

Guide for Authors

The International Journal of Plant Chemistry, Plant Biochemistry and Molecular Biology.
An Official Journal of the Phytochemical Society of Europe and the Phytochemical Society of North America.

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Introduction

Phytochemistry invites research articles on all aspects of pure and applied plant chemistry, plant biochemistry, plant molecular biology and chemical ecology. The Journal is currently divided up into the following sections:

Editorial Comment, Molecules of Interest, Review Articles, Structural Elucidation and Full Papers.

Editorial Comment will be an occasional series where Regional Editors, Board Members or other scientists will be invited to comment on phytochemistry topics of global interest and debate.

Molecules of Interest will consist of invited short reviews (3-4) printed pages of individual compounds or macromolecules of plant, fungal or algal origin. These can be novel compounds or newly discovered properties of familiar compounds. Please contact Professor Bolwell if you wish to prepare a Molecules of Interest paper.

Review Articles are published at regular intervals, ranging in scope from primary metabolism and regulation of plant growth, through plant enzymology to natural product chemistry and the biological activity of plant products. They deal with significant new areas of research and are intended to command the interest of the general reader. Authors should consult their Regional Editors with an outline of their proposed Review before preparing such articles. Published Reviews include a biography and picture of each author.

Structure Elucidation papers, accepted as full papers in the Chemistry section, should include either a substantial description of several new compounds without any conclusion as to their significance, or a description of the study of new compounds with expected structures incorporating conclusions. These papers with a minimum of 16 pages of double-spaced manuscript should follow the general style of Full Papers although the Introduction, Results and Discussion may be combined as a single narrative. Brief abstracts must be included, containing significant facts derived from the work. Reports of known compounds, however rare, from new plant sources will not generally be accepted unless they have real chemotaxonomic or other biological significance. Authors are specifically discouraged from submitting papers as fragmented analyses of particular plant constituents.

Full Papers: Full journal articles will be drawn from areas described in the Aims and Scope:

Bioactive Products
Chemotaxonomy
Chemistry
Ecological Biochemistry
Metabolism
Molecular Genetics & Genomics
Protein Biochemistry & Proteomics
Update in Bioinformatics

They are comprehensive papers, typically 6-8 printed pages in length (a minimum of 20 pages of double-spaced manuscript). Papers on plant chemistry must be substantial and contain convincing justification for undertaking the study, as well as having conclusions (e.g. on the biology, chemotaxonomy, new biosynthetic pathways etc.). Papers submitted under the Bioactive Products area are unlikely to be accepted if the bioactivity is measured on a mixture of compounds without further resolution.



Before You Begin

Ethics in Publishing

For information on Ethics in Publishing and Ethical guidelines for journal publication see <http://www.elsevier.com/publishingethics> and <http://www.elsevier.com/ethicalguidelines>.

Conflict of interest

All authors are requested to disclose any actual or potential conflict of interest including any financial, personal or other relationships with other people or organizations within three years of beginning the submitted work that could inappropriately influence, or be perceived to influence, their work. See also <http://www.elsevier.com/conflictsofinterest>.

Submission declaration

Submission of an article implies that the work described has not been published previously (except in the form of an abstract or as part of a published lecture or academic thesis), that it is not under consideration for publication elsewhere, that its publication is approved by all authors and tacitly or explicitly by the responsible authorities where the work was carried out, and that, if accepted, it will not be published elsewhere including electronically in the same form, in English or in any other language, without the written consent of the copyright-holder.

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Role of the funding source

You are requested to identify who provided financial support for the conduct of the research and/or preparation of the article and to briefly describe the role of the sponsor(s), if any, in study design; in the collection, analysis and interpretation of data; in the writing of the report; and in the decision to submit the paper for publication. If the funding source(s) had no such involvement then this should be stated. Please see <http://www.elsevier.com/funding>.

Funding body agreements and policies

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Language and language services

Please write your text in good English (American or British usage is accepted, but not a mixture of these). Authors who require information about language editing and copyediting services pre- and post-submission please visit <http://www.elsevier.com/languageediting> or our customer support site at <http://epsupport.elsevier.com/> for more information.

