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### DESCRIPTION

*Agricultural Systems* is an international journal that deals with interactions - among the components of *agricultural systems*, among hierarchical levels of agricultural systems, between agricultural and other *land use systems*, and between agricultural systems and their *natural, social and economic environments*. Manuscripts submitted to *Agricultural Systems* generally should include both of the following:

- substantive natural science content (especially *farm-* or *landscape-level* biology or ecology, sometimes combined with social sciences), and
- substantive analysis and discussion of the *interactions* within or among agricultural systems components and other systems.

Preference is given to manuscripts that address whole-farm and landscape level issues, via integration of conceptual, empirical and dynamic modelling approaches.

The scope includes the development and application of systems analysis methodologies (*diagnosis, simulation* and *mathematical modelling*, participatory *modelling*, multi-criteria *assessment, trade-off analysis*, participatory *design*, etc.) in the following areas:

- *agroecology* and the *sustainable intensification* of agriculture as well as transition pathways for sustainable intensification;
- decision-making and *resource allocation* in agricultural systems;
- the *interactions* between agricultural and non-agricultural landscapes;
- the multiple services provided by *agricultural systems* from *food security* to *environmental services*;
- adaptation and transformation of *agricultural systems in the era of global change*;
- development and application of *tools and methods* for agricultural systems design, assessment and management;
- *innovation systems* and multi-stakeholder arrangements that support or promote change and/or informs policy decisions; and
- *big data* and the *digitalisation of agriculture* and their effects on agriculture.

The following subjects are *discouraged*:
• econometric, descriptive or other statistical analyses that exclude systems considerations, landscapes, land use change studies, or other economic analyses without substantive natural science content;
• development of typologies unless the typology developed forms the basis for further systems analysis;
• results from crop or livestock trials unless from systems trials or the results address systems issues;
• studies focusing on social or political outcomes that lack a clear systems framework and direct application to agricultural systems (i.e. the farm production system or landscape, their activities or components, their interactions or synergies);
• conceptual frameworks without empirical implementation (unless submitted as a short communication);
• studies focusing on specific chemical constituents of plant or animal species or their products;
• studies of the operation or efficiency of agricultural or food processing machinery, or of agricultural supply chains without a substantive biological component;
• life cycle analysis (LCA) studies that are primarily descriptive unless LCA is combined with other types of methods that address interactions within agricultural systems or between those systems and their environment.

Such subjects are not considered for publication unless they clearly provide substantive and highly generalizable new insights regarding processes operating at farm or landscape levels or describe novel analytical methods applicable to a wide variety of agricultural systems.

The journal publishes original scientific papers, short communications, reviews, perspectives and comments. Review perspective articles and book reviews should only be submitted after consultation with the editors. Review papers generally should focus on the application of specific methods rather than descriptive analyses of agricultural production systems or supply chains.

"Perspective" articles are intended to provide a forum for authors to present a novel viewpoint on any topic falling within the journal's scope. The key feature of Perspectives is that they are future focused and are expected to stimulate discussions within the community. They may build on recent developments (e.g. published articles, conference highlights, or discuss the implications of new concepts and/or methodological approaches) but other topics will be considered. Perspectives are expected to be relatively short (the guideline length is 2000 words) and should include a short abstract, highlights, main text, references) and one figure summarizing the viewpoint or one table supporting the arguments. Perspectives should have an incisive title. Perspectives are primarily submitted following invitation from an Editor, but volunteered articles will be considered. Authors interested in submitting a Perspective article should seek pre-submission advice through the Agricultural Systems journal home page. All Perspective articles will be rigorously peer reviewed under a rapid review process to ensure short a duration between submission and publication.

Responses to Perspectives may be submitted as "Comment" articles. Comments will be published at the discretion of the Editors. They will be sent to the authors of Perspective articles to provide the opportunity to reply. Comments should not exceed 1000 words and their core message must be clear and directly related to the Perspective article. Comments are not intended to promote the writer's own research but to stimulate constructive comments, amplifications and discussion within the Agricultural Systems community.

