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DESCRIPTION

The Journal of Food Composition and Analysis publishes manuscripts on the chemical composition of human foods, analytical methods, food composition data and studies on the statistics, use and distribution of such data.

Research areas include:

- New methods for the chemical analysis of food
- Nutrient, bioactive non-nutrient and anti-nutrient components in food
- Flavour and taste components in food.
- Food composition database development, management, and utilization
- Processes of development and selection of single-value entries for food composition tables

The Journal does not consider papers that feature as the major area of study:

- Non-specific assays, such as in-vitro antioxidant capacity and total phenolic content
- Clinical and pharmacological studies
- Natural medicines
- Physical properties of foods
- Food waste materials
- Foods formulated in the laboratory
- Microbiological and anti-microbial assays
- Sensory quality and organoleptic characteristics of foods

IMPACT FACTOR

2022: 4.300 © Clarivate Analytics Journal Citation Reports 2023
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Scopus
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CAB International
CAB Health
Current Contents
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AGORA
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Food composition, exposure assessment
Weizheng Sun, South China University of Technology School of Food Science and Engineering, Guangzhou, China
Food proteins; Peptide; Functional properties; Digestive behaviours; Sensors, Digestive behaviours, Food protein, Protein oxidation, Sensor, Peptide, Food flavour
Thea Zimmerman, Westat Inc, Rockville, Maryland, United States of America
Nutrient databases, dietary intake
GUIDE FOR AUTHORS

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 assays;
• Sensory quality and organoleptic characteristics of food;
• Physical properties;
• Clinical papers and pharmacology-related papers;
• Natural medicines;
• Food waste materials;
• Foods formulated in the laboratory;
• Data based on in-vitro antioxidant capacity measurements.

The Journal of Food Composition and Analysis is no longer considering papers that include data based on in-vitro antioxidant capacity measurements. Each method measures a different aspect of the sample chemistry; all are non-specific and subject to numerous inferences. More importantly, an antioxidant value cannot be related to a specific nutritional or health outcome. This policy also applies to total phenolic content and similar assays that are equally non-specific and subject to interferences. Papers where all or most of the identifications are tentative will not be considered. Identifications should be confirmed with reference compounds where commercially available.

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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.

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**Contact details for submission**
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**Submission checklist**

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BEFORE YOU BEGIN

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Reporting sex- and gender-based analyses
Reporting guidance
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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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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.
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State the objectives of the work and provide an adequate background, avoiding a detailed literature survey or a summary of the results.

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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 analyses must be performed for each reported mean value, along with some indication of variability. 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.

A minimum of three analyses must be performed for each reported mean value, along with some indication of variability.

**Discussion**
This should explore the significance of the results of the work, not repeat them. A combined Results and Discussion section is often appropriate.

**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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Highlights are mandatory for this journal as they help increase the discoverability of your article via search engines. They consist of a short collection of bullet points that capture the novel results of your research as well as new methods that were used during the study (if any). Please have a look at the example Highlights.

Highlights should be submitted in a separate editable file in the online submission system. Please use 'Highlights' in the file name and include 3 to 5 bullet points (maximum 85 characters, including spaces, per bullet point).

**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).

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**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**
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