



## **Scientific and Technical Review Instructions to authors**

### **Aim and scope of the Review**

The [Scientific and Technical Review](#) (the *Review*) is the principal scientific and technical publication of the World Organisation for Animal Health (WOAH). The publication collects, analyses and disseminates scientific knowledge and influences the animal health research agenda, in accordance with the WOAH Science System ([EN](#), [FR](#), [ES](#)). The *Review* is indexed in numerous databases, including PubMed/Medline, CABI, EBSCO and Clarivate Analytics Web of Science.

### **Content**

Since 2021, WOAH does not accept spontaneous submissions to its *Review* unless a Call for Contributions is published. Issues are devoted to a specific theme (selected by the [Editorial Board](#)), one or more internationally renowned experts are invited to act as scientific editors, and specialists in the field are asked to contribute articles as authors, thereby providing readers with a comprehensive overview of the selected theme.

### **Conditions for accepting articles**

Authors undertake to submit articles that have not been published elsewhere, either in part or in full, and which do not require prior authorisation for publication by WOAH. In submitting an article, authors agree for the copyright of their article to be licensed to WOAH if and when the article is accepted for publication. The *Review* is open access as per [WOAH's Open Access Policy](#) and published under the Creative Commons Attribution-ShareAlike 3.0 IGO licence ([CC BY-SA 3.0 IGO](#)). An Open Access Licence Agreement and Personal Data Consent Form is sent to the corresponding author for their signature, if and when an article is accepted for publication.

Articles may be submitted in any one of the three WOAH official languages: English, French or Spanish. Authors not writing in their primary language are encouraged to seek professional editorial assistance prior to submitting their article. Depending on the submission language, articles may be published bilingually (French and English, or Spanish and English) or in English alone, with all articles featuring trilingual summaries; the WOAH Publications Unit manages the translation process.

Upon submission of the article to the Publications Unit, the corresponding author receives notification of receipt. The article is then sent for peer review; although this process is overseen by the issue's scientific editor(s), the Publications Unit is the point of contact between the authors, the scientific editors and the reviewers.

When an article is accepted, it is revised by a copy-editor who contacts the corresponding author about any potential changes to the article. It is the responsibility of the corresponding author to ensure that all co-authors agree with the changes made by the copy-editor. Authors are expected to respond promptly (**within a week**) to keep to the tight publishing schedule.

Once an article has been laid out by a graphic designer and proofread by the Publications Unit, the corresponding author receives a copy for final approval. It is the responsibility of the corresponding author to ensure that all co-authors agree with the changes made prior to publication.

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## Submission of articles

Authors should email their article to the Publications Unit ([publications.unit@woah.org](mailto:publications.unit@woah.org)).

The various sections of the article should be arranged in the following order, **using the Microsoft Word template** provided by the Publications Unit:

1. Title
2. Names, affiliations and addresses of authors
3. Summary and keywords
4. Text (introduction, materials and methods, results, discussion, conclusions)
5. Acknowledgements (if applicable)
6. References
7. Tables
8. Figures.

All pages of the article should be numbered.

Detailed submission guidelines are provided below as well as in [WOAH's Style Guide](#).

### 1. Title

The title should be concise (**up to 70 characters**) and should not contain abbreviations. Standard terminology should be used in the title to facilitate information retrieval and indexing; for example, 'Epidemiological survey of blackleg in cattle in France' (topic, disease, species, country).

### 2. Names, affiliations and addresses of authors

The family names of authors should be preceded by their initials and followed by a superscript and bracketed Arabic number. The corresponding author should be identified with an asterisk and their email address supplied. The full address of each author should be given below the list of names; for example:

H. Jones <sup>(1)</sup>, M.L. Smith <sup>(2)</sup> & M. Webber\* <sup>(2)</sup>

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(2) Institute of Veterinary Research, 4 Portsmouth Road, Southampton SO4 6NW, United Kingdom

\*Corresponding author: [m.webber@ivr.org](mailto:m.webber@ivr.org)

### 3. Summary and keywords

The summary should provide an outline of the full text, including the principal findings and conclusions. It should be written in the same language as the full text and **up to 250 words**. **Five to ten** keywords should be provided after the summary, in alphabetical order. The Publications Unit will manage the translation of the title, summary and keywords into the other two languages.