**AUDIENCE**

Agriculturalists, biologists, veterinarians, economists, social scientists and those interested in management and resource use.
ABSTRACTING AND INDEXING

Current Contents - Agriculture, Biology & Environmental Sciences
AGRICOLA
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GUIDE FOR AUTHORS

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To find out more, please visit the Preparation section below.

INTRODUCTION
Agricultural Systems is an international journal that deals with interactions - among the components of agricultural systems, among hierarchical levels of agricultural systems, between agricultural and other land use systems, and between agricultural systems and their natural and social environments. In particular, its aim is to encourage integration of knowledge among those disciplines that underpin agriculture. Many contributions will therefore be multi- or inter-disciplinary. Papers generally focus on either methodological approaches to understanding and managing interactions within or among agricultural systems, or the application of holistic or quantitative systems approaches to a range of problems within agricultural systems and their interactions with other systems. Because of the nature of the readership of Agricultural Systems, the contents of papers should be easily accessible (properly introduced, presented and discussed) to readers from a wide range of disciplines.

The scope includes the development and application of systems methodology, including system modelling, simulation and optimization; ecoregional analysis of agriculture and land use; studies on natural resource issues related to agriculture; impact and scenario analyses related to topics such as GMOs, multifunctional land use and global change; and the development and application of decision and discussion support systems; approaches to analysing and improving farming systems; technology transfer in tropical and temperate agriculture; and the relationship between agricultural development issues and policy.

Types of paper
The journal publishes original scientific papers, short communications, reviews, perspectives, and comments. Reviews and perspectives should be submitted only after consultation with the Editors via the journal's home page.

Length of Papers
Although there is no absolute word or page limit for manuscripts submitted to AGSY, a recommended maximum is 8000 words for research papers, 4000 words for short communications, 2000 words for perspectives, and 1000 words for comments. Contributions longer than these recommendations may result in a request for modifications to bring the manuscript within these limits.

You can use this list to carry out a final check of your submission before you send it to the journal for review. Please check the relevant section in this Guide for Authors for more details.

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Reporting sex- and gender-based analyses
Reporting guidance
For research involving or pertaining to humans, animals or eukaryotic cells, investigators should integrate sex and gender-based analyses (SGBA) into their research design according to funder/sponsor requirements and best practices within a field. Authors should address the sex and/or gender dimensions of their research in their article. In cases where they cannot, they should discuss this as a limitation to their research's generalizability. Importantly, authors should explicitly state what definitions of sex and/or gender they are applying to enhance the precision, rigor and reproducibility of their research and to avoid ambiguity or conflation of terms and the constructs to which they refer (see Definitions section below). Authors can refer to the Sex and Gender Equity in Research (SAGER) guidelines and the SAGER guidelines checklist. These offer systematic approaches to the use and editorial review of sex and gender information in study design, data analysis, outcome reporting and research interpretation - however, please note there is no single, universally agreed-upon set of guidelines for defining sex and gender.

Definitions
Sex generally refers to a set of biological attributes that are associated with physical and physiological features (e.g., chromosomal genotype, hormonal levels, internal and external anatomy). A binary sex categorization (male/female) is usually designated at birth ("sex assigned at birth"), most often based solely on the visible external anatomy of a newborn. Gender generally refers to socially constructed
roles, behaviors, and identities of women, men and gender-diverse people that occur in a historical and cultural context and may vary across societies and over time. Gender influences how people view themselves and each other, how they behave and interact and how power is distributed in society. Sex and gender are often incorrectly portrayed as binary (female/male or woman/man) and unchanging whereas these constructs actually exist along a spectrum and include additional sex categorizations and gender identities such as people who are intersex/have differences of sex development (DSD) or identify as non-binary. Moreover, the terms "sex" and "gender" can be ambiguous—thus it is important for authors to define the manner in which they are used. In addition to this definition guidance and the SAGER guidelines, the resources on this page offer further insight around sex and gender in research studies.