Submission

Submission to this journal proceeds totally online. Use the following guidelines to prepare your article. Via the homepage of this journal (<http://www.ees.elsevier.com/phytochem>) you will be guided stepwise through the creation and uploading of the various files. The system automatically converts source files to a single Adobe Acrobat PDF version of the article, which is used in the peer-review process. Please note that even though manuscript source files are converted to PDF at submission for the review process, these source files are needed for further processing after acceptance. All correspondence, including notification of the Editor's decision and requests for revision, takes place by e-mail and via the author's homepage, removing the need for a hard-copy paper trail.

Referees

Please submit, with the manuscript, the names, addresses and e-mail addresses of 4 potential referees. Note that the editor retains the sole right to decide whether or not the suggested reviewers are used.

Additional Information

Please submit regular articles to the appropriate Regional Editor for your geographical region. For UK, Africa, The Commonwealth and Rest of the World: Professor G. P. Bolwell. For the Americas and East Asia: Professor N. G. Lewis. For Continental Europe and Russia: Professor D. Strack.

- Regular articles go to the appropriate geographical editor.
- MOIs go to Professor Bolwell.
- Special Issue Papers go to the Organizing Editor/Editors.
- Solicited/Commissioned Reviews go to the editor who commissioned them.



Preparation

Use of wordprocessing software

It is important that the file be saved in the native format of the wordprocessor used. The text should be in single-column format. Keep the layout of the text as simple as possible. Most formatting codes will be removed and replaced on processing the article. In particular, do not use the wordprocessor's options to justify text or to hyphenate words. However, do use bold face, italics, subscripts, superscripts etc. Do not embed "graphically designed" equations or tables, but prepare these using the wordprocessor's facility. When preparing tables, if you are using a table grid, use only one grid for each individual table and not a grid for each row. If no grid is used, use tabs, not spaces, to align columns. The electronic text should be prepared in a way very similar to that of conventional manuscripts (see also the Guide to Publishing with Elsevier: <http://www.elsevier.com/guidepublication>). Do not import the figures into the text file but, instead, indicate their approximate locations directly in the electronic text and on the manuscript. See also the section on Electronic illustrations. To avoid unnecessary errors you are strongly advised to use the "spell-check" and "grammar-check" functions of your wordprocessor.

Article Structure

The content of manuscripts must be arranged as follows: (1) a *Graphical Abstract*; (2) a *Title Page* with authors name(s) and address(es); (3) and *Abstract*, in which contents are briefly stated; (4) *Keywords*; (5) *Introduction*, and (6) the *Results and Discussion* (preferably combined). Although each section may be separated by headings, they should form one continuous narrative and only include details essential

to the arguments presented. If a discussion is separately provided, it should not include a repetition of the results, but only indicate conclusions reached on the basis of them, and those from other referred works; (7) *Conclusions* or *Concluding Remarks*; (8) the *Experimental* should include brief details of the methods used such that a competent researcher in the field may be able to repeat the work; (9) *Acknowledgments*; (10) *Figures* and *Legends, Formulae, Tables* and *References*. Authors have to include pagination.

Subdivision - numbered sections

Divide your article into clearly defined and numbered sections. Subsections should be numbered 1.1. (then 1.1.1., 1.1.2., ...), 1.2., etc. (the abstract is not included in section numbering). Use this numbering also for internal cross-referencing: do not just refer to "the text". Any subsection may be given a brief heading. Each heading should appear on its own separate line.

Introduction

State the objectives of the work and provide an adequate background, avoiding a detailed literature survey or a summary of the results.

Specific names (genus, species, authority for the binomial) of all experimental plants must be given at first mention according to the *Index Kewensis* (searchable online at <http://www.ipni.org/>) or similar authority (The Plant-Book: A Portable Dictionary of the Vascular Plants, by D.J. Mabberley, 2nd ed., June 1997, Cambridge University Press; ISBN: 0521414210), and preferably be in the form recommended by the [International Code of Botanical Nomenclature](#). Named varieties of cultivars are given, e.g. *Lactuca sativa* cv. Grand Rapids. (The official printed version of the International Code of Botanical Nomenclature has been published as International Code of Botanical Nomenclature {Tokyo Code}. Regnum Vegetabile 131. Koeltz Scientific Books, Königstein. ISBN 3-87429-367-X or 1-878762-66-4 or 80-901699-I-0.)

Theory/calculation

A Theory section should extend, not repeat, the background to the article already dealt with in the Introduction and lay the foundation for further work. In contrast, a Calculation section represents a practical development from a theoretical basis.

