

## **Instructions for authors**

**(short version, checking manuscripts, comprehensive version)**

The *Notes académiques de l'Académie d'agriculture de France – Academic Notes of the French Academy of agriculture (N3AF)* is a peer-reviewed electronic journal of scientific, technological and technical information and education. Its objective is to allow researchers to rapidly make their work known to the international community.

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The journal offers up-to-date and rigorous information on all the fields covered by the ten sections of the French Academy of Agriculture. It publishes original articles, news articles, notes on current affairs, syntheses, bibliographical reviews, reports, critical comments on books or articles, points of view, texts of conferences, letters to the editor, courses... (see the list below).

The journal (exclusively online, on the website of the French Academy of agriculture: <https://www.academie-agriculture.fr>) is of the open access diamond model, *i.e.* neither authors nor readers pay.

The manuscripts are evaluated with double anonymity: until publication and possibly after, authors do not know who the reviewers are, and the reviewers do not know who the authors are.

Submitted manuscripts must comply with the instructions described below. If this is the case, as soon as they have been received, they are registered and deposited on the academic site

(invisible to all), so that author's anteriority can be established if necessary.

The persons who accept to referee the manuscripts, at the invitation of the editors in charge of the manuscripts, are invited to analyze the texts rather as experts than as "evaluators" or "reviewers". Their role, which is essential for the publication of excellent texts, is to give advice to authors on improving their manuscripts, which are published when the editor in charge and the referees agree that academic quality has been achieved.

### **This document contains the following:**

1. an abbreviated version of the Instruction for authors,
2. a summary table for checking manuscripts before submission,
3. a longer version of the Instructions for authors.

## Instructions for Authors

### 1. Advice to authors (short version)

In 2016, the French Academy of agriculture created an online publication on the Academy's website that presents scientific, technological, or technical work of academic quality, similar to the articles published in the *Comptes-rendus de l'Académie des sciences*, but in its area of expertise, represented by the ten sections of the French Academy of agriculture (see <http://www.academie-agriculture.fr/>).

The journal is directed by an **Editorial Board** composed (in alphabetical order) of:

Sylvie Alexandre, Pere Arus, Paul Brassley, Yves Brunet, Philippe Chemineau, Roisin Burke, Noëlle Dorion, Michel Dron, Mylène Durand-Tardif, Christian Ferault, Malcolm Hadley, Maria Halamska, Bruno Héroult, Philippe Kim-Bonbled, Gilles Lemaire, Nicole Mathieu, Marie-Claude Maurel, Jean-Claude Mounolou, Alain Pavé, Douglas Rutledge, Philippe Schmidely, Jean-Marie Séronie, Paulo Sobral, Patrick Svensson, Hervé This, Charles Vincent, Nadine Vivier

**The Secretaries of the Sections of the French Academy of Agriculture are *de jure* members of the Editorial Board.**

Yves Brunet, Noëlle Dorion, Mylène Durand-Tardif, Hervé This and Nadine Vivier are the secretaries of the Editorial Committee, in charge of collecting the manuscripts, implementing the modalities of their critical analysis in view of their improvement (double anonymity, with the intervention of an "editor" and two independent referees), then preparing them for publication according to the modalities indicated in this document.

We invite potential authors to submit manuscripts to [notes-academiques@academie-agriculture.fr](mailto:notes-academiques@academie-agriculture.fr) and to invite colleagues to publish in this journal.

### 1.1 Which types of articles

Manuscripts may be submitted under any of the following types:

**1. The "Green Group":** Research Notes (original results), Supplementary Materials, Historical Notes (original material).

**2. The "Blue Group":** Journals, Syntheses, Reports, Policy Briefs, Conference Proceedings, Potential of Science for Sustainable Agriculture.

**3. The "Orange Group":** Viewpoints, Opinions, Perspectives, Letters to the Editor, Commentaries on Notes, Critical Analyses of Books, Critical Analyses of Articles, What's New in..., Views of Academicians.

**4. The "Purple Group":** Courses, Teaching Materials, Teaching Activities, Demonstrations, Didactic Discussions, How-To's, Best Practice Documents, Expert Perspectives.

**5. The "Red Group":** Editorials (by Editors or guests), Discussions.

All texts submitted must be original. Under no circumstances will the journal republish texts already published, either in print or on the Internet.

Furthermore, authors must be identified individuals, possibly in large numbers, but not groups or institutions.

### 1.2. Published in what context?

Except explicitly differently, all articles are open access articles under the CC BY license (<http://creativecommons.org/licenses/by/4.0/>)

Articles are referenced: Authors, Year, Title, Journal, Publication number, Pages, DOI, as indicated in the published texts of the journal and also in the long version of this document.

## Instructions for Authors

Authors who submit a manuscript give the journal exclusive rights to publish their article, but it may be freely distributed, with full acknowledgement of the original publication and with the agreement of the Editorial Board.

When only parts of an article are reproduced, this should be indicated by mentioning "with the agreement of the Editorial Board" (see the document "The ethics of Academic Notes").

### 1.3. Preparation of manuscripts

Manuscripts may be written in French or English. Authors must ensure that they are original and have not been previously published.

Authors submitting a manuscript must indicate for which journal section the manuscript is prepared (see list in the long version), and it must include the following files:

#### 1. A .doc file that contains:

- the title,
- the names of the authors,
- their affiliations,
- the mention of the corresponding author(s), with their email address),
- possible acknowledgments,
- possible dedications
- the distribution of the work between the authors
- declarations of interest or absence of interest.

#### 2. A completely anonymous .doc file, which contains:

- the title, in French and in English,
- an abstract in French (less than 130 words),
- an abstract in English (less than 130 words; the two abstracts must be an exact translation of one another),
- keywords in French (3 to 6),
- keywords, in English (the same as in French),
- the body of the article, in French or in English; the font used must be Times new roman, size 12, double spaced; the lines must be numbered.

3. A .pdf version of the .doc file of the manuscript.

4. Separate files for figures and their legends, for tables and their legends.

Text length should be less than 25,000 characters, including spaces (but for some types of text, shorter sizes should be respected; see the long version of these instructions to authors).

There should be only one or two levels of headings, in bold, the same size as the text (with Arabic numbering).

Footnotes or endnotes are not acceptable.

The scientific style denies intangibles, mysteries, and unique personal experiences. Feelings and fancies have no place here. Significant effort is often made to define terms and agree on their meaning, including the establishment of standard-setting bodies to create a universally accepted nomenclature. Sloppy use of words is considered a sign of sloppy thinking.

Proper names should be in lower case, except for the initial.