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To avoid unnecessary errors you are strongly advised to use the 'spell-check' and 'grammar-check' functions of your word processor.

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Subdivision - numbered sections
Divide your article into clearly defined and numbered sections. The abstract is not included in section numbering, so the Introduction is section 1. Subsections should also be numbered (for instance 2.1 (then 2.1.1, 2.1.2, 2.2, etc.) Do not use more than three levels of numbering. Use the section numbering also for internal cross-referencing, if necessary. Any subsection should be given a brief heading. Each heading should appear on its own separate line.

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Manuscripts in general should be organized in the following manner:

- Title
- Name(s) of author(s)
- Affiliations
- Abstract [Upload as a separate file]
- Graphical abstract [Upload as a separate file]
- Key words (indexing terms), normally 3-6 items
- Highlights [Upload as a separate file]
- Introduction
- Material studied, area descriptions, methods, techniques
- Results
- Discussion
- Conclusion
- Acknowledgements and any additional information concerning research grants, etc.
- References
- Appendices
- Tables
- Figures
Essential title page information

- **Title.** Concise and informative. Titles are often used in information-retrieval systems. Avoid abbreviations and formulae where possible.

- **Author names and affiliations.** Please clearly indicate the given name(s) and family name(s) of each author and check that all names are accurately spelled. You can add your name between parentheses in your own script behind the English transliteration. Present the authors' affiliation addresses (where the actual work was done) below the names. Indicate all affiliations with a lower-case superscript letter immediately after the author's name and in front of the appropriate address. Provide the full postal address of each affiliation, including the country name and, if available, the e-mail address of each author.

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A concise and factual abstract of no more than 400 words is required. It reports concisely on the main findings of the research. To this end, the abstract is structured in five parts: 1. CONTEXT presents the background and the issues; 2. OBJECTIVE explains the objectives of the research; 3. METHODS provides a brief overview of the material and methods used; 4. RESULTS AND CONCLUSIONS presents the main results using quantitative facts whenever possible, and the interpretation of those results; 5. SIGNIFICANCE highlights the novelty of those results and their implications for science, policy and practice. An abstract is often presented separately from the article, so it must be able to stand alone. For this reason, references are not allowed. Also, non-standard or uncommon abbreviations should be avoided.

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You can refer the doc file [here](#) to know the Current Requirements for Submissions to Agricultural Systems.

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Immediately after the abstract, provide a maximum of 6 keywords, using American spelling and avoiding general and plural terms and multiple concepts (avoid, for example, 'and', 'of'). Be sparing with abbreviations: only abbreviations firmly established in the field may be eligible. These keywords will be used for indexing purposes.

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Define abbreviations that are not standard in this field in the text at first use. Ensure consistency of abbreviations throughout the article.
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Collate acknowledgements in a separate section at the end of the article just before the References section. List here those individuals who provided help during the research (e.g., providing language help, writing assistance or proof reading the article, etc.) and institutions that provided funding for the research.

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List funding sources in this standard way to facilitate compliance to funder’s requirements:

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If no funding has been provided for the research, it is recommended to include the following sentence:

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Follow internationally accepted rules and conventions: use the international system of units (SI). If other units are mentioned, please give their equivalent in SI.

Authors and Editor(s) are, by general agreement, obliged to accept the rules governing biological nomenclature, as laid down in the International Code of Botanical Nomenclature, the International Code of Nomenclature of Bacteria, and the International Code of Zoological Nomenclature.

All biotica (crops, plants, insects, birds, mammals, etc.) should be identified by their scientific names when the English term is first used, with the exception of common domestic animals.

All biocides and other organic compounds must be identified by their Geneva names when first used in the text. Active ingredients of all formulations should be likewise identified.

For chemical nomenclature, the conventions of the International Union of Pure and Applied Chemistry and the official recommendations of the IUPAC-IUB Combined Commission on Biochemical Nomenclature should be followed.

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Present simple formulae in the line of normal text where possible. In principle, variables are to be presented in italics.

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