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ISSN: 0889-1575

### DESCRIPTION

The *Journal of Food Composition and Analysis* publishes manuscripts on scientific aspects of **data** on the **chemical composition of human foods**, with particular emphasis on actual data on composition of foods; **analytical methods**; studies on the manipulation, storage, distribution and use of food composition data; and studies on the **statistics**, use and distribution of such data and data systems. The Journal's basis is nutrient composition, with increasing emphasis on **bioactive non-nutrient** and **anti-nutrient** components. Papers must provide sufficient description of the food samples, analytical methods, quality control procedures and statistical treatments of the data to permit the end users of the food composition data to evaluate the appropriateness of such data in their projects.

The Journal does not publish papers on: microbiological compounds; sensory quality; aromatics/volatiles in food and wine; essential oils; organoleptic characteristics of food; physical properties; or clinical papers and pharmacology-related papers.

Features:

- Original research
- Short communications
- Critical reviews
- Study reviews
- Commentaries

Research Areas Include:

- New and rapid methods of analyses
- Nutrient, bioactive non-nutrient and anti-nutrient data
- Data on wild and under-utilized foods, including intra-varietal differences
- Computer technology and information systems theory directly relating to food composition database development, management, and utilization
- Processes of development and selection of single-value entries for food composition tables
- Quality control procedures and standard reference materials for use in the assay of food components
- Statistical and mathematical manipulations involved with the preparation and utilization of food composition data

Database coverage includes [AGORA](#), [AGRICOLA](#), [Biological Abstracts](#), [CAB ABSTRACTS](#), [CAB HEALTH](#), [Current Contents](#), [Dairy Science Abstracts](#), [Food Science and Technology Abstracts](#), [Foodline \(R\): Food](#)

Science and Technology, Nutrition Abstracts and Reviews, ScienceDirect, Scopus, and Vitis Viticulture and Enology Abstracts.

## IMPACT FACTOR

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## ABSTRACTING AND INDEXING

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AGRICOLA  
CAB Health  
Current Contents  
Dairy Science Abstracts  
FSTA (Food Science and Technology Abstracts)  
Nutrition Abstracts  
Biological Abstracts  
CAB Abstracts  
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## GUIDE FOR AUTHORS

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### INTRODUCTION

The *Journal of Food Composition and Analysis* publishes manuscripts on scientific aspects of data on the chemical composition of human foods, with particular emphasis on actual data on composition of foods; analytical methods; studies on the manipulation, storage, distribution and use of food composition data; and studies on the statistics, use and distribution of such data and data systems. The Journal's basis is nutrient composition, with increasing emphasis on bioactive non-nutrient and anti-nutrient components. Papers must provide sufficient description of the food samples, analytical methods, quality control procedures and statistical treatments of the data to permit the end users of the food composition data to evaluate the appropriateness of such data in their projects.

The Journal does not publish papers on:

- microbiological compounds;
- sensory quality;
- aromatics/volatiles in food and wine;
- essential oils;
- organoleptic characteristics of food;
- physical properties; or
- clinical papers or pharmacology-related papers.

Research may be published as Original Research Articles, Short Communications, Critical Reviews, Study Reviews, Reports or Commentaries, according to subject matter and presentation. Editor assignment will be made by the Managing Editor, but author guidance is appreciated. Only original papers will be considered. Manuscripts are submitted for review with the understanding that the same work has not been copyrighted, published, or submitted for publication elsewhere.

### Types of paper

The following types of papers are published:

- **Original Research Articles** are complete reports of original, scientifically sound research. They must contribute new knowledge and be organized as described in this Guide. Please follow carefully the organization of the sections described in Article Structure (see below).
- **Short Communications** are brief reports of scientifically sound research, but of limited scope (for example, limited number of samples analysed), that contribute new knowledge. They may be preliminary reports of new findings, in which case the author is expected to publish complete findings later in an article.
- **Reviews** are papers which provide an analysis of a scientific or applied field, which include all important findings and bring together reports from a number of sources. There are two categories of reviews:

*Critical reviews* provide a comprehensive, extensive review of a topic and a thorough referencing of the relevant literature. *Study reviews* provide an analysis of a selected number of published or unpublished studies.