Terms in foreign languages, Latin or Greek should be italicized.

Units must be expressed in the International System of Units:

<https://www.bipm.org/en/measurement-units>.

Acronyms or abbreviations should be spelled out the first time they appear in the text, using the usual capital letters; they should not be separated by periods; for example, AAF (Académie d'agriculture de France).

For names of institutions or proper nouns, the use of the *Code typographique de l'Imprimerie nationale* will be respected: only words up to and including the first name will be capitalized (e.g. Société nationale des chemins de fer, Première Guerre mondiale).

For lists, Arabic numerals should be used where

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appropriate.

References are called out in the text, before the period of the sentences in one of the following forms "(Durand, 1982)", "(Durand and Dupont, 1982)", "(Durand *et al.*, 1982)", or "(Dupont, 1982; Durand, 1984)" (chronological order), or "(Durand, 1982; 1984)".

The bibliographical references, placed at the end of the article, will be classified in alphabetical order of the name of their first author and presented according to the standard indicated below. DOIs are highly recommended.

- article:

Dupont JN, Durand A, Dubois M. 1992. Molecular biology of methanogens, *Annual Review of Microbiology*, 46 (3), 165-191. DOI: xxxxxxxx.

- book:

Malecot G. 1948. *The mathematics of heredity*. Masson, Paris, 12-24.

When different pages of the same book are cited, the years are indicated by letters:

Malecot G. 1948a. *The mathematics of heredity*. Masson, Paris, 12

Malecot G. 1948b. *The mathematics of heredity*. Masson, Paris, 15

Malecot G. 1948c. *The mathematics of heredity*. Masson, Paris, 19

- websites:

[https://scholar.google.fr/scholar?q=%22maillard+reaction%22&btnG=&hl=en&as\\_sdt=0%2C5](https://scholar.google.fr/scholar?q=%22maillard+reaction%22&btnG=&hl=en&as_sdt=0%2C5) , last accessed 2021-09-03.

References to articles accepted for publication should be cited in the same manner as others, but with the notation "in press" following the name of the journal.

Please note that articles are best illustrated. Figures, photos or diagrams must be provided by the authors in digital form (see the different

formats in the long version), in print quality. Authors should ensure that these images are free of copyright restrictions or obtain permission from authors and publishers to reproduce them. Figures should be referred to in the text and accompanied by a caption (less than 130 words); their origin should be indicated.

Tables should be called out in the text and referenced in the same way as figures (but with the caption above them).

### 1.4. The editorial circuit

The journal is directed by an Editorial Committee composed of academicians from the different sections of the French Academy of agriculture and of world known specialists.

Five members of this committee are Secretarial Editors, namely Yves Brunet, Noëlle Dorion, Mylène Durand-Tardif, Hervé This and Nadine Vivier.

The articles of the *Notes académiques de l'Académie d'agriculture de France* (N3AF) are published after the following process:

1. Manuscripts prepared according to the above procedures are submitted by email to [notes-academiques@academie-agriculture.fr](mailto:notes-academiques@academie-agriculture.fr). They may be accompanied by proposals for competent and independent referees (if there are no conflicts of interest) and the names of competitors.

Sending a manuscript corresponds to accepting that the article will be published as open access article under the CC BY license (<http://creativecommons.org/licenses/by/4.0/>)

2. Upon receipt of a submission, the complete manuscript (including all the files stipulated above) is officially deposited on the academic website (to attest to its possible precedence). Its anonymity is then verified.

3. The abstract and the summary are then sent, without mentioning the authors, to the Editorial

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Committee, which proposes the Editors in charge.

4. The Editor in charge receives the manuscript, the figures and the tables, and takes care of having the text reported by at least two independent referees, of which at least one must be external to the Academy. These experts are invited (within 15 days) to give a factual, detailed and motivated opinion, without any value judgment, on the possibility of publishing the article. Above all, the referees are invited to give advice to the authors so that they can improve their manuscript and make it of publishable scientific quality, according to the rules of peer review.

5. Upon receipt of these documents from the referees, the Editor in Charge will forward them anonymously to the Editorial Secretariat, which will forward them anonymously to the authors.

6. Authors must respond to the Editor-in-Charge and the referees (through the secretarial address [notes-academiques@academie-agriculture.fr](mailto:notes-academiques@academie-agriculture.fr)) within 15 days, clearly indicating the changes made to the manuscript ("track changes" option in the word processing software); they must accompany the modified text with a document that responds point by point to all the comments made by the editors and referees.

7. The exchange between authors and reviewers, orchestrated by the Editor in Charge, continues until the Editor and reviewers consider the manuscript publishable.

8. When the manuscript is accepted, an editorial secretary adds author information to the manuscript, and the manuscript is returned to the authors for a final review. No content changes are allowed at this stage; authors may not alter the text accepted for publication unless they resubmit it.

9. At the same time, the editors and referees are invited to be cited in the publication (in the case of co-referees, *i.e.*, persons whom the referees have

asked to assist in the analysis of the manuscripts, confidentiality extends to them, and they may be cited).

10. The manuscript is then formatted, and the first proofs are sent to the editorial board, which can ask questions to the authors (within 48 hours).

11. The proofs with questions or proposals are then sent to the authors, who can only respond to the editorial committee's remarks and propose spelling or typographical corrections. They are not entitled to discuss layout and typography, which remain the responsibility of the journal, and they must accept the editorial standards of the journal.

### The Editorial Board consists of:

Sylvie Alexandre: honorary general engineer of bridges, waters and forests, chair of the milk working group of the Observatory of Prices and Margins in Agriculture, member of the French Academy of agriculture (section 2).

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Paul Brassley: honorary university fellow of the University of Exeter.

Yves Brunet: research director, INRAE Bordeaux, member of the French Academy of agriculture (section 7).

Roisin Burke: professor at Technological University Dublin, Ireland.

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Philippe Chemineau : emeritus research director



*Notes académiques de l'Académie d'agriculture de France*  
*Academic Notes from the French Academy of agriculture*  
*(N3AF)*

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Malcolm Hadley: member of the secretariat of the Man and the Biosphere (MAB) program and its World Network of Biosphere Reserves, member of the French Academy of agriculture (section 2).

Maria Halamska: professor at the Institute of Rural and Agricultural Development of the Polish Academy of Sciences, head of the Department of Rural Sociology.

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Nicole Mathieu: former director of the STRATES laboratory, University of Paris 1/CNRS, former deputy editor of the journal *Natures-Sciences-Sociétés*, member of the French Academy of agriculture (section 7).

