



Instructions to Contributors of Seed Testing International (STI)

Introduction

Seed Testing International is the News Bulletin of the International Seed Testing Association (ISTA). The journal contains scientific articles related to seed testing, research notes, reports about regional and international activities as well as workshop and meeting reports.

Procedure for the submission of papers

Manuscripts shall be written in English, in a language which is grammatically correct, clear and to the point. If you are not a native English speaker, you should consult an expert in order to ensure that the language is correct. The manuscripts should be sent to the ISTA Secretariat, Marketing & Communications Department. Manuscripts should be submitted via E-mail to sti@ista.ch. The ISTA Secretariat will notify the authors on acceptance and whether or not revisions are needed.

Suitable formats for paper submission is Word for PC's. Photos and Illustrations should be submitted in print format (min. 300 dpi) such as TIFF or high quality JPG and PDF.

An editor will notify the author(s) on acceptance and whether or not revisions are needed.

Proofs will be forwarded via E-mail to authors for editorial correction.

Instructions for papers

Papers should be typed double-spaced on A4 (210 x 297 mm) with wide margins, maximum of 4 pages excluding pictures and illustrations. All sheets and illustrations should be numbered consecutively. The **title** should be concise but informative, containing key words which describe the subject matter for use in abstracting systems. The **name of the author(s)** and the **full postal address** of the institution where the work was carried out should follow the title. Authors are asked to give an E-mail address where possible. A **summary** indicating the scope of the paper in not more than 200 words, should be typed immediately below this. Papers describing experimental work should normally have the subject matter grouped under six main headings: **Introduction, Materials and Methods, Results, Discussion, Acknowledgements, References**. The section headings may also be grouped under the following headings: **Summary, Experimental and Discussion, Acknowledgements, References**. Main headings are printed in heavy type, secondary headings in italics. A scientific ('Latin') name included in an italicised heading appears in Roman type. Abbreviations should be defined the first time they are used, although initial letters, without punctuation, may be used for easily recognised organisations or countries (for example ISTA, USA, FAO).

Capital letters and Roman numerals should be used in both headings and text only when essential (figure 2, not Fig. II or Figure II). Except when occurring in a series of numbers or in conjunction with a specific recognised unit of measurement, numbers from one to nine should be spelt out (8 mm, 5 g · m⁻², but nine hours, three months). The percentage sign should be used in conjunction with a number

(7%), but percentage should be written in full when used as a noun (percentage germination, not per cent germination or % germination). Measurements should be expressed metrically, whenever possible following the Système International d'Unités (SI) (published by OFFILIB, 48 rue Gay-Lussac, F-75005 Paris).

Species should be described by their scientific ('Latin') names; at the first mention in the main text the full binomial and authority must be given, but subsequently the genus should be abbreviated to its initial letter and the authority omitted. Authorities are not quoted after Latin names in the title or summary. When a name has been stabilised by ISTA in the ISTA List of Stabilized Plant Names (see <http://www.ars-grin.gov/~sbmljw/istaintrod.html>), synonyms must not be used. For species not included in this list authors are advised to consult <http://www.ars-grin.gov/npgs/tax/>.

References in the text should be cited by author's surname and year of publication in brackets after the statement they support. If there are **more than two authors**, citations should quote the surname of the first author and the words "*et al.*". All names should be included in the list of references. At the end of the paper, references should be listed alphabetically in the form: Name, Initials (year). Title of journal or other source, volume number, first and last page numbers. The titles of periodicals should be written without abbreviation. Titles of books must also be given in full, together with the publisher's name and the place of publication. The following are correct:

Author, A.B., Author, C.D. and Author, E.F. (1999). Title of article. *Journal Title in Full*, **00**, 123–456.

International Seed Testing Association (1999). International Rules for Seed Testing. *Seed Science and Technology*, **27**, **Supplement**, 333pp.

Author, A.B. and Author, C.D. (1999). Chapter in book. In *Book Title*, (eds. E.F. Editor and G.H. Editor), vol. 3, pp. 123–456, Publisher, City.

When a paper is cited which has been published in another language, its title may be translated. The translation should appear between square brackets, as follows:

Author, G.H. and Author, I.J. (1999). Title in another language. [Title in English]. *Journal Title in Full*, **00**, 12–34.

Tables and figure captions should be typed on separate sheets from the main text and numbered in separate series. **Figures** should be supplied as computer graphics. Each figure should be submitted as a separate file. Shadings should be avoided in the figures. Lettering should be kept to a minimum and should be at least 2 mm in the final print.

Photographs should be of high quality (300 dpi) and be submitted as separate files (TIFF, PDF, JPG).

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