Review articles may be invited by the Editor or the Editorial Board. Alternatively, potential authors considering the preparation of a Review article should contact the Editor to suggest the topic and its scope, providing an outline in the form of major headings and a summary statement. In any case, such articles are subject to the normal processes of peer review and revision.

- **Reports** are papers presenting the results of an expert consultation, or a scientific or regional committee, in the field of food composition and analysis.
- **Commentaries** are opinion pieces, focused on some scientific or applied aspect of food composition. They are informative, and may link diverse disciplines or address difficult implications or issues. Controversial commentaries are acceptable, as are ones expressing contrasting opinions. In most cases, these will be invited, but suggestions and unsolicited submissions will be considered by the Editor.

• **Symposium Papers** are special situations when a group of papers from a scientific meeting may be published together in a regular issue of the *Journal of Food Composition and Analysis*. In addition, there are scientifically specialized conferences and symposia on food composition, of two to three days duration, that may be published as a special issue or supplement. In all cases, the material must be original research or up-to-the minute reviews, of high quality and importance to the food composition community. To obtain approval, the convenor of the meeting, symposium or conference should contact the Editor outlining the symposium scope and the papers to be considered, with abstracts if available. On receipt of this information, the Editor will determine suitability of the material for a focused regular issue or special supplement. All manuscripts will be reviewed according to the Journal's standard review procedure.

#### *Review Process*

A peer review system is used to ensure high quality of manuscripts accepted for publication. The Editor-in-Chief and Editors have the right to decline formal review of the manuscript when it is deemed that the manuscript is 1) on a topic outside the scope of the Journal, 2) lacking technical merit, 3) fragmentary and provides marginally incremental results, 4) is poorly written or 5) is not innovative, or closely duplicates research previously published by the author. Manuscripts which meet the journal's criteria for scope, relevance and scientific quality will be sent for peer review to at least two qualified reviewers, assigned by the Editor. The review will be conducted against established criteria to determine technical quality. Reviewers each submit a recommendation regarding the merit of the manuscript, but the Editor provides the final decision on acceptance of the paper for publication.

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All manuscripts for *Journal of Food Composition and Analysis* should be submitted online via the Elsevier Editorial System ( <http://ees.elsevier.com/jfca> ).

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

- E-mail address
- Full postal address

All necessary files have been uploaded:

##### *Manuscript:*

- Include keywords
- All figures (include relevant captions)
- All tables (including titles, description, footnotes)
- Ensure all figure and table citations in the text match the files provided
- Indicate clearly if color should be used for any figures in print

*Graphical Abstracts / Highlights files* (where applicable)

*Supplemental files* (where applicable)

Further considerations

- Manuscript has been 'spell checked' and 'grammar checked'
- All references mentioned in the Reference List are cited in the text, and vice versa
- Permission has been obtained for use of copyrighted material from other sources (including the Internet)
- Relevant declarations of interest have been made
- Journal policies detailed in this guide have been reviewed
- Referee suggestions and contact details provided, based on journal requirements

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#### **BEFORE YOU BEGIN**

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Authors must provide and use an email address unique to themselves and not shared with another author registered in EES, or a department.

## **PREPARATION**

### *Use of word processing software*

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.

When preparing your manuscript, set 2-2.5 cm margins throughout the document, double space the text and use a 12 pt font, preferably Times Roman. Activate continuous line numbering throughout the manuscript so that line numbers appear in the left-hand margin. Pages must be numbered.

### *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 detail to allow the work to be reproduced. Methods already published should be indicated by a reference: only relevant modifications should be described.

Under Materials and Methods, describe and cite where applicable sampling protocols, sample handling/preparation, and all experimental conditions and procedures (including quality control/quality assurance procedures), with sufficient clarity to permit qualified researchers to repeat the work. This section must include the number/size of samples collected, prepared and extracted, as well as number of analytical replicates per sample; and the statistical procedures/programs used to assess the work should be cited. A minimum of three individual samples must be analysed for each reported mean value, along with some indication of variability. When only one or two samples have



been analysed, notwithstanding the number of replicates, authors should present the normal precision of their assays and then report the mean (without a standard deviation). Data must be reported to the appropriate number of significant digits for that precision and instrumental sensitivity.