Marie-Claude Maurel: honorary director of studies at the EHESS, member of the Centre for Russian, Caucasian and Central European Studies, member of the French Academy of agriculture (section 4).

Jean-Claude Mounolou: honorary professor at the University of Paris-Saclay, member of the French Academy of agriculture (section 6).

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<https://sites.google.com/view/cvincententomologist>

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**The Secretaries of the 10 sections of the French Academy of Agriculture are also *de jure* members of the Editorial Board.**

**Secretarial editors:**

Yves Brunet,  
Noëlle Dorion,  
Mylène Durand-Tardif  
Hervé This,  
Nadine Vivier.

For all manuscript submissions, use the address:  
[notes-academiques@academie-agriculture.fr](mailto:notes-academiques@academie-agriculture.fr)

## Instructions for Authors

### 2. Checklist that authors should use before submission

#### Title

- Does the title of the article suits its content?
- Is the length of the title all right?
- Does the title inform correctly the reader of the content?
- Is the title in French AND in English?

#### Keywords

- Are the key words suitable, in accordance with the text?
- Are they 3 to 6 keywords?
- Are the keywords given in French AND in English?

#### Abstract

- Does the abstract correspond to the content of the text?
- Is the abstract (for an original article) structured as: Introduction, Materials and Methods, Results, Discussion, Conclusion ?
- Is the abstract precise enough to explain the content of the text?
- Is the abstract given in French AND in English?
- Is the abstract corrected by a Native English speaker?

#### Introduction

- Does the Introduction deal with known and unknown elements in relationship with the topic of the study?
- Does the introduction end with the goal of the article?

#### Materials and Methods

- Does this section include enough information in order to understand and reproduce how the work was done?
- Was the study evaluated by an Ethics committee?
- Was special equipment used for this study? If yes, avoid pictures showing the commercial names.

#### Results

- Did you check that there is no error when giving data (in Figures, Tables, etc.)?
- Did you check that there is no redundancy in the presentation of data (graphs and tables showing the same data, text giving the same data as graphs, etc.)?
- Did you check that the results are synthetic?
- Did you check that no assumption was used in showing the results (this should be done in the  Discussion part, except for implementing complementary experiments)?
- Are statistical tests enough and appropriate?

#### Discussion

- Do you show the major consequences of the results?
- Are the strength and weaknesses of the work shown?
- Are the limits of the study discussed?
- Are the weaknesses of the Materials and Methods section discussed, in relationship with other publications?
- Are the explanatory hypotheses related to the results shown?
- Are the open questions exposed?

#### Acknowledgments and funding

- Did you get the written agreement of the people that you thank?
- If the work was funded, did you quote the funding institution?

#### Contribution of the authors

- Is the role of each author of the article given?

#### Declaration of interests

- Are all interests declared for each author ?

#### References

- Are the references written according to the Instructions to authors?
- Were all references checked?
- Are they all mentioned in the text?
- Are all references quoted in the text given in the list of references?



## Instructions for Authors

- Are the references ranked in alphabetical order?
- Are the references selected according to pertinence?

### Tables

- Did you refer to Tables in the text?
  - Did you give an explicit title to all tables?
  - Are all abbreviations given in tables described in the caption of the table?
  - Are the rows of the tables ranked in a coherent way?
  - Are the important data selected?
- If data from a previously source is given, did you asked, and get, the agreement of the publisher (copyright) ?
- Are the table mentioned by order of appearance?
  - Are all table necessary?

### Figures

- Are all figures refered to in the text?
- Does any figure have an explicit caption?
- Are the important figures given?
- If data is taken from a previously published source, did you ask the permission of reproduction (copyright) ?
- Are the figures given in the right order?
- Is the resolution of figure enough?
- Did you clean figures of all personal or confidential information?

### Format and content

- Is the length according to the Instruction of authors?
- Did you respect all recommendations of the Instructions to Authors
- Are all the text files in .doc?
- Did you check the spelling and grammar?
- Is the text clear?
- Was it checked that no parts of the manuscript was duplicated or plagiarized?
- Did you check that the article contains no insultant or diffamatory sentence?

### **Process of revision when returning the manuscript after the reviewing**

- If you submit a revised version, did you answer to all commentaries of the referees, either in the article (.doc) or in a separate letter?
- Do all modified parts appear clearly (color, information in the accompanying letter)?
- Did you answer to all queries of the referees?
- Did you avoid introducing new mistakes in the revised part?
- Did you answer to the referees in a polite, ethical and professional way?

### Submitting files

#### Manuscript

- Is there a file for the title, authors, affiliations, adresses, corresponding author, acknowledgment, dedication?
- Is there an entirely anonymous .doc file for the manuscript, AND a .pdf file for the manuscript ?
- Are all figures in separate files?

More in the next section (next page)

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### 3. The comprehensive description

#### ETHICS

For information on the ethics of scientific publication, please consult our statement available for download at <https://www.academie-agriculture.fr/publications/notes-academiques>

And:

<https://pubs.acs.org/userimages/ContentEditor/1218054468605/ethics.pdf>

<http://www.elsevier.com/publishingethics>

<http://www.elsevier.com/journal-authors/ethics>

For studies conducted on humans or animals, authors must ensure that their studies were conducted in accordance with the World Medical Association's Code of Ethics (Declaration of Helsinki):

<http://www.wma.net/en/30publications/10policies/b3/index.html>;

EU Directive 2010/63/EU.

For experimentation with animals:

[http://ec.europa.eu/environment/chemicals/lab\\_animals/legislation\\_en.ht](http://ec.europa.eu/environment/chemicals/lab_animals/legislation_en.ht) .

The work submitted must comply with the ethical recommendations of the Declaration of Helsinki and must have been submitted, if required, to either an advisory committee for the protection of persons in biomedical research (CCPPRB) or an ethics committee. When a work has been submitted to one of these institutions, this must be mentioned in the text.

For manuscripts in the fields of human sciences or social sciences, the authors must, in accordance with the rules of these disciplines, place their article in the historiographic context and thus, recall the research that preceded it and its divergences.

### SUBMISSION STATEMENT

Submission of a manuscript implies that it has not been previously submitted to the same journal, and is not published or under review in another journal.

The submission must be accepted by all authors.

Authors agree that, if the manuscript is accepted and published, only the .pdf file produced by N3AF may be distributed (freely).

In order to verify the originality of the text, the manuscript can be submitted to a verification software or an anti-plagiarism tool.

### SUBMITTING MANUSCRIPTS

Manuscripts should be submitted by email to the following address [notes-academiques@academie-agriculture.fr](mailto:notes-academiques@academie-agriculture.fr)

Authors are invited to suggest referees or to report possible conflicts that would prevent the manuscript from being sent to them for review by particular colleagues.