Results

Results should be clear and concise.

Discussion

This should explore the significance of the results of the work, not repeat them. A combined Results and Discussion section is often appropriate. Avoid extensive citations and discussion of published literature.

Experimental

Provide sufficient detail to allow the work to be reproduced. Methods already published should be indicated by a reference: only relevant modifications should be described.

Subsections on the Experimental Procedures should be italicized and inserted as part of the first line of the text to which they apply. *Phytochemistry* encourages an extensive use of abbreviations (these are listed at the back of the Instructions to Authors, or the reader is referred to other sources). The Experimental should begin with a subsection entitled General Experimental Procedures. This subsection will typically contain brief details of instruments used, and identification of sources of specialized chemicals, biochemicals and molecular biology kits.

The next subsection describes the source(s) and documentation of biological materials used, whether in reference to whole plants or parts therefrom, crude drugs, or any other plant material from which identifiable chemical substances are obtained for the first time. Documentation must also include a reference to voucher specimen(s) and voucher number(s) of the plants or other material examined. If available, authors should quote the name and address of the authority who identified each non-cultivated plant investigated. Specimens should preferentially be deposited in a major regional herbarium where the collection is maintained by state or private institution and which permits loan of such materials.

With other microorganisms, the culture collection from which they were either accessed and/or deposited should be included, together with identification of the strain designation code. The Experimental Procedures employed should be concise but sufficiently detailed that a qualified researcher will be able to repeat the studies undertaken, and these should emphasize either truly new procedures or essential modifications of existing procedures. Experimental details normally omitted include: (1) method of preparation of common chemical and biochemical derivatives, (2) excessive details of separation of compounds, proteins and enzymes, e.g. preparation of columns, TLC plates, column and fraction size.

Compound characterization: Physical and spectroscopic data for new compounds must be

comprehensive, and follow the order shown below: compound name (and assigned number in text); physical state of compound (e.g. oil, crystal, liquid, etc.), melting and/or boiling point; optical rotation and/or circular dichroism measurements, if optically active; UV; IR, ^1H NMR; ^{13}C NMR; MS. For all new compounds, either high-resolution mass spectral or elemental analysis data are required.

Conclusions

The main conclusions of the study may be presented in a short Conclusions section, which may stand alone or form a subsection of a Discussion or Results and Discussion section.

Essential title page information

- Title. Concise and informative. Titles are often used in information-retrieval systems. Avoid abbreviations and formulae where possible. "New" and "novel" are not allowed within title and abstract.
- Author names and affiliations. Where the family name may be ambiguous (e.g., a double name), please indicate this clearly. Present the authors' affiliation addresses (where the actual work was done) below the names. Indicate all affiliations with a lower-case superscript letter immediately after the author's name and in front of the appropriate address. Provide the full postal address of each affiliation, including the country name, and, if available, the e-mail address of each author.
- Corresponding author. Clearly indicate (marked by an asterisk) who will handle correspondence at all stages of refereeing and publication, also post-publication. Ensure that telephone and fax numbers (with country and area code) are provided in addition to the e-mail address and the complete postal address.
- Present/permanent address. If an author has moved since the work described in the article was done, or was visiting at the time, a "Present address" (or "Permanent address") may be indicated as a footnote to that author's name. The address at which the author actually did the work must be retained as the main, affiliation address. Superscript Arabic numerals are used for such footnotes.

Abstract

A concise and factual abstract is required. The abstract should state briefly the purpose of the research, the principal results and major conclusions. An abstract is often presented separately from the article, so it must be able to stand alone. For this reason, References should be avoided, but if essential, then cite the author(s) and year(s). Also, non-standard or uncommon abbreviations should be avoided, but if essential they must be defined at their first mention in the abstract itself. The abstract should not contain compound numbers which refer to other parts of the manuscript, full chemical or known trivial names of compounds should be given.

Graphical abstract

Please provide, when submitting your article, a graphical abstract. This comprises the title, authors, identical to the article itself, a summary of about 25 words, and a pictogram: one figure representative of the work described. Maximum final dimensions of the pictogram are 5 x 5 cm: bear in mind readability after reduction, especially if using one of the figures from the article itself. Compound numbers can be given in the graphical abstract if they refer to a graphic also shown there. Graphical abstracts will be collated to provide a contents list for rapid scanning.