### 4. Text

All of the [eight abovementioned sections](#) combined **should not exceed 4,000 words**. When an author wishes to submit an article of greater length, agreement should first be sought from the scientific editor(s). Paragraphs should not exceed 200 words. Experimental work and epidemiological studies should be presented using the following standard layout: introduction, materials and methods, results, discussion, conclusions and references.

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Measuring units should be expressed using the metric system and, where appropriate, the International System of Units (SI). New diagnostic methods should be described in sufficient detail (e.g. reference standard, nature of the antiserum or antigen, specificity, sensitivity). Details of well-known methods or those already described in an international journal or review need not be included, but a reference should be provided.

Veterinary drugs, reagents and laboratory materials should be referred to in the text by the generic name, rather than the commercial name. This ensures objectivity and clarity for the *Review's* global readership, as generic names provide a consistent reference across regions and brands.

Abbreviations and acronyms should be defined the first time they are used.

Footnotes should not be used for citations. They may be used to provide parenthetical or background information, or to link to outside sources. It is advisable to keep footnotes to a minimum.

Tables and figures should be mentioned in the text at the place where the author wishes them to be included.

Authors are asked to refer to the most recent international nomenclature published by recognised international scientific societies. The names of all species referred to in the text must be followed by their Latin name in brackets and in italics.

Useful reference works include:

- *Mammal Species of the World*, 3rd Edition, 2005, Johns Hopkins University Press.
- *HBW and BirdLife International Checklist of Birds of the World*, 2014, Lynx Editions.
- *Virus Taxonomy – Classification and Nomenclature of Viruses* – The Online (10th) Report of the International Committee on Taxonomy of Viruses, 2016 (<https://ictv.global>).
- *List of Prokaryotic Names with Standing in Nomenclature* (<https://www.bacterio.net>).
- *Index of Bacterial and Yeast Nomenclatural Changes*, 1992, Amer Society for Microbiology.

## 5. Acknowledgements

Acknowledgements may be made to persons who have contributed substantially to the article. Authors are responsible for obtaining permission from the person(s) acknowledged by name.

## 6. References

References to the literature should:

- use the Vancouver style
- be made by number
- be enclosed in square brackets
- be listed in order of citation
- appear at the end of the relevant phrase or sentence, before the punctuation mark.

References in tables and figures should be numbered as though the tables and figures are part of the text, i.e. they should continue the sequence of numbers in the text at the point where the table or figure is first mentioned.

All published documents that are referred to in the text, tables or figures must be included in the reference list at the end of the article.

Research articles may include up to 30 references, review articles up to 70.

Authors are requested to verify the accuracy and completeness of all references before submitting the article and to check that all of these have been cited in the text. The names of journals and reviews should be abbreviated unambiguously (if in doubt, the full title should be given).

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Each reference should list the names – followed by the initials – of all authors, the full title of the article, the abbreviated journal name, the year of publication, the volume number, the issue number, the page numbers and the digital object identifier (DOI) or a URL link with the date of access, as shown in the examples below.

Note: when there are **more than six authors**, only the **first six** should be listed, followed by *et al.* in italics (see reference [1] below).

— **Article from a journal or review**

[1] Njeumi F, Taylor W, Diallo A, Miyagishima K, Pastoret PP, Vallat B, *et al.* The long journey: a brief review of the eradication of rinderpest. *Rev. Sci. Tech.* 2012;31(3):729-46. <https://doi.org/10.20506/rst.31.3.2157>

[2] Plowright W, Ferris RD. Studies with rinderpest virus in tissue culture: II. Pathogenicity for cattle of culture-passaged virus. *J. Comp. Pathol. Ther.* 1959;69(2):173-84. [https://doi.org/10.1016/s0368-1742\(59\)80016-3](https://doi.org/10.1016/s0368-1742(59)80016-3)

— **Article in press**

[3] Avendaño-Pérez G, Weber-Vintzel L. The World Organisation for Animal Health Observatory: a data-driven approach to address the needs of its Members. *Rev. Sci. Tech.* 2023;42:(in press).

