DESCRIPTION

The International Journal of Food Microbiology publishes papers dealing with all aspects of food microbiology. Articles must present information that is novel, has high impact and interest, and is of high scientific quality. They should provide scientific or technological advancement in the specific field of interest of the journal and enhance its strong international reputation. Preliminary or confirmatory results as well as contributions not strictly related to food microbiology will not be considered for publication.

Full-length original research papers, review articles and book reviews in the fields of bacteriology, mycology, virology, parasitology, and immunology as they relate to the production, processing, service and consumption of foods and beverages are welcomed. Within this scope, topics of specific interest include: (1) incidence and types of food and beverage microorganisms, microbial interactions, microbial ecology of foods, intrinsic and extrinsic factors affecting microbial survival and growth in foods, and food spoilage; (2) microorganisms involved in food and beverage fermentations (including probiotics and starter cultures); (3) food safety, indices of the sanitary quality of foods, microbiological quality assurance, biocontrol, microbiological aspects of food preservation and novel preservation techniques, predictive microbiology and microbial risk assessment; (4) foodborne microorganisms of public health significance, and microbiological aspects of foodborne diseases of microbial origin; (5) methods for microbiological and immunological examinations of foods, as well as rapid, automated and molecular methods when validated in food systems; and (6) the biochemistry, physiology and molecular biology of microorganisms as they directly relate to food spoilage, foodborne disease and food fermentations.

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This journal also publishes special issues of selected, peer-reviewed papers from suitable meetings, workshops, conferences, etc, related to the field of food microbiology.
AUDIENCE

Industrial and food Microbiologists, Bacteriologists, Immunologists, Mycologists, Parasitologists, Virologists, Food Hygienists.

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INTRODUCTION

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- Development of methods if not validated in situ. To be suitable for publication in IJFM, new methods for the detection and/or quantification of target microorganisms must be validated in artificially and naturally contaminated foods. Such papers focusing on method development without application in the food matrix should be submitted to journals dealing with microbiological methods or applied microbiology.
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  - in the case of essential oils, spices and chemical compounds: the antimicrobial activity should be tested in real food systems to validate their efficacy, testing in vitro only would not be sufficient for publication in IJFM. Moreover a detailed chemical analysis of the natural extract should be presented with indication of which compounds are exerting the antimicrobial activity;
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- Microbiological aspects of the production of ingredients should be submitted to suitable biotechnology journals. However, papers that consider the use of microorganisms to enhance the level of specific vitamins, amino acids, flavours, colours, polysaccharides etc in foods/beverages will be considered by IJFM.
- Papers where the microbiology is only focused on primary production, without a clear connection to quality and safety of foods, should be sent to journals related to primary production.
- Microbiology specifically related to human health without a clear focus on its relation to foods/beverages should be submitted to medical journals or similar.
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- "prediction and validation" should only be used if prediction and validation are really carried out with new independent data;
- for papers on modelling, parameter values should always be presented also with a measure of their confidence (confidence interval, standard error).
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