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DESCRIPTION

The aim of the Journal is to publish and make available the highest quality international scientific contributions to aquaculture. The Journal publishes disciplinary, interdisciplinary and transdisciplinary aquaculture research. The scope of Aquaculture includes the traditional priorities of its sections, but also includes papers from non-traditional scientific areas such as sustainability science, social-ecological systems, ornamental, conservation and restoration related to aquaculture.

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Aquaculturists, Fisheries Scientists, Marine Biologists.

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GUIDE FOR AUTHORS

INTRODUCTION

Types of paper

Research Papers should report the results of original research. The material should not have been previously published elsewhere. Articles are expected to contribute new information (e.g. novel methods of analysis with added new insights and impacts) to the knowledge base in the field, not just to confirm previously published work.

Review Articles can cover either narrow disciplinary subjects or broad issues requiring interdisciplinary discussion. They should provide objective critical evaluation of a defined subject. Reviews should not consist solely of a summary of published data. Evaluation of the quality of existing data, the status of knowledge, and the research required to advance knowledge of the subject are essential.

Short Communications are used to communicate results which represent a major breakthrough or startling new discovery and which should therefore be published quickly. They should not be used for preliminary results. Papers must contain sufficient data to establish that the research has achieved reliable and significant results.

Technical Papers should present new methods and procedures for either research methodology or culture-related techniques.

The *Letters to the Editor* section is intended to provide a forum for discussion of aquacultural science emanating from material published in the journal.

Contact details for submission

Papers for consideration should be submitted via the electronic submission system mentioned below to the appropriate Section Editor:

Nutrition:

Vertebrate Nutrition: D.M. Gatlin

Invertebrate Nutrition: M.T. Viana

Larval Nutrition: Q. Ai

The Nutrition Section welcomes high quality research papers presenting novel data as well as original reviews on various aspects of aquatic animal nutrition relevant to aquaculture. Manuscripts addressing the following areas of investigation are encouraged:

- 1) determination of dietary and metabolic requirements for various nutrients by representative aquatic species. Studies may include environmental/stress effects on animal's physiological responses and requirements at different developmental stages;
- 2) evaluation of novel or established feedstuffs as well as feed processing and manufacturing procedures with digestibility and growth trials. Such studies should provide comprehensive specifications of the process or evaluated ingredients including nutrients, potential anti-nutrients, and contaminants;
- 3) comparison of nutrient bioavailability from various ingredients or product forms as well as metabolic kinetics of nutrients, food borne anti-nutrients or toxins;
- 4) identification of key components in natural diets that influence attractability, palatability, metabolism, growth reproduction and/or immunity of cultured organisms;
- 5) optimization of diet formulations and feeding practices;
- 6) characterization of the actions of hormones, cytokines and/or components in intracellular signaling pathway(s) that influence nutrient and/or energy utilization.
- 7) evaluation of diet supplementation strategies to influence animal performance, metabolism, health and/or flesh quality.

Manuscripts concerning other areas of nutrition using novel or advanced methods are also welcome. Please note that in regard to various diet additives such as probiotics, prebiotics, herbal extracts, etc., a very large number of papers have already been published. Therefore, Aquaculture will not continue to accept manuscripts that present initial and preliminary investigations of such additives. Manuscripts addressing these and other feed additives will be accepted for review only if they are of the highest scientific quality and they represent a significant advance in our knowledge of the mechanisms involved in their metabolism. Manuscripts may also be considered if they present clinical efficacy data generated in large-scale trials and economic cost-benefit analysis of these applications.

Aquaculture Production Science:

B.Costa-Pierce

The Aquaculture Production Science (PS) is dedicated to research on improvements and innovations in aquatic food production.

This section supports worldwide dissemination of the results of innovative, globally important, scientific research on production methods for aquatic foods from fish, crustaceans, mollusks, amphibians, and all types of aquatic plants. Contributions are encouraged in the following areas: 1) Improvement of production systems that results in greater efficiencies of resource usage and sustainability of aquaculture; 2) Effective applications of technologies and methods of aquaculture production for improved stocking regimes; 3) The use of new species and species assemblages; and, 4) Investigations to minimize aquaculture wastes and improve water quality, including technologies for nutrient recycling in aquaculture ecosystems, and potential synergy of aquaculture and other food production systems using methods such as polyculture and integrated aquaculture. Aspects of seafood processing and technology will not be considered in this section although aquaculture techniques that may influence the nutritional value of aquatic food products may be considered in the Nutrition section.