CAUTION: This journal uses a double-blind review process. This means that the identity of the authors is not known to the editors and reviewers, and vice versa.

Therefore, multiple files are required:

File 1:

A separate .doc file must contain the title in French AND English (mandatory); each author is designated (in that order) by name, institution name, mailing address, AND telephone number as well as e-mail address. A corresponding author (exceptionally several) must be indicated. Acknowledgements and dedications should also be included in this file.

Declarations of interest of all authors must be

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included, with relevant indications on funding and links of interest (financial, ideological, etc.); authors are invited to make explicit the nature of the contributions of the different authors to the article.

In order to absolutely preserve the double anonymity, during the editorial process, this separate file will be kept secret until the manuscript is accepted.

### **File 2: the manuscript**

This .doc file, accompanied by a parallel .pdf file, must contain an abstract in French AND in English and keywords, in French AND in English. The text of the article can be in French or in English.

The file containing the manuscript should never contain information about the author(s): no name, no postal or e-mail address, no telephone number.

The text should be in Times New Roman, 12, double spaced, and the lines should be numbered.

The file must also include bibliographic references

### **File 3 and following: figures, tables, supplementary materials**

These files may include diagrams, drawings, color or black and white photographs. These documents should always be provided as separate files: one file per figure or a zipped folder with one file per figure.

Authors must ensure that they have the right to use these images for publication.

Tables should be submitted as .doc files, not as images.

The file should also include captions for tables and figures.

## **PREPARATION OF THE MANUSCRIPTS**

The formal presentation of the manuscript must comply with all of the following rules (failure to comply with these rules will result in the return of the manuscript).

Note that the last article published by the journal is the one that should serve as a model.

### **1. Title**

This page must include the title (in French AND in English); it must be concise, give the precise subject of the work, and must not include abbreviations;

### **2. Abstracts and keywords**

Each article includes an abstract in French and its translation into English, without abbreviation or reference, of 130 words maximum.

For original articles, the abstracts are preferably structured as follows:

- Introduction or Objectives,
- Materials and Methods,
- Results,
- Discussion,
- Conclusions and perspectives,
- References.

The English and French versions of the Abstract must be one the translation of the other, and be proofread by a native speaker.

The keywords (in French AND in English), more than 3 and less than 6, without necessarily repeating the terms of the title of the article, must be relevant or descriptive, and will be reviewed by the editor to allow the indexing of the article.

Please note that the abstract should give specific results and conclusions (for articles of natural sciences); for the humanities and social sciences, sources, methods, conclusions, and hypotheses should be given.

### **3. The text**

The text should be given in Times new roman, size 12, double spaced, with line numbering.

It should be written in a clear, concise, precise and referenced style. It must be understandable for a reader outside the field studied. It must respect the classic rules of scientific publication, i.e. the text must not repeat information published elsewhere, except to quote it in order to use it (for example, text between quotation marks with citation of the original text), in particular to:

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- indicate the novelty of the work,  
- to justify the methods.  
Important terms should not be bolded, underlined or italicized.

The use of the first person is not usual. Frequent line breaks should be avoided. Past events should be described in the preterite or perfect tense. This is the case in the "Materials and Methods" and "Results" sections.

When authors' names are cited in the text, if there are only two, they are both cited (separated by "and" in French articles, and by "and" in English articles); if there are more than two, the name of the first author is followed by the mention "*et al.*"

Titles and possible subtitles can be numbered according to the Afnor rule (1, 1.1, 1.2...); there cannot be more than two levels of subtitle.

Titles and subtitles do not include references, and they must be less than three lines long on the layout.

Lists are announced by numbers rather than letters: (1), (2), respectively, instead of (a), (b), or (i), (ii).

Latin locutions and abbreviations are written in italics (*et al.*, *a priori*, *in vitro*...), and the rules of the Typographical Code must be respected.

It is requested to number the lines of the text file in a continuous ascending order, in order to facilitate the exchanges with the referees.

Abbreviations and acronyms :

Only common abbreviations and acronyms are accepted. The full term must precede the abbreviation, in parentheses, when it first appears in the text, except in the case of international units of measurement (these are not explained). Thereafter, once the abbreviation is introduced, the full form should not be used. The use of abbreviations is prohibited in the title and should be avoided in the Abstracts.

Footnotes and endnotes :

Footnotes and endnotes, which are distinct from the bibliographic references called in the text, are not accepted.

Units, symbols and brand names :

Symbols and units must be indicated in accordance with international rules:

<http://www.bipm.org/en/about-us/>

<http://goldbook.iupac.org/>

The units of length, mass, volume are m, kg, L, or their multiples.

The mark of a material, a product, must be indicated with the abbreviation TM and, in brackets, the name of the producer/manufacturer.

In a sentence, numbers from 0 to 10 are written in letters (zero, ten) - unless they are followed by a physical unit (e.g. 2 kg). A comma is used before decimal digits in French, a dot in English texts. Isotopes are given with the atomic mass as a superscript to the left of the element symbol (131I).

Tables :

Tables should be presented as .doc tables, each on a separate page, with their legend before the table.

They are numbered in Arabic numerals and indexed in the text with "(Table x)". They may be accompanied by explanatory notes (below the table).

Authors are invited to take into account the size of a screen page for a good readability of the table when it is put online.

Figures and tables :

Figures and tables are given in separate files.

Figures should be provided in digital form.

The caption should be provided separately, clearly indicating the purpose of the figure and explaining any abbreviations that appear in the images.

Figures may be in black and white or color.

In the case of partial or total reproduction of a previously published document, the author must provide written permission from the publisher and the authors of the document. The journal reserves the right to refuse figures that are too numerous or of insufficient quality for the interest of the information provided.

Figures should be submitted in TIFF (.tiff), EPS

## Instructions for Authors

(.eps), PDF (.pdf), JPEG (.jpeg) or JPG (.jpg) format. Word and Excel formats are also accepted, but PowerPoint documents should be avoided.

To allow the editor and reviewers to easily identify the submitted figures, it is requested that the files be named with the figure number and the format used. For example: "fig1.tif", for the figure 1 file in TIFF format.

The minimum resolution of the figures must be 300 DPI for black and white or color photographs, and 500 to 1000 DPI for graphs or diagrams.

High resolution is required for reading and printing.

### Supplementary Materials :

The journal invites authors to submit electronic supplements with their articles. These can be tables, figures, videos, MCQs, etc. The purpose of electronic supplements is to make an element of the article easier to read (e.g., a large table, too many figures) or to expand on a point in the article, or to extend the authors' work.

