

GENERAL INFORMATION FOR CONTRIBUTORS

To facilitate an editorial decision on the acceptability, or otherwise, of their manuscript, and to speed-up subsequent publication, authors are strongly advised to consult the format of papers in a recent issue of *The Journal of Horticultural Science & Biotechnology*, and to read the more detailed “Checklist for Preparation of Scripts” accessible by clicking “INSTRUCTIONS” on the homepage of the Journal website (www.jhortscib.com).

Manuscripts (double-spaced in 12-point size Times New Roman font with 2.5 cm-wide margins) must be submitted electronically as e-mail attachments to jhsb@scri.ac.uk. Manuscripts should not be longer than 4,500 words (in total) including Title, Author(s) names & address(es), Summary, Main Text, References, and Figure legends. Manuscripts should have no more than five Figures and/or Tables (in total) designed to occupy no more than 2.5 A4 pages to fit within an overall final limit of five published pages. As a guide, the total word count should be reduced by approx. 500 words for every Table and/or Figure included. **Please indicate the total word count and numbers of Tables and Figures on the title page.** Text files should be in Word (Version 98 or newer). Figures should be supplied as separate Tiff or EPS file types without compression, as follows: half-tones (300 dpi at finished/printed size); line-work (1,200 dpi at finished/printed size).

Submission of a paper will be taken to imply that it describes original research not submitted for publication, or already published, elsewhere. Submission will also be taken to imply that **all** the co-authors agree to the work being peer-reviewed and possibly published, and that they have no undeclared competing financial interests.

Increasing pressure for Journal space requires that only substantial contributions to new knowledge in horticultural science and biotechnology can be accepted. Common causes for papers being rejected are: (i) that the studies are too preliminary, for example they report only one season’s data from field trials; (ii) they report a single small or incomplete experiment that makes a minor or uncertain contribution to new knowledge or understanding; (iii) the data are statistically insignificant and/or do not support the claims being made; or (iv) they are written so poorly, without reference to the more detailed instructions for authors, that they are linguistically or scientifically incomprehensible. In some research areas, such as micro-propagation, only papers of wide general interest that describe novel methods or report unexpected discoveries are likely to be accepted for publication. Papers that simply compare known chemicals, rootstocks, cultivars, accessions, or landraces using routine methods, including PCR-based DNA-marker techniques for genetic diversity studies, are unlikely to be accepted – unless they are judged to make a significant contribution to new knowledge, to be of wide general interest, or to contain additional valuable and novel information.

Rejected manuscripts, Figures etc. are not usually returned to authors, but are destroyed.

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T.M.A. Wilson, Editor