reviewer Guidelines**

Potential reviewers are contacted by e-mail, which contains the manuscript title, abstract, and assignment deadline. The selected reviewer accepts or declines the assignment within 7 days. Failure to reply within the prescribed time will be treated as an implicit rejection. It is acceptable to propose an extended deadline when the given deadline (usually 4 weeks from the task acceptance date) cannot be met. The selected reviewers usually have extensive experience as faculty members, researchers, and published authors. Sometimes reviewers from other specific areas are selected. This selection is always well thought-out, and we encourage such potential reviewers to consider the

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assignment if they can make a contribution to some aspect of the work. The following points must be provided by the reviewers in the written response:

- ] General Overview
- ] Organized Critique
- ] Assessment of Strengths and Weaknesses: the following should be evaluated: Literature review is up-to-date; Methods align with study purpose or research questions; Methods described in sufficient and appropriate detail; Research design or study approach is adequate; Approach to data analysis is appropriate; Thoughtful consideration given to the study limitations; Manuscript provides new information that is likely to be of interest to our readers.
- ] Possible improvements
- ] Commonly Overlooked Areas: Reviewers should carefully note: title, abstract, tables and figures, references.

**Editor's Final Decision**

After the peer review process has ended and an adequate number of reviews has been received, the assigned editor makes the final decision about the manuscript (accept, invite a revision, or reject) based on a consideration of all the reviewer comments, general critique, and other external factors (e.g. the article is consistent with the Journal purpose, similar articles recently published, number of accepted articles awaiting publication, potential impact of the article, etc.). Editors may consult with each other when making the decision. A decision summarizing the opinions of editors and reviewers will be sent to the corresponding author.

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