



Biodegradation

Instructions for authors

General information

Manuscripts submitted for publication and communications concerning editorial matters should be sent to:

Editorial Office, *Biodegradation*

PO Box 990, 3300 AZ Dordrecht, The Netherlands

Tel: 31(0)78-6576000 Fax: 31(0)78-6576555

No page charges are applicable, but prospective authors should condense their pages as much as possible.

Biodegradation welcomes general papers, review papers and original research papers.

General papers describing original research should not exceed ten pages of printed text, including tables, figures and references (one page of printed text = approx. 600 words).

Review papers should not exceed 25 pages of printed text, including tables, figures, and references.

Papers already published or in press elsewhere will not be accepted. If any part of the subject matter or experiments included in a manuscript submitted to the Journal have been the subject of any prior publication, this prior publication must be identified. Papers of restricted local importance will not be accepted.

The Journal requests the submission of manuscripts on diskette.

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Submission of manuscripts (and figures) in their electronic form will ensure more rapid publication. The 3.5 inch diskette in MS DOS format is preferred, although other systems (e.g. Apple Macintosh) can be used. Please label your diskette properly, giving exact details on the name of the file(s), the operating system and software used. For the purpose of refereeing, the final (*revised*) diskette version should be accompanied by 3 hard copies.

If you submit your electronic manuscript in a wordprocessor format, it is important that you save it in the wordprocessor format that you use. Please mention the name of the wordprocessor on the label of the diskette.

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Preferred file formats are TIFF (Tagged Image File Format) and Encapsulated PostScript (resolution between 300 and 600 dpi), but figures in other electronic formats may also be used. File names should not be longer than 8 characters. A printout of *all* figures should be supplied with the hardcopy manuscript.

Presentation of the manuscript

Manuscripts should be written in standard English and submitted as one original manuscript, six carbon or photocopies, each including all tables, figures, and references, and a diskette. Four sets of original halftones are required. The author should retain a complete copy of the manuscript.

Manuscripts should be typed clearly, double-spaced throughout on one side of A4 paper with margins of 3–5 cm. All papers (including the tables, figures, legends and references) should be numbered consecutively.

As a guide for acceptable style please consult: Council of Botany Style Manual, 6th edition (1987), available from the American Institute of Biological Sciences, 9650 Rockville Pike, Bethesda, MD 20814, USA.

The manuscript should be arranged in the following order:

Title page (*page 1*)

- The title should be brief but informative. A subtitle may be used to shorten an excessively long main title.
- The author's full name (if more than one, use "&" before the last name and indicate to whom correspondence should be addressed).
- Affiliation(s)/Address(es) should be complete.

Key words / Abstract / Abbreviations (*page 2*)

- Key words (a maximum of 6, in alphabetical order, suitable for indexing).
- Abstract (brief and informative, not to exceed 250 words). No abbreviations should be used in the abstract.

- Abbreviations (arranged alphabetically, only those which are not familiar and/or commonly used). Optional.

Main text

- The text should, if possible, be developed under the following headings: Introduction, Materials and methods, Results / Discussion and Conclusions.
- The relative importance of headings and subheadings should be clear. The approximate location of figures and tables should be indicated in the margin.
- New paragraphs should be clearly indented.
- The use of footnotes should be avoided. However, if essential, they should be typed on the appropriate page, but clearly separated from the text with a line above them.

After the main text

- Acknowledgements (also grants, support etc, if any) should follow the text and precede the references.
- Notes should be numbered consecutively with superscript numerals and listed in numerical order after Acknowledgements.

References

- Literature references should be listed alphabetically, typed double-spaced, and in the text referred to by author name and year of publication enclosed in parentheses, e.g. (Smith 1989; Brown & White 1990).
- Citations of personal communications and unpublished data should be avoided, unless absolutely necessary. Such citations should in text appear only as: (D. Wilman, pers. comm.), (C.S. Andrew, unpubl.), and not in the reference list.
- Abbreviate titles of periodicals according to the style of the *Bibliographic Guide for Editors and Authors* (Biosis, Chemical Abstract Service and Engineering Index, Inc., 1974).
- References should contain: author(s) name(s) followed by author(s) initials, year, title of article (only first word and proper nouns capitalized), journal (not underlined), volume number, and inclusive page numbers. Books must include the location and name of the publisher.

Examples

Periodicals

Yen KM & Serdar CM (1988) Genetics of naphthalene catabolism in pseudomonads. *Crit. Rev. Microbiol.* 15: 247–268

Books (edited by someone other than author of article)

Smith EL, Austen BM, Blumenthal KM & Nyc JF (1975) Glutamate dehydrogenases. In: Boyer PD (Ed) *The Enzymes*, Vol 11 (pp 293–367). Academic Press, New York

Books (Monographs)

Hicks CR (1973) *Fundamental Concepts in the Design of Experiments*. Holt, Rinehard and Winston, New York

Tables

- Each table should be typed on a separate page.
- Tables should be numbered with Arabic numerals, followed by the title and mentioned in the text. Horizontal rules should be indicated, and verticals avoided. Table footnotes should be marked with superscript numbers.

Figures

- Line drawings must be in black ink on white paper or blue graph paper, and should not contain shading.
- Photographs should be supplied as black-and-white high contrast glossy prints.
- Halftone reproductions must be clear, well-contrasted glossy prints trimmed at right angles: original halftones must be supplied with each copy of the manuscript.
- *Colour plates* will be inserted only at the author's expense.
- Figures as well as legends should be numbered with Arabic numerals and mentioned in the text.
- Do not give magnification or scales in the figure legends: instead draw bar scales directly on the figures.

Abbreviations and units

- SI units should be used, e.g.: mg, g, kg, km, m, cm, mm, ppm, cpm, μCi (microCurie), l (litre), ml, s (second), min (minute), h (hour), mol, m^{-3} , kg per ha or kg ha^{-3} (the minus index form is always to be used in tables).

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