Keywords

Authors must give 3-10 keywords or phrases, which identify the most important subjects covered by the paper. They should be placed at the beginning of the manuscript in the following order: name of plant species examined (Latin binomial); plant family; common epithet (where applicable); type of investigation; class of compound; protein or gene; name of compound(s); protein(s) and gene(s).

Abbreviations

About, approximately: ca.
Anhydrous: dry (not anhyd.)
Aqueous: aq.
Circular dichroism: CD
Concentrated (or mineral acids): conc.
Concentrations: ppm (never ppb!), μM , mM, M, %
Dry weight: dry wt; fresh weight: fr. wt
Electricity: V, mA, eV
Force due to gravity (centrifugation): *g*; rpm (revolutions/min)
Gas chromatography: GC
Gas chromatography-mass spectrometry: GC-MS
trimethylsilyl derivative: TMSi (TMS cannot be used as this refers to the internal standard tetramethylsilane used in ^1H NMR)
High performance liquid chromatography: HPLC

Infrared spectroscopy: IR
Length: nm, μm , mm, cm, m
Literature: lit.
Mass: pg, ng, μg , mg, g, kg
Mass spectrometry: m/z [M]⁺ (molecular ion, parent ion)
Melting points: uncorr. (uncorrected)
Molecular mass: Da (daltons), kDa
Molecular weight: M_r
Nuclear magnetic resonance: ¹H NMR, ¹³C NMR, Hz, δ
Numbers: e.g. 1, 10, 100, 1000, 10,000: per or ⁻¹
Optical rotatory dispersion: ORD
Paper chromatography: PC
Precipitate: ppt.
Preparative thin-layer chromatography: prep. TLC
Radioactivity: dpm (disintegrations per min), Ci (curie), sp. act (specific activity), Bq (1 becquerel = 1 nuclear transformation sec⁻¹)
Repetitive manipulations: once, twice, $\times 3$, $\times 4$, etc.
 RR_t (relative retention time), R_t (Kovat's retention index), ECL (equivalent chain length - term frequently used in fatty acid work)
Saturated: satd.
Solution: soln.
Solvent mixtures including chromatographic solvents: abbreviate as follows *n*-BuOH-HOAc-H₂O (4:1:5)
Statistics: LSD (least significant difference), s.d. (standard deviation), s.e. (standard error)
Temperature: (with centigrade), mp, mps, mmp, bp
Temperature: temp.
Thin-layer chromatography: TLC, R_f
Time: s, min, h, day, week, month, year
Ultraviolet spectrophotometry: UV, *A* (absorbance, not OD—optical density)
Volume: l (litre), μl , ml
Weight: wt

Inorganics, e.g.

AlCl₃ (aluminum chloride), BF₃ (boron trifluoride), CO₂, H₂, HCl, HClO₄ (perchloric acid), HNO₃, H₂O, H₂O₂, H₂SO₄, H₃BO₃ (boric acid), He, KHCO₃ (potassium bicarbonate), KMnO₄ (potassium permanganate), KOH, K-Pi buffer (potassium phosphate buffer), LiAlH₄ (lithium aluminium hydride), Mg²⁺, MgCl₂, N₂, NH₃, (NH₄)₂SO₄, Na⁺, NaBH₄ (sodium borohydride), NaCl, NaIO₄ (sodium periodate), NaOH, Na₂SO₃ (sodium sulphite), Na₂SO₄ (sodium sulphate), Na₂S₂O₃ (sodium thiosulphate), O₂, Pi (inorganic phosphate), P₂O₅ (pyrophosphate), Tris (buffer).

Organics, e.g.

Ac₂O (ethanoic [acetic] anhydride), *n*-BuOH (butanol-1-ol), C₆H₆ (benzene), CCl₄ (tetrachloromethane), CH₂Cl₂ (dichloromethane), CHCl₃ (trichloromethane), CH₂N₂ (diazomethane), CM (carboxymethyl), DEAE (diethylaminoethyl), DMF (dimethylformamide), DMSO (dimethyl sulphoxide), EDTA (ethylenediaminetetraacetic acid), Et₂O (diethyl ether), EtOAc (ethyl acetate), EtOH (ethanol), HCO₂H (methanoic acid), HOAc (ethanoic [acetic] acid), *iso*-PrOH (propan-2-ol), Me₂CO (acetone), MeCOEt (methyl ethyl ketone), MeOH (methanol), NaOAc (sodium acetate), NaOMe (sodium methoxide), pet-ether b.p. X-Y (petroleum ether, b.p. range specified), PhOH (phenol), PrOH (propan-1-ol), PVP (polyvinylpyrrolidone), TCA (trichloroacetic acid), TFA (trifluoroacetic acid), THF (tetrahydrofuran).