— **Chapter of a book or conference report**

For conference reports, include the name and location [city and country] of the publisher, as well as the dates and location of the conference:

[4] Zavala-López JL, Marte-Díaz G, Martínez-Pujols F. Area-wide integrated pest management. 1st ed. Boca Raton (United States of America): CRC Press; 2021. Successful area-wide eradication of the invading Mediterranean fruit fly in the Dominican Republic; p. 519-37. <https://doi.org/10.1201/9781003169239-27>

[5] Bosch J, Goicolea T, Araujo PC, Mateo MC, Aguilar-Vega C, Ito S, *et al.* S08 Landscape connectivity and travel corridors routes for predicting the spread of ASF in European wild boar. In: Conte A, Ippoliti C, Savini L, eds. Abstract book: GeoVet 2023 International Conference – Expanding boundaries: interdisciplinary geospatial research for the One Health Era; 2023 Sept 19-21; Silvi Marina, Teramo. Edizioni IZSTe-press - Digital Publishing, Teramo, Italy, p. 69-70. Available at: <https://geovet2023.izs.it/wp-content/uploads/2024/03/Abstract-Book-GeoVet-2023-1.pdf> (accessed on 23 May 2024).

— **Book or published report**

Include a DOI or website address for ebooks and online reports:

[6] Global Food Safety Partnership (GFSP). Food safety in Africa: past endeavors and future directions. 1st ed. Washington DC (United States of America): GFSP; 2019. 84 p. Available at: <https://cgspace.cgiar.org/handle/10568/108321> (accessed on 17 January 2020).

[7] Dyck VA, Hendrichs J, Robinson AS, eds. Sterile insect technique: principles and practice in area-wide integrated pest management. 2nd ed. Boca Raton (United States of America): CRC Press; 2021. 1216 p. <https://doi.org/10.1201/9781003035572>

— **Information obtained from the Internet**

Include a DOI; if no DOI exists, please include a URL link to the webpage where the document can be accessed, along with the date of access. Internet references should cite a specific document or data. Website homepages displaying general or regularly updated information are not considered bibliographic references and should be included in the text, not the reference section. Webpage references must include the access and publishing dates:

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[8] Exploring global research efforts: a spotlight on STAR-IDAZ's work. Paris (France): World Organisation for Animal Health; 2024. Available at: <https://www.woah.org/en/exploring-global-research-efforts-a-spotlight-on-star-idazs-work> (accessed on 30 January 2025).

— **References to electronic versions of paper publications**

Cite these as you would any paper publication, including the usual publishing details and the web address:

[9] European Commission. Commission implementing European Union Regulation 2022/209 establishing the format of the data to be collected and reported in order to determine the volume of sales and the use of antimicrobial medicinal products in animals in accordance with European Union Regulation 2019/6 of the European Parliament and of the Council. Off. J. Eur. Union. 2022;L35:7-16. Available at: <https://eur-lex.europa.eu/legal-content/EN/TXT/PDF/?uri=CELEX:32022R0209> (accessed on 11 November 2023).

— **References to WOA's standards**

List these under World Organisation for Animal Health (WOAH):

[10] World Organisation for Animal Health (WOAH). Terrestrial animal health code. 32nd ed. Paris (France): WOA; 2024. Available at: <https://www.woah.org/en/what-we-do/standards/codes-and-manuals/terrestrial-code-online-access> (accessed on 30 June 2024).

[11] World Organisation for Animal Health (WOAH). Aquatic animal health code. 26th ed. Paris (France): WOA; 2024. Available at: <https://www.woah.org/en/what-we-do/standards/codes-and-manuals/aquatic-code-online-access> (accessed on 30 June 2024).

[12] World Organisation for Animal Health (WOAH). Manual of diagnostic tests and vaccines for terrestrial animals. 13th ed. Paris (France): WOA; 2024. Available at: <https://www.woah.org/en/what-we-do/standards/codes-and-manuals/terrestrial-manual-online-access> (accessed on 10 June 2024).

[13] World Organisation for Animal Health (WOAH). Manual of diagnostic tests for aquatic animals. 11th ed. Paris (France): WOA; 2024. Available at: <https://www.woah.org/en/what-we-do/standards/codes-and-manuals/aquatic-manual-online-access> (accessed on 25 July 2024).

— **References to a specific chapter in WOA's standards**

List these under World Organisation for Animal Health (WOAH):

[14] World Organisation for Animal Health (WOAH). Terrestrial animal health code. 32nd ed. Paris (France): WOA; 2024. Chapter 10.4. Infection with high pathogenicity avian influenza viruses; 12 p. Available at: [https://www.woah.org/en/what-we-do/standards/codes-and-manuals/terrestrial-code-online-access/?id=169&L=1&htmlfile=chapitre\\_avian\\_influenza\\_viruses.htm](https://www.woah.org/en/what-we-do/standards/codes-and-manuals/terrestrial-code-online-access/?id=169&L=1&htmlfile=chapitre_avian_influenza_viruses.htm) (accessed on 17 June 2024).

