

## **GUIDELINES FOR AUTHORS**

*Ghana Journal of Science (GJS) (ISSN 0855-1448)* is a Scientific Journal that provides credible publication of articles in all the areas of Science and Technology from Ghana and elsewhere. The Journal welcomes the submission of manuscripts that meet the general criteria of significance and scientific excellence.

**Electronic submission of manuscripts** is encouraged. Text, tables, and figures should be in a single Microsoft word file (preferably in Times New Roman Font size 12).

Regardless of the source of word-processing tool used, Word (.doc, docx, rtf) files of manuscripts can be submitted as email attachments to the editorial office at: [ghanajournalofsciences@gmail.com](mailto:ghanajournalofsciences@gmail.com). A *cover letter* should accompany each manuscript and addressed to the Editor. The cover letter should include the corresponding author's full name, address and telephone number. The cover letter should also contain the article type (original, review, short communication, etc.), brief background of your study and the research question you sought to answer, principle findings and significance to scientific community, statement that your paper has not been previously published and is not currently under consideration by another journal and that all authors have approved of and have agreed to submit the manuscript to this journal. Acknowledgement of receipt with a manuscript reference number will be mailed to the corresponding author same day or within 72 hours of receipt of manuscript.

### **Types of Article**

#### **Three types of manuscripts may be submitted:**

- (i) *Original scientific Paper* This paper should constitute a significant extension of scientific knowledge or understanding of the relevant subject, and should be written in such a way that a qualified research worker is able, on the basis of the information provided:
  - (a) to reproduce the experiment and obtain the results described within the limits of error specified by the author, and /or

(b) to repeat the author's calculations or theoretical derivations and assess his/her findings.

The main body of the paper should normally include "*Introduction*", "*Experimental*", "*Results*", "*Discussion*" and "*Conclusion (and recommendation)*".

(ii) *Short Communication* This should report novel research findings which may either not justify detailed treatment as in (i) or may not lend itself to such treatment. Such reports may be followed by more detailed presentations at a later date.

(iii) *Subject Review Article* This should be a survey of one particular subject in which information already published is assembled, analyzed, assessed and discussed. It should draw attention to unresolved problems and gaps in existing knowledge of the subject. The author should endeavor to give credit where it is due and this should not be overlooked.

### **Review process**

All manuscripts are peer-reviewed by members of the Editorial Board or qualified reviewers. Decisions will be made as rapidly as possible. The Technical Editors will edit manuscripts to conform to the editorial style of the GJS.

### **Regular articles**

**Manuscripts** should be typed double spacing and numbered starting from the title page.

**The Title** should be a brief phrase describing the contents of the paper. The Title Page should include the authors' full name and affiliation, the name of the corresponding author along with present address, phone number, fax and email information.

**The Abstract** should be informative and completely self-explanatory, briefly present the topic, state the scope of the experiments, indicate significant data, and point out major findings and conclusions. The Abstract should **not be more than 200** words in length. Complete sentences, active verbs, and the third person should be used, and the abstract should be written in the past

tense. Standard nomenclature should be used and abbreviations should be avoided. No literature should be cited.

**Keywords:** Kindly provide five to six keywords that best describes your paper.

Following the abstract is **introduction**; it should provide a clear statement of the problem, the relevant literature on the subject, and the proposed approach or solution. It should be understandable to colleagues from a broad range of scientific disciplines.

**Experimental** should be complete enough to allow experiments to be reproduced. However, only truly new procedures should be described in detail; previously published procedures should be cited, and important modifications of published procedures should be mentioned briefly. Capitalize trade names and include the manufacturer's name and address. Subheadings should be used. Methods in general use should not be described in detail.

**Results** should be presented with clarity and precision. The results should be written in the past tense when describing findings in the authors' experiments. Previously published findings should be written in the present tense. Results should be explained, but largely without referring to the literature. Discussion, speculation and detailed interpretation of data should not be included in the results; rather it should be put into the discussion section.

**Discussion** should interpret the findings in view of the results obtained in this and in past studies on this topic. State the conclusions in a few sentences at the end of the paper. The Results and Discussion sections can include subheadings, and when appropriate, both sections can be combined. The acknowledgment of people, grants, funds, sponsors, *etc.* should be brief.

*Scientific names* of plants, animals, pathogens and pests should be used in preference to local common names on first mention, but the latter may be used thereafter.

**Tables** should be kept to a minimum and be designed to be as simple as possible. Tables are to be typed double-spaced throughout, including headings and footnotes. Each table should be on a separate page, numbered consecutively in Arabic numerals and supplied with a heading and a legend. Tables should be self-explanatory without reference to the text. The details of the methods used in the experiments should preferably be described in the legend instead of in the text. The same data should not be presented in both table and graph form or repeated in the text.

**Figure legends** should be typed in numerical order on a separate sheet. Graphics should be prepared using applications capable of generating high resolution GIF, TIFF, JPEG or PowerPoint before pasting in the Microsoft Word manuscript file. Tables should be prepared in Microsoft Word. Use Arabic numerals to designate figures and upper case letters for their parts (Figure 1). Begin each legend with a title and include sufficient description so that the figure is understandable without reading the text of the manuscript. Information given in legends should not be repeated in the text.

*Captions* for each illustration must be typed out in full. On the illustration itself only the Fig. number is required and at the bottom in the case of diagrams and photographs. Each Fig. number should be specifically mentioned in the text and the point in the manuscript where each illustration is to be inserted should be indicated.

**References** in the text, a reference identified by means of an author's name should be followed by the date of the reference in parentheses. When there are more than two authors, only the first author's name should be mentioned, followed by '*et. al*'. In the event that an author cited has had two or more works published during the same year, the reference, both in the text and in the reference list, should be identified by a lower case letter like 'a' and 'b' after the date to distinguish the works. A list of the literature cited should be provided in alphabetical order of the names of the authors at the end of the write up. Abbreviations of the titles of journals should be those of the *Word List of Scientific Periodicals*, of which a selection of the most commonly required has been reprinted in *Abbreviated Titles of Biological Journals* (London: Institute of

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ADAMAFIO, N. A., AYOMBIL, F. & TANO-DEBRAH, K. (2011) Microbial detheobromination of cocoa (*Theobroma cacao*) pod husk, *Asian J. Biochem.* **6**, 200 – 207.

ADENNIYI, C. B. A., ODUMOSU, B. T., AIYELAAGBE, O. O. & KOLUDE, B. (2010) *In vitro* antimicrobial activities and methanol extracts of *Zanthoxylum zanthoxyloides* and *Pseudocedrelakotschy*. *Afr. J. Biomed. Res.* **13**, 61 – 68.

AMEKA, G. K. & DEGRAFT-JOHNSON, K. A. A. (2009) Biomass, mineral elements and protein contents of six freshwater macrophytes from Ghana. *Ghana J. Sci.* **49**, 43 – 50.

NWANKWOLA, H. O. (2011) Coastal aquifers of Nigeria: An overview of its management and sustainability considerations, *Journal of Applied Technology in Environmental Sanitation*, **1**(4), 371 – 380.

\* When reference has more than 3 Authors, write only the first 3 names then, *et al.*, \*

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