It is now possible to submit additional multimedia elements to accompany and enrich the articles. These elements (images, videos, audios, archives, spreadsheets, presentations, etc.) will only be accessible online (the link to the reference page being indicated in the body of the article). Authors may provide images (.gif, .tif, .jpg, .svg, .png, etc.), videos (.mov, .avi, etc.), podcasts (.mp3, .wma, .wav, etc.), documents (.doc, .pdf, etc.), spreadsheets (.xls, .cvs, etc.) or presentations (.ppt, .pps, etc.).

### Acknowledgements :

Acknowledgements, if any, appear at the end of the article, before the references. They include descriptions of contributions for which authorship is not required, such as acknowledgements for technical assistance, material contribution, funding. In particular, they may include descriptions of interests for which a conflict is possible (see below).

For each author of the publication, additional information can be given, for example, experimental work, technical assistance, writing...

### Bibliographic references

They are the responsibility of the authors and their accuracy must be checked before sending the manuscript.

In general, the references cited must correspond to documents available to the readers. It is not recommended to cite articles published in non-indexed journals. Self-citations should be used sparingly.

All references should be cited in the text, figures, tables, or captions. When a reference is by a single author, the callout (in parentheses) includes the name, then a comma and the year of publication. When it is by two authors, both names are given, separated by "and". If there are more than two authors, the call in the text includes only the first name followed by "*et al.*".

When two references follow each other, they appear in the same parenthesis, separated by a semicolon; the same author of two references cited in the same parenthesis is mentioned only the first time; a semicolon separates the first and second dates. Letters (a, b, etc.) are added when there are several publications by the same authors in the same year.

Articles accepted but not yet published may be referenced by indicating the journal, year and volume with the notation [in press]. References to personal communications, theses, manuscripts in preparation or submitted to journals are accepted only in parentheses in the text and should not be included in the bibliographic list.

All references cited in the text, tables, or figures, including figure and table captions, should be included in the reference list and vice versa.

The given references are presented according to the following templates (manuscripts in which the template is not followed will be returned to the authors for modification), where it should be noted that titles are capitalized only, and journal names are not abbreviated.



## Instructions for Authors

### Journal article:

Dupont JN, Durand A, Dubois M. 1992. Molecular biology of methanogens, *Annual Review of Microbiology*, 46 (3), 165-191. DOI: xxxxxxxx.

### Article from a supplement:

Dupont JN, Durand A. 1992. Molecular biology of methanogens, *Annual Review of Microbiology Supplement*, 34-36. DOI: xxxxxxxx.

### Book:

Malecot G. 1948. *Les mathématiques de l'hérédité*, Masson, Paris, 428 p. (or the pages corresponding to the citation, separated by a hyphen).

### Book chapter:

This H. 2012. Molecular gastronomy and olfaction. In Salesse R, Gervais R (eds) *Odorat et goût*, Editions Quae, Paris, France, 439-449. DOI: xxxxxxxx.

### Conference proceedings:

Dupont JN, Durand A. 1992. Molecular biology of methanogens, *Proceedings of the 7th Life Sciences Symposium*, Oct. 29-31, Knoxville (TN), 69-78. DOI: xxxxxxxx.

### Thesis:

Valverde J. 2007. *Study of the modifications induced by various culinary and industrial treatments of pigment systems from immature pods of green beans (Phaseolus vulgaris L.); introduction of new analytical methods for the study of such systems* [thesis], Université Paris VI, Paris.

### Reference in electronic format:

Morse SS. 2020. *Factors in the emergence of infectious diseases. Emerging Infectious Disease*. <http://www.cdc.gov/ncidod/EID/eid.htm>, last access 2020-05-03.

For such documents, a DOI can also be given instead of an internet page (as DOI: xxxxxxx).

## INTERESTS

The journal follows international practices regarding relationships of interest. All manuscript submissions must be accompanied by a declaration of potential relationships of interest. Sources of funding for work must be disclosed.

All authors should therefore declare any potential conflicts of interest in their work in general by following the recommendations below.

A relationship of interest occurs when an author or co-author has financial, ideological, or personal relationships with other individuals or organizations that are likely to influence his or her professional judgments regarding a core value (research integrity, etc.). The main ties of interest are financial interests, clinical trials on behalf of a health industry, ad hoc interventions, family relationships, etc.

If there is no relationship of interest, authors must declare it.

If there are one or more links of interest for one or more authors of the article, the complete list of these links must be mentioned at the end of the manuscript (before the bibliographic references). The role of the different authors in the publication can be indicated: experimental work, provision of material, editing...

## WRITING ADVICE

All manuscripts must address one of the headings explicitly listed below. This mention, at the time of submission, is essential for the analysis of the manuscripts by the editors and reviewers (see list below).

### Translations

The two versions of the abstracts and keywords must be grammatically correct.

### Types of articles and length

The format and length of the manuscript (excluding Title, Abstract, References, Tables and Figures) vary according to its type. Papers



## Instructions for Authors

may be submitted for the following types:

### **1. "Green Group": Research Notes (original scientific findings), Supplementary Materials, Historical Notes (original historical research)**

All the texts of this group are presentations of original scientific, technological or technical results, in a format allowing their comprehension and reproduction.

They are accompanied by structured abstracts (see paragraph on Abstracts) in French and English.

Their structure depends on the rules of the discipline to which the manuscripts belong, but for many disciplinary fields, publications are classically divided into five sections: Introduction/objectives, Materials and methods, Results, Discussion, Conclusion and Perspectives.

The structuring of long articles by subheadings is encouraged; these should be brief and not be written in sentence form; only two levels of structuring are allowed.

- The introduction should justify the work and state its objectives, recalling previously published data (with references).

- In the "Materials and methods" section, all the conditions for obtaining the results must be detailed. This chapter does not provide any results. It ends with the presentation of any statistical tests, including the number of repetitions.

- In the "Results" section, depending on their number or type, results are given in numerical form, such as means (with standard deviations or confidence intervals), medians (with extremes) and probabilities (with confidence intervals if possible). Tables and figures should be used extensively to explain the text. Long lists of figures in the text should be avoided: one or more tables or figures should be used instead. Statistical significance should be based on appropriate tests.

- The "Discussion" section comments on the results presented, without giving new ones or repeating them, and compares them to those published in the literature. Quantitative analyses are preferred. Note that discussions can be discussed by the reporters or by the editors in "Comments" (see this section).

- The "Conclusion" section provides brief answers to the question(s) raised in the introduction. It should be derived unambiguously from the results of the discussion. It should not assert facts that cannot be justified by the data in the text. It should not duplicate the summary.