¹H NMR solvents and standards: CDCl₃ (deuteriochloroform), D₂O, DMSO-*d*₆ [deuterodimethylsulphoxide, not (CD₃)₂SO], pyridine-*d*₅ (deuteropyridine), TMS (tetramethylsilane), DSS [(3-trimethylsilyl)-1-propanesulphonic acid sodium salt], TSP [(3-trimethylsilyl)propionic acid sodium salt].

For further terms used in biochemistry and molecular biology the authors should see the websites of the nomenclature committees. → <http://www.chem.qmul.ac.uk/iubmb/>

Acknowledgements

Collate acknowledgements in a separate section at the end of the article before the references and do not, therefore, include them on the title page, as a footnote to the title or otherwise. List here those individuals who provided help during the research (e.g., providing language help, writing assistance or proof reading the article, etc.).

Nomenclature and Units

Chemical nomenclature, abbreviations and symbols must follow IUPAC rules. Whenever possible, avoid coining new trivial names; every effort should be made to modify an existing name. For example, when

a new compound is described, it should be given a full systematic name according to IUPAC nomenclature and this should be cited in the Abstract or in the Experimental section. Isotopically-labeled substances should be written with the correct chemical name of the compound. The symbol for the isotope should be placed in square brackets and should precede that part of the name to which it refers, e.g. sodium [¹⁴C]formate.

In Table headings and legends on graph axes numerical data should be identified in the form data name/units.

Presentation of Data

Specific optical rotation should be presented as $[\alpha]_{\lambda}^T$ (c xxx, solvent) where T is the temperature in deg C, λ is the wavelength of the measuring radiation (typically D) and xxx is the concentration of the sample in g 100 cm⁻³ in the stated solvent.

ORD curves usually described as a series of values based on $[\alpha]$ or $[\theta]$ (molecular rotation) at various wavelengths.

CD values may be expressed as molecular ellipticity values $[\theta]$, e.g., $[\theta]_{256} + 21\ 780$, $[\theta]_{307} - 16\ 113$ or as differential dichroic absorption, e.g. $\delta\epsilon_{253} - 1.0$ (MeOH; c 0.164).

Ultraviolet-visible spectra: ϵ values are given as log values in parentheses, e.g. λ nm (log ϵ): 203 (4.7), etc. EtOH_{max}

Infrared spectra: Data should be presented in the established form, e.g. ν cm⁻¹: 1740, etc.

Absorption should be expressed only in wave-numbers and structural assignments should be indicated when possible in parentheses after the relevant wave-number, e.g. 1740 (>C=O), etc. The following abbreviations should be used if the intensity of absorption bands are included: w - weak intensity, m - medium intensity, v - variable intensity, s - strong intensity, vs - very strong intensity.

NMR spectral data should be presented in full as Supplementary Information for all newly identified compounds. If the data are already published elsewhere then relevant references should be quoted. Data must be specified as ¹H NMR or ¹³C NMR and should indicate the frequency of the instrument, the solvent used and the internal standard. Chemical shifts should be quoted in δ units relative to TMS with indication of whether the signal is a singlet *s*, doublet *d*, doublet of doublets *dd*, triplet *t*, multiplet *m*, etc. ¹³C NMR spectral data should specify the carbon concerned, using the recommended IUPAC numbering (e.g. C-1, C-2), and should be given to one decimal place. ¹H NMR spectral data should indicate the number of hydrogens involved and their position of attachment based on the numbering of the carbon atoms, preferably according to IUPAC rules. For example, ¹³C NMR spectral data (25.15 MHz, CDCl₃): δ 30.1 (*t*, C-5), 74.1 (*d*, C-6), 121.7 (*d*, C-3), 144.2 (*s*, C-4), etc. ¹H NMR spectral data (100 MHz, CDCl₃): δ 0.68 (3H, *s*, H-18), 0.88 (6H, *d*, *J*=6 Hz, C26-H and C27-H), 0.90 (3H, *d*, *J*=5 Hz, C21-H), 4.34 (1H, *q*, *J*_{6a,7a}=4.5 Hz, *J*_{6a,7b}=2Hz, C6-H), 4.21 (1H, *m*, *W*_{1/2} 18 Hz, C3-Ha). COSY, TOCSY and NOESY correlations can be presented as figures containing the relevant structures and inter-nuclear interactions.