[15] World Organisation for Animal Health (WOAH). Aquatic animal health code. 26th ed. Paris (France): WOA; 2024. Chapter 6.3. Monitoring of the quantities and usage patterns of antimicrobial agents used in aquatic animals; 4 p. Available at: [https://www.woah.org/en/what-we-do/standards/codes-and-manuals/aquatic-code-online-access/?id=169&L=1&htmlfile=chapitre\\_antibio\\_quantities\\_usage\\_patterns.htm](https://www.woah.org/en/what-we-do/standards/codes-and-manuals/aquatic-code-online-access/?id=169&L=1&htmlfile=chapitre_antibio_quantities_usage_patterns.htm) (accessed on 2 July 2024).

[16] World Organisation for Animal Health (WOAH). Manual of diagnostic tests and vaccines for terrestrial animals. 13th ed. Paris (France): WOA; 2024. Chapter 3.9.1. African swine fever (infection with African swine fever virus); 18 p. Available at: [https://www.woah.org/fileadmin/Home/eng/Health\\_standards/tahm/3.09.01\\_ASF.pdf](https://www.woah.org/fileadmin/Home/eng/Health_standards/tahm/3.09.01_ASF.pdf) (accessed on 6 August 2024).

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[17] World Organisation for Animal Health (WOAH). Manual of diagnostic tests for aquatic animals. 11th ed. Paris (France): WOAH; 2024. Chapter 2.1.1. Infection with *Batrachochytrium dendrobatidis*; 21 p. Available at: [https://www.woah.org/fileadmin/Home/eng/Health\\_standards/aahm/current/2.1.01\\_Bdendro.pdf](https://www.woah.org/fileadmin/Home/eng/Health_standards/aahm/current/2.1.01_Bdendro.pdf) (accessed on 25 July 2024).

If authors are submitting their article in French or Spanish, WOAH references should be listed under **Organisation mondiale de la santé animale (OMSA)** or **Organización Mundial de Sanidad Animal (OMSA)**, respectively. If a WOAH reference exists in French or Spanish, the French or Spanish title should be used, respectively.

For more examples of references, consult the references section of the [two issues published in 2024](#).

**Unpublished data** and **personal communications** should be referred to in the text in square brackets, not the list of references, as per the example below. Authors must obtain approval from sources quoted as unpublished data and personal communications before submitting the article.

[F. Caya, personal communication, 2024]

## 7. Tables

Tables should illustrate, not duplicate, information in the text. Tables should be given titles and numbered using Roman numerals in the order in which they are cited in the text. Each table should not exceed a single page in the Microsoft Word template. All columns should have a heading, and mean values and standard deviations should be used instead of individual values where possible. Notes, comments or explanations relating to numerical values should be indicated using superscript letters (e.g. <sup>(a)</sup>, <sup>(b)</sup>, <sup>(c)</sup>, <sup>(d)</sup>). All abbreviations used in the table should be defined in a legend.

## 8. Figures

Figures (i.e. graphs, diagrams, drawings, maps and photographs) are strongly encouraged if they provide information not already covered in the text. They should be numbered using Arabic numerals in the order in which they are cited in the text.

Graphs should be submitted in Excel<sup>®</sup> or PowerPoint<sup>®</sup> format, including both the figure and its source data. Diagrams, drawings and maps should be submitted in editable formats such as .eps (Encapsulated PostScript), .ai (Illustrator<sup>®</sup>) or .fr (Freehand<sup>®</sup>). Digital photographs should be submitted as .jpg, .tiff or .eps files, with a width between 455 and 2,055 pixels and a **resolution of at least 300 dpi**. Figures that cannot be edited are acceptable if they meet the same resolution requirement of 300 dpi as a minimum.

Each figure should be submitted as a separate file, with its corresponding title on a separate page at the end of the article. Titles should be self-explanatory, and legends must fully explain the figure to minimise the need to refer back to the text. Include details such as the subject, site and date where possible, along with units, sources and explanatory notes. Maps should include a scale.

## Publication of articles

Once an article is accepted for publication by the scientific editor(s) following peer review, a pre-print will be made available on the [WOAH website](#) and the corresponding author will be notified by email from the Publications Unit.

When the issue containing an article is published, the corresponding author will be notified by email from the Publications Unit, but it is his/her responsibility to inform his/her co-authors of its publication. Full issues are available with open access on [WOAH's Documentary Portal](#) and indexed in PubMed.