### **2. "Blue Group": Journals, Synthesis, Reports, Context notes, Conference proceedings, Science potential for a sustainable agriculture**

#### **Reviews and Syntheses**

Equivalent to a review, this section gathers in-depth articles that provide an in-depth review of recent developments on a chosen topic, a current issue or a new advance, based on a critical analysis of the data in the literature and the controversies that may be associated with it. The aim is therefore to provide a critical synthesis of published works on a given theme, leading to useful and constructive proposals. There is no size limit.

#### **Reports**

These texts are very exhaustive reviews on particular themes of attention. Their form is free, but they benefit from being based on a particularly clear division. There is no size limit.

#### **Economic notes**

These articles provide an update on scientific, technological or technical advances. They may be related to current events.

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### Conference proceedings

These are written texts, not just quick notes. They should be structured like reviews or summaries.

### Potential of science for sustainable agriculture

Articles in this section examine the potential agronomic benefits of science, particularly biology. While recognizing that a breakthrough in science cannot be predicted, these articles are reflections on the capabilities of science to improve agricultural production, as well as product quality, conservation, and environmental preservation. The objective is to cross, without prejudice or exclusivity, the most recent cognitive achievements with the technological expectations necessary for sustainable agriculture.

These articles are organized in the form of reviews.

They can be of different types:

- What scientific advances for what progress?
- Concepts and tools of genetic engineering;
- Animal breeding: domestication, health, selection and feeding;
- Plant Improvement;
- Plant nutrition, growth and development;
- Crop protection;
- Ecology: management of soil-water-space resources in relation to socio-economic development;
- Modeling and mechanization, technical itineraries;
- Non-food use of living organisms and valorization of by-products;
- Future and security of human food.

### 3. "Orange Group": Viewpoints and Opinions, Perspectives, Letters to the Editor, Note Reviews, Book Presentations, Article Presentations, What's New in..., Academics' Viewpoints.

For texts in the "Points of View", "Open Forum", "Opinion", "Perspective", "Letter to the Editor", "Editorials", "What's New in..." sections, which are different from research notes, reports, syntheses,

etc., the question is to properly frame the preparation of manuscripts (by the authors) and also the conditions of publication (by the editors), considering that the latter are binding on the journal, in that they define the possibilities offered to authors.

In other words, what follows is a kind of contract that should lead to regulate the exchanges between the authors of the manuscript and the editorial board of the publication.

Such texts may be proposed when:

1. research has been done, but the data are preliminary, not significant or not strong enough to convey a scientific result;
2. the subject is of interest to a wider audience than just specialists in the subject, or the scientific community in general;
3. the author(s) want to present opinions and ideas, or describe an innovation that has not yet been implemented;
4. the experts want to effectively participate in the public debate on a topic and even contribute to policy making.

All these texts must deal with subjects that are the object of the work of the French Academy of Agriculture, namely:

- plant productions,
- forests and wood industries,
- animal production,
- human and social sciences for food, agriculture and the environment
- environment-living beings interactions,
- life sciences,
- environment and territories,
- human food and food chains,
- agri-supplies,
- economics and politics of food, agriculture and the environment.

### Point of view" type articles

"Point of view" articles (understood as expert, citizen, scientist, technologist, technician, whatever the field covered within the limit given above) present and discuss the authors' point of view on the strengths and weaknesses of a

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scientific hypothesis or theory, of a technical, technological or scientific practice, of an implemented policy or of technical, technological or scientific programs.

These articles encourage a debate that challenges the current state of knowledge or practice in a particular field.

They too are critically reviewed by peers on a double-anonymity basis.

Viewpoint articles should not be research notes in disguise, with unpublished or original data not reviewed.

Similarly, Academic Notes does not accept articles that tout specific products.

In contrast, the journal does accept manuscripts written:

- by authors of technical, technological, or scientific journal articles (both the natural and human/social sciences) that explain their findings to a non-specialist audience,
- or by people from industry who discuss trends in the fields in which they operate
- or by administrators or managers in charge of public policy issues.

For these articles, authors are asked to disclose any potential interests they may have in relation to the theme of the article.

It is good practice for articles of this type to include constructive criticism and to be supported by evidence.

Viewpoint articles are typically relatively short (2000-2500 words), and this is useful, as often a succinct argument is more effective when it is free of excessive documentation (which can make a "Report"). However, where appropriate, the digitization of Academic Notes allows for longer, well-argued "Viewpoints".

How to structure such articles

A "Viewpoint" article does not have to follow a strict structure like IMRaD (Introduction, Materials

and Methods, Results, Discussion). As long as the ideas flow logically, the author is free to structure the article as he or she wishes. In general, these articles have an introduction, a few paragraphs and a conclusion.

Title

The title should be informative and thought-provoking. It should not exceed 100 characters (including spaces).

It must be given in French and English.

Abstract

The abstract should be less than 150 words (only one paragraph).

The same applies to the English abstract, which must be a faithful translation of the summary.

The purpose of the abstract is to attract the interested reader and to give an exact idea of the content of the article. It should follow the following structure:

- introduction: the authors should describe the importance of the subject.
- areas covered: the authors should describe the research discussed and the literature search undertaken.
- expert opinion: the expert opinion is the opinion of the author.

### "Opinion" and "Open Forum" articles

The texts of the "Opinion" and "Open Forum" sections are different, although related, but, in both cases, they are often means of sensitizing those who are not specialists in the subject under discussion, or those who have not analyzed the issue under discussion.

"Opinions", on the other hand, are ways of thinking about a subject or a set of subjects, personal judgments that one makes on a question, without this judgment necessarily being right.

The "Open Forum" articles, on the other hand, are opportunities to express, freely and publicly, ideas and opinions left to the responsibility of those who express them.

## Instructions for Authors

Some texts of the "Letter to the Editor" type are similar to texts in the "Opinion" or "Open Forum" sections, but Academic Notes proposes to publish them under one of these headings instead (see below).

The writing of an "Opinion" article is not the same as that of a scientific, technological or technical article, and, as a result, the publication process is not the same either, especially in that an opinion is binding on its author: editors and reviewers cannot discuss it. On the other hand, editors and reporters have the task of ensuring that ethical rules are respected and that the facts presented are accurate, well argued and well referenced.

Indeed, texts of the "Opinion" or "Open Letter" type cannot be simple injunctions; their conclusions must be based on facts that the authors must present explicitly.