### *Results*

Results should be clear and concise.

Actual analytical data should be reported. For example, report nitrogen in addition to a calculated protein value, or define the nitrogen to protein ratio clearly under Materials and Methods and thereafter use protein. All factors used in calculations (e.g. energy), and all components used in aggregations (e.g. retinol equivalents), should be specified. Carbohydrate reported as "Total carbohydrate by difference" is not acceptable in Results or in tables; however, it may be used in discussions. Use of "crude fibre" is discouraged.

### *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.

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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 (200 words maximum) must briefly summarize major findings and conclusions. Do not use statements such as "Results are discussed". Many abstracting services use abstracts without modification, so this section should be able to stand alone and be comprehensible without the rest of the paper (do not refer to items in the reference list which will not accompany the abstract in some instances).**

### *Highlights*

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A minimum of 6-10 keywords must be listed. Authors should bear in mind that keywords allow the article to be found by Internet database search engines and considerably increase article citations when they are as numerous and comprehensive as possible.

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You can enrich your article by providing a list of chemical compounds studied in the article. The list of compounds will be used to extract relevant information from the NCBI PubChem Compound database and display it next to the online version of the article on ScienceDirect. You can include up to 10 names of chemical compounds in the article. For each compound, please provide the [PubChem CID](#) of the most relevant record as in the following example: Glutamic acid (PubChem CID:611). Please position the list of compounds immediately below the 'Keywords' section. It is strongly recommended to follow the exact text formatting as in the example below:

Chemical compounds studied in this article

Ethylene glycol (PubChem CID: 174); Plitidepsin (PubChem CID: 44152164); Benzalkonium chloride (PubChem CID: 15865)

[More information.](#)

### *Abbreviations*

Define abbreviations that are not standard in this field in a footnote to be placed on the first page of the article. Such abbreviations that are unavoidable in the abstract must be defined at their first mention there, as well as in the footnote. Ensure consistency of abbreviations throughout the article.

### *Acknowledgements*

Collate acknowledgements in a separate section at the end of the article before the references and do not, therefore, include them on the title page, as a footnote to the title or otherwise. List here those individuals who provided help during the research (e.g., providing language help, writing assistance or proof reading the article, etc.).

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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, please include the following sentence:

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The decimal point, not the decimal comma, should be used when reporting numeric data in tables and text. Insert a zero in front of a decimal point when it applies. For instance, instead of .36 use 0.36. All numeric data must be presented to an appropriate number of significant digits (for a discussion of significant digits in food composition data, see Greenfield, H. and Southgate, D.A.T., 2003, Food composition data: Production, Management and Use, 2nd ed., FAO, Rome; in particular ch. 9 (pp. 163-170), and Table 9.1. Download at [http://www.fao.org/infoods/publications\\_en.stm](http://www.fao.org/infoods/publications_en.stm).

The International System of Units (SI, Systeme International d' Unites) or the SI-derived system should be used in reporting units of measurement, including dates in the format of year-month-day. If other units are mentioned, please give their equivalent in SI. Energy should be given as kJ or MJ (equivalent kcal or Mcal may be given in parentheses). The Centigrade scale (C° ) may be used for temperature.

### *Math formulae*

Please submit math equations as editable text and not as images. Present simple formulae in line with normal text where possible and use the solidus (/) instead of a horizontal line for small fractional terms, e.g., X/Y. In principle, variables are to be presented in italics. Powers of e are often more conveniently denoted by exp. Number consecutively any equations that have to be displayed separately from the text (if referred to explicitly in the text).

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Footnotes should be used sparingly. Number them consecutively throughout the article. Many word processors can build footnotes into the text, and this feature may be used. Otherwise, please indicate the position of footnotes in the text and list the footnotes themselves separately at the end of the article. Do not include footnotes in the Reference list.

## **Artwork**

### *Electronic artwork*

#### *General points*

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- Embed the used fonts if the application provides that option.
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- Number the illustrations according to their sequence in the text.
- Use a logical naming convention for your artwork files.
- Provide captions to illustrations separately.
- Size the illustrations close to the desired dimensions of the published version.
- Submit each illustration as a separate file.

A detailed [guide on electronic artwork](#) is available.

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