

PRE-SUBMISSION CHECKLIST

Last updated 13 July 2022

The following checklist was prepared to help authors check the compliance of their manuscript with the main requirements of *animal - open science* at submission. We recommend that you tick boxes when done. Deviations from recommendations may lead to rejection of the submission or request for modifications.

animal - open space is a gold open access journal. All articles accepted for publication will be subject to an Article Publishing Charge (APC). Such articles will be published as open access content and be covered by a [Creative Commons Licence](#).

The research is in the scope of the journal

- The research is related to farmed or managed animals used for animal production, leisure and companion animals and the use of insects for animal feed and human food. Articles can be accepted from all species if they are in, or contribute knowledge to, the aforementioned categories (e.g. cattle, sheep, pigs, poultry, horses, rabbits, fish, cats, dogs)
- The complete dataset and the metadata describing it were deposited in an official data repository and received a DOI.**

The manuscript is understandable

- The quality of scientific writing is sufficient for a specialist reader (general scientific readership of *animal - open space* and specialists) to clearly understand the work, and adapted to our general scientific readership. Please note that an insufficient quality of scientific writing cannot be solved by language editing only.
- The quality of English (syntax, spelling, grammar) is good and permits a good understanding of the work.
- The quality of the presentation is good, it permits a good understanding of the work and facilitates editor-review. In particular:
 - the format of (sub-) headings is in accordance with recommendations in order to clarify the structure of the text, especially in the Material and Methods section,
 - no small paragraphs,
 - tables are clearly presented. When applicable, treatments are in columns and variables are in lines; the residual error term and statistics (numerical P values) are in separate columns, on the right-hand side of the table.
- Tables and Figures are numbered in order of appearance (other than the Specification Table which is NOT numbered).

The manuscript is prepared for editor-review

- Manuscript layout:
 - Continuous line numbering.
 - Double spacing throughout the entire document.
 - 2.5 cm margins.
 - We recommend that you use the style template at <https://animal-journal.eu/instructions-andpolicies/>.

The manuscript is complete

- All sections are present in the main text.
- Data paper:
 - Full title,
 - Authors,
 - Authors' affiliations including department and post/zip codes,
 - Email of corresponding author,
 - Abstract,
 - Keywords,
 - Specification Table (including a link to the data deposited in an official repository),
 - Value of Data,
 - Data description,

- Experimental design,
 - Material and methods,
 - Ethics approval,
 - Author ORCIDs;
 - Author contributions,
 - Declaration of interest,
 - Acknowledgements,
 - Financial support statement,
 - References,
 - Tables,
 - List of figure captions
- Research article or Method article:
- Full title,
 - Authors,
 - Authors' affiliations including department and post/zip codes,
 - Email of corresponding author,
 - Abstract,
 - Keywords,
 - Implications,
 - Specification Table (including a link to the data deposited in an official repository),
 - Introduction,
 - Material and methods,
 - Results,
 - Author's point of views,
 - Ethics approval,
 - Author ORCIDs,
 - Author contributions,
 - Declaration of interest,
 - Acknowledgements,
 - Financial support statement,
 - References,
 - Tables,
 - List of figure captions.

Each section of the main text provides the required information (as detailed in the Instructions for Authors – Writing your paper – About contents)

Data paper:

- Abstract
 - The data, its collection process, analysis and reuse potential are concisely described.
 - No conclusions or results are presented.
- Specification Table: All requested information is completed.
- Metadata file providing all information on the deposited files is saved in the data repository.
- Value of Data: The value of the data is explained in bullet points.
- Data description: Each data file included in the article or in the data repository was described and referred to.
- Experimental design, Materials and Methods
 - The experimental design. The experimental unit is clearly defined (e.g. the individual animal, a pen, a group of animals or an observation at a set time).
 - Programs or code files used for filtering and analysing of data is provided.

Research article or Method article:

- Abstract
 - The abstract starts with the rationale, a hypothesis or a question.
 - It ends with a short conclusion.
- Implications (max 100 words): The Implications section should answer the questions ‘What did you learn?’, ‘Who may benefit from your results and how?’

- Specification Table: All requested information is completed.
- Metadata file providing all information on the deposited files is saved in the data repository.
- Introduction
 - The scientific question is briefly described.
 - For hypothesis-driven research, the hypothesis under test is included in the introduction to support the objectives.
- Material and methods
 - Description of the methods. For the sake of reproducibility and transparency, all methods used to obtain the reported results are presented in detail. This applies to mathematical equations and models.
 - Validation and/or Quality Assurance. They are addressed in a separate sub-section.
 - Specification table as a metadata table is included.
- Material and methods - Statistical design and analysis. Separate sub-sections are included for
 - The experimental design.
 - The experimental unit is clearly defined (e.g. the individual animal, a pen, a group of animals or an observation at a set time).
 - The statistical analysis of the results.
 - The statistical model is fully described. An analysis of variance is preferred by the journal as compared to a simple t-test. We recommend that you include the code for the statistical model, as programmed in the relevant software, in deposited data.
 - Statistics in Tables: When data are analysed by analysis of variance a residual error term is reported in tables and not SE/SD for each treatment.
- Results and Author's point of views.
 - Results and Author's point of views are separated to highlight the interpretation of and the connection between results.
 - If the implementation of the research results in practice could contravene health, animal wellbeing and environmental standards in countries other than where the work was undertaken, then authors should consider how this could impact on the local or international relevance of the research.

Images comply with image integrity and standards

- Images are presented in accordance with Image Integrity and Standards.
- If cropped images of gels are included, an image of the image of the full gel is deposited together with the data in an official data repository.
- The equipment and conditions of image acquisition and processing are described.

Your manuscript is ready to be submitted

- Main text: The main text is ready to be submitted in a Word format, not as a PDF file.
- Figures: Figures are ready to be uploaded separately with 1 file per figure (each file being described in Editorial Manager as Figure 1, Figure 2 etc..) without their captions.
- If the manuscript is derived from a thesis or has been deposited in a pre-print repository, it is indicated in the Acknowledgements section of the manuscript.
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- You gathered all information required at submission: an ORCID identifier for the corresponding author at least, co-authors emails.
- Information declared in the submission system (Editorial Manager) does not differ from the contents of the submission.



The Publication policies and detailed Instructions for Authors are available at <https://animal-journal.eu/animal-open-space/instructions-and-policies/>