In particular, when the author(s) make scientific, technological or technical claims - apart from those that are essentially universally accepted (e.g., evolution by natural selection explains the diversity of life on Earth; the Earth, approximately spherical, is about 150 million km from the Sun; etc.) - then the authors must give the facts. ) - then authors must give their information and sources, i.e. scientific, technological or technical articles published in peer-reviewed journals or by well-known scientific institutions (the use of secondary sources, such as general journalistic productions or data produced by partisan organizations is not sufficient).

A few rules are also necessary:

1. The opinion presented must be original (not already published, or already widely known): Academic Notes, in fact, forbids publishing what has already been published.
2. Publication must be timely, *i.e.* when action is possible (and not when a problem has found its solution), or, for a timeless subject, by considering a new approach, a new analysis; this is where speculation is possible.
3. The authors must aim at a certain efficiency, in

terms of change of state of mind, or of action. It should be remembered that, in order to convince, one must give the arguments to carry away the conviction, and, in particular, provide the readers with knowledge and information that they do not have.

4. The text must be written with expertise and authority. Authors should focus on topics within their area of expertise and with a strong link to their field of activity.

5. To the extent that opinion pieces must focus on a single topic, it is recommended that authors be specific, that their arguments be based on solid, well-referenced research.

6. Writing should be respectful, poised, and not overly opinionated: there should be a balance between opinion and truth (recognizable truths will build confidence in what is written, while previously unknown facts will add value to what is written).

7. Writing should be "judicious": Because expert opinion is important, regardless of the consequences of its dissemination, the text deserves a close analysis of the subject, without superficial statements. Unusual or frequently overlooked points of view are appreciated, as is expert advice, especially in terms of practical steps to be taken for the general public. Moralizing texts should be avoided, and constructive arguments or suggestions for stakeholders or policy makers should be preferred.

8. Writing should be appropriate to the audience to be persuaded, facilitating understanding through the choice of information and the clarity of the resulting arguments, and creating the conditions for readers to support the views expressed. Consequently, authors should indicate in their text the audience they are addressing. They should avoid scientific jargon if it can be replaced by a common equivalent, and they should not assume that readers have specialized knowledge a priori.

9. The text should be succinct and to the point. Note that the same writing guidelines as for "Opinions" and "Viewpoints" apply to these texts.

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### **"Perspective" articles**

"Perspective" articles point to recent and noteworthy work, whether technical, technological or scientific, but authors should not focus on their own work.

Such articles may contextualize recent results, show their intrinsic importance, or point out their relevance to other disciplines.

These papers should be novel and not simply summarize published work.

They can be requested by the editors, or submitted spontaneously.

These articles inform a wide readership of exciting scientific developments in the authors' area of expertise. Other appropriate topics include discussions of methods, books, or meeting highlights (see corresponding sections).

A "Perspective" article, presenting the author's views and ideas about current research or other topics of interest to scientists, should be concise, and show a new and original view of existing problems, fundamental concepts, or current notions, propose and support a new hypothesis, or discuss the implications of a recently implemented innovation. Perspective articles may focus on current advances and future directions on a topic, and may include original data as well as personal opinion.

Note that the same writing guidelines as for "Opinions" and "Viewpoints" apply to these pieces.

These papers should include a short title (in English or French), an abstract (less than 150 words), references and may be accompanied by figures and tables.

They are subject to the same editorial treatment as all other articles (double anonymous critical analysis, in order to produce texts of academic quality).

### **Editorials**

Editorials are considered personal opinions of their authors. They are usually published by

members of the Editorial Board, but can also be requested by the Board.

They are short texts, referenced, which can be illustrated.

Whatever the authors, they are subject to a double evaluation, if possible anonymous (sent to reporters to whom the identity of the signatories is not revealed).

### **"Letter to the Editor" articles**

We classically distinguish two kinds of "Letter to the Editor" type texts:

- technical, technological or scientific texts, which point out errors (or omissions, or, more broadly, opportunities to broaden the subject matter) in articles published by the journal;
- discussions that arise from texts already published.

Texts of both types are subject to a double anonymous peer review, as are all texts in Academic Notes, but only factual texts, without opinions, will be published in the "Letters to the Editor" section; the others should be published either in the "Comments" section, the "Opinion" section, or the "Point of View" section (depending on their content).

Consequently, only the first type of texts, which are similar to research notes, are discussed here.

In accordance with the recommendations of the International Committee of Medical Journal Editors, authors whose papers are discussed in a "Letter to the Editor" are invited by the journal to respond (but may not report additional research, which must be proposed as part of a new research note).

And authors who propose texts for the "Letter to the Editor" section, too, may only report previously published results; their unpublished results may only be published as part of research notes.

Thus, "Letter to the Editor" articles are



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structurally simple articles that use data generated by science, technology, and engineering to interpret published studies or guide future research.

This type of public interaction between authors and readers is not new: it already took place in the 15th century when European scientists exchanged ideas and discussed each other's work (in letters that they exchanged and copied to others).

These articles may arise from differences in interpretation of the results published in an article, or from the discovery of errors that escaped the authors and reporters who accepted an article, but also from ideas that came from reading an article. In particular, these texts can discuss scientific, technological, technical points, or political, economic, social issues that are consequences of technical, technological or scientific activities.

Let's insist, for the sake of clarity: the texts in the "Letter to the Editor" section are not scientific articles (new results must be published in research notes), but communications that propose revisions of already published articles, that present suggestions, different ways of arriving at published results, different concepts to interpret these results, different interpretations, hypotheses that arise from the results. Often, these articles are submitted to advance knowledge, and they should not damage the reputation of the researchers whose results are being discussed.

### **Critical analysis of books or critical analysis of articles**

These are texts that can be short, but must maintain an academic form, with references to support the ideas put forward. The articles or books analyzed may be used to present supported opinions.

There is no size limit.

### **What's new in... ?**

The objective of these mini-reviews is to provide a very precise and targeted review of the literature through a key article in the field, less than one year old and preferably having an impact on technical practice. For these mini-reviews, the required content is a short introduction, abstracts of two to five articles, an overall commentary on these articles and a conclusion in the form of highlights.

### **Academics' Viewpoints**

The "Points of View" are the expression of academics on a current issue that is the subject of debate. The Bureau ensures the veracity of the facts put forward in the content of the text but allows all controversies to be expressed, taking care to balance, if possible, the expression of the different points of view. These texts, which are subject to the same peer review process as the other texts, are binding only on the academics who sign them.