Physiology:

Vertebrate Physiology: A. Takemura

Invertebrate Physiology: W.A. O'Connor

The Physiology Section welcomes high quality papers that present either novel research data or original reviews. The content must be relevant to solving aquaculture problems on all aspects of the physiology of cultured aquatic animals and plants.

Submitted manuscripts must have a valid hypothesis or objective, clearly state the relevance to aquaculture, have proper experimental design with appropriate controls and utilize appropriate statistical analysis. Mention of trade names is limited to the main text.

Relevant physiological topics include, but are not limited to: Reproductive and endocrine physiology, including control of development and sex differentiation, induced ovulation and spermiation, gamete quality, storage and cryopreservation, physiology of gynogenetic, and triploid and transgenic organisms Cardiorespiratory, muscle and exercise physiology Osmoregulatory physiology Digestive physiology, including endocrine and environmental regulation of growth Larval physiology and ontogeny, including metamorphosis, smolting and molting Performance under variable culture conditions, including temperature, water quality, rearing density, and stress and disease physiology Physiology of harvest and handling techniques

Genetics:

J.A.H. Benzie

The Genetics Section welcomes high-quality research papers presenting novel data, as well as critical reviews, on various aspects of selective breeding, genetics and genomics. Submitted manuscripts must have a valid hypothesis or objective, clearly state the relevance to aquaculture, have proper experimental design with appropriate sample size and controls and utilize appropriate statistical analysis.

Relevant genetics topics include, but are not limited to: Breeding programs using classic selection procedures, markers or combining marker assisted selection with classic selection Applications of crossbreeding and interspecific hybridization Evaluation of commercially important phenotypes among cultured strains, populations or stocks Applications of biotechnology and genetic manipulation methods Development of linkage maps, identification of QTL or association of commercially important traits with specific gene(s). Where appropriate, linkage maps should include co-dominant markers, such as microsatellite DNA and SNP markers, to enable application to other populations and facilitate comparative mapping.

Aquaculture will NOT accept manuscripts dealing with the application of well-described techniques to yet another species, unless the application solves a specific biological problem important to aquaculture production; or manuscripts dealing with gene cloning, characterizing of microsatellites,

species identification using molecular markers, EST papers with small collections, or mapping papers with a small number of markers, unless the papers also deal with solving a biological problem that is relevant to aquaculture production.

Aquaculture will not accept manuscripts focusing mainly on population genetics studies that are based on RAPD and AFLP markers, since the dominance and multilocus nature of the fingerprints are not suitable for making inferences about population genetic diversity and structure.

Sustainability and Society:

D.C. Little

The Sustainability and Society section of the journal Aquaculture invites articles at the interface of natural and social sciences that address the broader roles of aquaculture in global food security and trade.

Aims and scope of the Sustainability and Society section are the: global dissemination of interdisciplinary knowledge regarding the management of aquatic resources and resulting impacts on people. Interconnections with other sectors of food production; resource management and implications for societal impact. Going beyond a narrow techno-centric focus, towards more holistic analyses of aquaculture within well-defined contexts. Enquiry based on understanding trajectories of change amid the global challenges of climate change and food security. Mixed methods and approaches that incorporate and integrate both social and natural sciences. Relevance for the diverse range of policy makers, practitioners and other stakeholders involved. Articles that take a value chain approach, rather than being wholly production orientated, are encouraged.

Disease

P. Bossier

Parasites and Parasite Control

A. Shinn

The Disease sections welcomes critical reviews and high quality articles containing novel data on all aspects concerning diseases of farmed aquatic species. The aims of the section are: description of new and emerging diseases including characterization of the causal agent(s), development in the understanding of fish pathogens for example including new methods of growth where this has been a problem for fastidious organisms, pathogenicity and epizootiology, developments in the diagnosis of disease going beyond the use of standard well used methods, and methods of disease control, notably new developments in vaccines, immunostimulants, dietary supplements, medicinal plant products, probiotics, prebiotics and genetically-disease resistant stock. Relevance to aquaculture must be demonstrated. Articles, which adapt well known methods without further refinement of those methods, are unlikely to be accepted.