Mass spectral data should be presented in full as Supplementary Information for all newly identified compounds. If the data are already published elsewhere then relevant references should be quoted. Presentation of mass spectral data should in general follow the recommendations given in Int. J. Mass Spectrom. Ion Processes, 142, 211-240 (1995), and must indicate the method used (EIMS, CIMS, GC-MS, TOFMS, FABMS, SIMS, APCI etc.) and the relevant experimental details (ionizing energy, voltages etc). The data should give only diagnostically important ions, the character of the fragmentation ions in relation to the molecular ion and the intensity relative to the major ion. For example-EIMS (probe) 70 eV, *m/z* (rel. int.): 386 [M]⁺ (36), 368 [M - H₂O]⁺ (100), 353 [M - H₂O - Me]⁺ (23), 275 [M - 111]⁺ (35), etc. CIMS (*iso*-butane, probe), 200 eV, *m/z* (rel. int.): 387 [M + H]⁺ (100), 369 [(M + H) - H₂O]⁺ (23), etc. High-resolution spectra can be given in more detail if necessary for [M]⁺ and the more important fragment ions.

X-ray crystallography.

Only essential data (e.g. a three-dimensional structural drawing with bond distances) should be included in manuscripts. A complete list of data in CIF (Crystallographic Information File) format should be prepared separately and deposited with the Cambridge Crystallographic Data Centre (see <http://www.ccdc.cam.ac.uk> for further information) before the paper is submitted. A footnote indicating this fact is to be included in the manuscript. "CCDC...contains the supplementary crystallographic data for this paper. These data can be obtained free of charge via <http://www.ccdc.cam.ac.uk/conts/retrieving.html> (or from the CCDC, 12 Union Road, Cambridge CB2 1EZ, UK; fax: +44 1223 336033; e-mail: deposit@ccdc.cam.ac.uk)". Crystal structures of proteins should be submitted to the Protein Data Bank (see <http://www.rcsb.org/pdb>; e-mail: info@rcsb.org). Please submit a copy of the CIF data when you submit your manuscript.

Elemental analysis results for compounds which have been adequately described in the literature must

be given in the form: (Found: C, 62.9; H, 5.4. Calc. for C₁₃H₁₃O₄N: C, 63.2; H, 5.3%.) New compounds must be indicated by giving analytical results in the form: (Found: C, 62.9; H, 5.4. C₁₃H₁₃O₄N requires: C, 63.2; H, 5.3%.)

Thin-layer chromatography

- (a) For analytical TLC, dimensions of the plates can be deleted if layer thickness is 0.25 mm.
- (b) Abbreviate common adsorbents: (but use silica gel, not SiO₂ as this does not describe the material accurately), Al₂O₃ (alumina).
- (c) Preparative forms of the technique should include details of (i) layer thickness (preparative TLC only), (ii) amount of sample applied to the layer, (iii) method of detection used to locate the bands and (iv) the solvent used to recover the compounds from the adsorbent after development.
- (d) Special forms of TLC on impregnated adsorbents can be abbreviated, e.g. AgNO₃-silica gel (1:9), by wt can be assumed.
- (e) Solvent mixtures should be specified as under Abbreviations above.

Gas chromatography

- (a) Detector used should be specified, e.g. dual FID, EC, etc.
- (b) Carrier gas and flow rate or inlet pressure should be given, e.g. N₂ at 3 ml min⁻¹/10 psi.
- (c) Operating conditions, such as injector and detector heater temperatures, oven temperature programme, should be included.
- (d) Packed columns, e.g. 6 m x 3 mm (i.d. measurement only) packed with 1% SE-30 (support material and mesh size can be omitted unless unusual).
- (e) Capillary columns the type (e.g. WCOT, SCOT), manufacturer's designation (e.g. DB5) and dimensions (length, internal/external diameter, film thickness) should be specified.