All manuscripts submitted to the *Notes académiques de l'Académie d'agriculture de France*, without exception, are subject to the same editorial treatment: in order to achieve a publication of texts that are as perfect as possible, the manuscripts are entrusted to an editor, who asks "peers" for a critical analysis

### **4. "Purple Group": Courses, Didactic Materials, Activities, Demonstrations, Didactic Discussions, How-To Documents, Expert Perspectives**

#### **Courses**

These courses (which may be .pdf documents) must be accompanied by a detailed presentation that indicates:

- the relationship of the proposed course to the areas of concern of the French Academy of Agriculture (food, agriculture, environment);
- the level of study at which the course is taught, the target audience



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- the reasons why the course is being offered;
- the place the course segment occupies in a complete course;
- the prerequisites and didactic choices.

Courses cannot be just a succession of slides, they must be fully self-contained and written.

Courses that are too large (more than a book chapter, i.e., about 20,000 characters) must be divided into chapters, which must be submitted separately.

Courses may be illustrated, and in color.

Documents may be in English or French.

Hyperlinks are encouraged (to appendices, further reading, exercises and problems, online videos, references...).

Figures and graphs from other documents or publications must be accompanied by their source and, where appropriate, the authors of these documents may be asked to authorize their reproduction.

The reasons for the synopsis, the logic of the course, its relevance to the course in which it is taught may be described.

A careful bibliographic study should have placed the course in the context of previously published texts.

Insofar as these courses concern the three fields covered (agriculture, environment, food) by the French Academy of Agriculture, they can be taught at all levels, from elementary school to university.

The documents submitted will be evaluated as is, without consideration of overall pedagogical coherence, as an element of the Course may be used in different contexts and programs, which is a matter of pedagogical freedom.

The reviewers will check the accuracy of the information submitted, and they may discuss the didactic choices, point out possible errors, and suggest recent references. They will always act, for these texts as for the other manuscripts, with a view to finding proposals for improvement.

**Didactic material, Documents of good practice, Activities, Demonstrations, Laboratory experiments, Didactic discussions,**

### **How to do it, Experts' points of view**

The transmission of scientific, technological or technical information, at any level, from elementary school to continuing education, requires documents of various formats. These can be published with a critical analysis and a rigorous discussion. A bibliography is not always essential, but it is justified if it updates a process already described (one to two references maximum).

Diagrams can be presented. In addition, the authors have the possibility to add videos or any other additional material available online.

The different possible contents are:

- a literature review on a current or controversial topic, based on the bibliography;
- an original or specific technique or procedure of a scientific, technological or technical nature
- a discussion of best practices in the scientific, technological or technical field.

For the general structure, the instructions for other articles in this group apply. These articles must meet the same requirements as all original articles and literature reviews in the journal.

In this section, one can find expert views based on two principles:

- a careful review of the literature, covering at least the last five years;
- the author's opinion, on specific points for which the literature does not provide an answer. It is in the expression of this personal opinion
- as distinct from professional recommendations
- that the specificity of this section lies.

### **Activities**

These articles describe hands-on activities at any level (from elementary to university) that can be done in the classroom, in the lab, or in an extracurricular setting. The activities are intended to present interesting and challenging ideas or topics and to generate discussion. They should have been done with students in a teaching or extension setting; they should not be mere proposals.

A description of how the activity was implemented in a curriculum setting should be

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included. Problems that instructors might encounter should be mentioned, and other information that might help an instructor implement the activity should be provided. How the activity enhanced the student learning process should also be evaluated. The potential hazards and

### Laboratory Experiments

Laboratory experiment manuscripts are intended to help readers visualize their students performing an experiment. Therefore, labs are expected to have been successful in teaching students in an actual course or learning experience and to have been evaluated and used several times to substantiate claims of success; they should not be propositions.

Information about how the experience was conducted with students should be provided, including how many students participated, whether students worked individually or in groups, how many times the experience was conducted, and how long it took to complete. The focus should not be on the procedures; rather, they should be summarized and the details provided in the supplemental information. Risks and safety measures should be addressed in a dedicated risk section in the manuscript. How the experience enhanced the student learning process and whether the educational objectives were met should also be evaluated.

### 5. "Red Group": Editorials (from the Editorial Board or guests), Debates

#### Editorials

These texts present analytical judgments about ideas that authors must present in a clear and justified manner.

In other words, in editorials, authors present a theme or opinion. The editorial may draw attention to a current issue or raise a question and suggest a reasoned response. Editorials do not have to present original findings. They may be submitted spontaneously or requested by the editorial board.

Editorials should be between 2,000 and 4,000 words in total (including the abstract, main text, references and figure legends). They should have a short, self-explanatory title, an abstract of 130 words or less, a maximum of 35 references, and 1 or 2 figures (with legends) or tables.

For these texts, the editing work is the same (critical analysis by two anonymous referees who do not know the authors) as for all other texts published by the journal.

#### Debates

These texts are proposed by the editorial board and are treated as opinions.

### THE EDITORIAL CIRCUIT

One principle of this journal is to encourage the publication of manuscripts, exchanging with authors as much as necessary to achieve academic quality.

To achieve this, the journal functions with an editorial board composed of about twenty people (one or two per Section of the French Academy of Agriculture), with five editorial secretaries, namely Yves Brunet, Noëlle Dorion, Mylène Durand-Tardif, Hervé This and Nadine Vivier.

Manuscripts of all types are critically analyzed, anonymously, by at least two referees, under the responsibility of an Editor in Charge.

The Notes académiques de l'Académie d'agriculture de France (N3AF) will be published after the following process:

- the manuscript is submitted by e-mail to: [notes-academiques@academie-agriculture.fr](mailto:notes-academiques@academie-agriculture.fr);
- the anonymized manuscript is deposited on the academic site, in order to settle possible discussions on prior art;
- the manuscript is forwarded to the Secretarial Editors, who determine if it falls within the scope of the journal;

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- the Editorial Board is asked to appoint an "Editor in Charge", who must have the text analyzed by at least one Academician and one expert outside the Academy;
- the goal of the reviewers is to make positive revisions to improve the quality of the publication. There may be several rounds between the reviewers and the author(s);
- the (factual) observations of the reviewers will be forwarded to the authors anonymously;
- authors should respond in the .doc file, indicating changes; they may object to several comments, giving reasons, but the editor reserves the right to arbitrate, if there is disagreement. Authors should also respond point by point to comments and submit a revised version highlighting the changes made;
- the process of sending the manuscript to the reviewers and sending the reviewers' comments to the authors is repeated until the manuscript is accepted;
- Once accepted, the manuscript is edited; the proofs are sent to the authors, who then have no further opportunity to modify the text; they can only correct errors.

The fact that major changes are requested does not mean that the article is not publishable. The final acceptance decision will be made on later versions of the manuscript.

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