Submission Checklist

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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One author has been designated as the corresponding author with contact details:

- E-mail address
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All necessary files have been uploaded:

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- All tables (including titles, description, footnotes)
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- Permission has been obtained for use of copyrighted material from other sources (including the Internet)
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- Journal policies detailed in this guide have been reviewed
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In order to facilitate the review process, please make sure your submission is prepared with:

- Double line spacing
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BEFORE YOU BEGIN

Author of papers to Aquaculture are requested to verify their experimental design. Results should always include biological replicates. These could be obtained by performing an experiment multiple times within the same time window (demonstrating repeatability) or by performing an experiment multiple times in different time windows (demonstrating reproducibility). In a typical experiment, a biological replicate in aquaculture is a tank. Individuals that were kept during the experiment in one single tank are not independent from each other and can hence not be considered as a biological replicate. Authors are also requested to consult Aquaculture Volume 437, 1 Pages 344-350 for further support on statistical processing of data.

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Please write your text in good English (American or British usage is accepted, but not a mixture of these). Authors who feel their English language manuscript may require editing to eliminate possible grammatical or spelling errors and to conform to correct scientific English may wish to use the [English Language Editing service](#) available from Elsevier's WebShop.

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Peer review

This journal operates a single blind review process. All contributions will be initially assessed by the editor for suitability for the journal. Papers deemed suitable are then typically sent to a minimum of two independent expert reviewers to assess the scientific quality of the paper. The Editor is responsible for the final decision regarding acceptance or rejection of articles. The Editor's decision is final. [More information on types of peer review.](#)

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It is important that the file be saved in the native format of the word processor used. The text should be in single-column format. Keep the layout of the text as simple as possible. Most formatting codes will be removed and replaced on processing the article. In particular, do not use the word processor's options to justify text or to hyphenate words. However, do use bold face, italics, subscripts, superscripts etc. When preparing tables, if you are using a table grid, use only one grid for each individual table and not a grid for each row. If no grid is used, use tabs, not spaces, to align columns. The electronic text should be prepared in a way very similar to that of conventional manuscripts (see also the [Guide to Publishing with Elsevier](#)). Note that source files of figures, tables and text graphics will be required whether or not you embed your figures in the text. See also the section on Electronic artwork.

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

LaTeX

You are recommended to use the Elsevier article class [elsarticle.cls](#) to prepare your manuscript and [BibTeX](#) to generate your bibliography.

Our [LaTeX site](#) has detailed submission instructions, templates and other information.

Article structure

Subdivision - numbered sections

Divide your article into clearly defined and numbered sections. Subsections should be numbered 1.1 (then 1.1.1, 1.1.2, ...), 1.2, etc. (the abstract is not included in section numbering). Use this numbering also for internal cross-referencing: do not just refer to 'the text'. Any subsection may be given a brief heading. Each heading should appear on its own separate line.

Introduction

State the objectives of the work and provide an adequate background, avoiding a detailed literature survey or a summary of the results.

Material and methods

Provide sufficient details to allow the work to be reproduced by an independent researcher. Methods that are already published should be summarized, and indicated by a reference. If quoting directly from a previously published method, use quotation marks and also cite the source. Any modifications to existing methods should also be described.

Theory/calculation

A Theory section should extend, not repeat, the background to the article already dealt with in the Introduction and lay the foundation for further work. In contrast, a Calculation section represents a practical development from a theoretical basis.

Results

Results should be clear and concise.

Discussion

This should explore the significance of the results of the work, not repeat them. A combined Results and Discussion section is often appropriate. Avoid extensive citations and discussion of published literature.

Conclusions

The main conclusions of the study may be presented in a short Conclusions section, which may stand alone or form a subsection of a Discussion or Results and Discussion section.

Appendices

If there is more than one appendix, they should be identified as A, B, etc. Formulae and equations in appendices should be given separate numbering: Eq. (A.1), Eq. (A.2), etc.; in a subsequent appendix, Eq. (B.1) and so on. Similarly for tables and figures: Table A.1; Fig. A.1, etc.

Essential title page information

- **Title.** Concise and informative. Titles are often used in information-retrieval systems. Avoid abbreviations and formulae where possible.
- **Numbering.** Manuscripts that are sequentially numbered (e.g., I, II, etc.) are no longer accepted.
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Abstract

A concise and factual abstract is required. The abstract should state briefly the purpose of the research, the principal results and major conclusions. An abstract is often presented separately from the article, so it must be able to stand alone. For this reason, References should be avoided, but if essential, then cite the author(s) and year(s). Also, non-standard or uncommon abbreviations should be avoided, but if essential they must be defined at their first mention in the abstract itself.

The abstract should be not longer than 400 words.

Keywords

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