High performance liquid chromatography

- (a) Solvent or solvent gradients used together with flow rate should be given.
- (b) Column dimensions (length x i.d. only) and packing used.
- (c) Method of detection employed, e.g. UV or refractive index.

Biochemical conventions

Unless a common biochemical term (e.g. ATP, NADH), biochemicals that are abbreviated should be spelled out in full (in brackets) immediately following their first usage in the text.

Enzyme names are typically not abbreviated, unless there are accepted abbreviations, such as ATPase. Where possible, E.C. numbers should be used for enzymes, and the recommendations of the Nomenclature Committee of the International Union of Biochemistry and Molecular Biology (IUBMB) should be used (see below).

Enzyme characterization

- (a) Enzyme activity is expressed in units of katal (symbol kat), the conversion of one mol of substrate per sec. It should be made clear that the measurements were made under specified optimum conditions and were not seriously affected by losses during extraction and analysis.
- (b) pH optima should be given together with pH values for half maximal activity.
- (c) Kinetic parameters should be expressed as V_{max} , K_m etc.
- (d) Enzyme inhibitors-effectiveness should be expressed as K_i or concentration for half-maximal activity.
- (e) Optimal temperature of enzymes should not be given. This should be expressed in terms of "Energy of Activation" and "Energy of Activation for Denaturation".
- (f) Enzyme nomenclature is now given in "Enzyme Nomenclature, Recommendations", Academic Press (1992) (⇒ <http://www.chem.qmul.ac.uk/iubmb>).
- (g) Labeling of proteins and nucleic acids-use of labeled precursors in assessing the rate of synthesis of macromolecules must be validated by evidence of real, direct incorporation. The possibility of occlusion or adsorption of isotopic material should be noted and it should be shown that the labeled precursor is incorporated without prior catabolism.

Protein and nucleotide sequences

The Experimental must contain explicit documentation of the ends of nucleotide probes used in the study if previously unpublished, or by appropriate reference to published nucleotide numbers and/or restriction map. In manuscripts to be published in Phytochemistry, any new protein and/or nucleotide sequence must have been submitted to EMBL, GenBank™ or DNA Data Bank of Japan databases, with designated accession number(s) obtained prior to paper acceptance by the Regional Editor. The Author(s) must ensure access to this database information by timely release of data prior to publication, as well as providing necessary documentation to those already in the databases.

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EMBL Nucleotide Sequence Submissions, European Bioinformatics Institute, Hinxton Hall, Hinxton, Cambridge CB10 1SD, UK. Tel.: +44 (0) 1223-494401; fax: +44 (0) 1223-494472; e-mail: datasubs@ebi.ac.uk; world wide web: ➔ <http://www.ebi.ac.uk/embl>
DNA Data Bank of Japan, Center for Information Biology, National Institute of Genetics, Mishima, Shizuoka 411-8540, Japan. Tel.: (+81) 559-81-6853; fax: (+81) 559-81-6849; e-mail: ddbjsub@ddbj.nig.ac.jp (for data submissions); world wide web: ➔ <http://www.ddbj.nig.ac.jp/>.
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Only novel DNA sequences will be published. Sequences that show close similarity to known coding or other sequences such as promoters will not be published and will be cited by accession number. Translated protein sequence information should be published as alignments against other gene family members. Papers containing such information about genes already known in other species should have sufficient novelty and biological significance. Sequence only papers or papers which duplicate work in another species will not be published. Genes known by three letter names should be written in italics. The corresponding cognate protein should be written in capital, non-italic text.

Accession numbers

Accession numbers are unique identifiers in bioinformatics allocated to nucleotide and protein sequences to allow tracking of different versions of that sequence record and the associated sequence in a data repository [e.g., databases at the National Center for Biotechnical Information (NCBI) at the National Library of Medicine ('GenBank') and the Worldwide Protein Data Bank]. There are different types of accession numbers in use based on the type of sequence cited, each of which uses a different coding. Authors should explicitly mention the *type of accession number together with the actual number*, bearing in mind that an error in a letter or number can result in a dead link in the online version of the article. Please use the following format: accession number type ID: xxxx (e.g., MMDB ID: 12345; PDB ID: 1TUP). Note that in the final version of the *electronic copy*, accession numbers will be linked to the appropriate database, enabling readers to go directly to that source from the article.

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