



# SMALL RUMINANT RESEARCH

Official Journal of the [International Goat Association](#)

## AUTHOR INFORMATION PACK

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### DESCRIPTION

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*Small Ruminant Research* publishes original, basic and applied research articles, technical notes, and review articles on research relating to **goats, sheep, deer**, the **New World camelids llama, alpaca, vicuna** and **guanaco**, and the **Old World camels**.

Topics covered include nutrition, physiology, anatomy, genetics, microbiology, ethology, product technology, socio-economics, management, sustainability and environment, veterinary medicine and husbandry engineering.

### AUDIENCE

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Research Scientists working on sheep, goats, deer and other small ruminants.

### IMPACT FACTOR

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2019: 1.273 © Clarivate Analytics Journal Citation Reports 2020

### ABSTRACTING AND INDEXING

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Biological Abstracts  
Nutrition Abstracts and Reviews Series B  
Animal Breeding Abstracts  
Index Veterinarius  
Veterinary Bulletin  
Scopus  
Current Contents - Agriculture, Biology & Environmental Sciences

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## GUIDE FOR AUTHORS

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*Novelty*: Novelty and relevance to an international readership will determine if a manuscript has merit to be published in *Small Ruminant Research*.

### *Types of article*

1. Original Research Papers (Regular Papers)
2. Review Articles
3. Short Communication
4. Technical Notes
5. Short Technical Notes
6. Book Reviews

*Original Research Papers* should report the results of original research. The material should not have been previously published elsewhere, except in a preliminary form.

*Review Articles* should cover subjects falling within the scope of the journal which are of active current interest. Reviews will often be invited, but submitted reviews will also be considered for publication. All reviews will be subject to the same peer review process as applies for original papers.

A *Short Communication* is a concise but complete description of a limited investigation, which will not be included in a later paper. Submission of short communications is not encouraged. Short Communications may result from a request to condense a regular paper, during the peer review process. Results and Discussion are merged. Short Communications should not exceed 2,000 words, including figures, tables and references. The number of tables and figures should not exceed four.

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*Short Technical Notes* of approximately 500 words can be submitted by geneticists to report the existence of genes and mutations found in small ruminants.

*Book Reviews* will be included in the journal on a range of relevant books which are not more than 2 years old. Book reviews will be solicited. Unsolicited reviews will not usually be accepted, but suggestions for appropriate books for review may be sent to the Editor-in-Chief.

What is publishable: Papers on polymorphism studies will be considered only if they contain significant new information and have direct relevance to those species described in the aims and scope of this journal. Submissions on studies involving single-nucleotide polymorphism (SNP) only, without linking them strongly and experimentally to production traits, are not encouraged. Manuscripts with quantitative RT-PCR without multiple normalizer gene products will be declined at preliminary review. Geneticists can submit Short Technical Notes of approximately 500 words, which will include the name of the gene, the location of the mutation (the sequence has to be deposited), the description of the population (breed, location, significant characters), possibly the allele frequency, even in small population, and some additional relevant information, with no need to demonstrate significant association with phenotypic traits or discussion. Accumulation of such information may lead to design comprehensive association studies in sheep and goats.

Papers on the use of feeds in nutrition are publishable only if these feeds have more than local importance, which should be detailed in the introduction. In many studies of nutrition, the effect on animal performance of substituting a feed with another is investigated and the hypothesis is that no effect is anticipated. We recommend a power analysis to determine sample size before planning the study. If authors want to report that they have discovered no difference they should add confidence limits to the difference between the sample means: if the sample size is indeed too small, these limits will usually be too broad to be informative. If the authors' aim is to show no effect, then the usual rule for bioequivalence is that the 90%CI for the ratio between the two means needs to lie between 0.8 and 1.25.

Authors need to clearly state the experimental unit and degrees of freedom for the error term. With nutrition papers involving feeding animals in paddocks or pens with more than one animal, it is the number of paddocks or pens which determines the experimental units, not the number of animals in total, unless it is demonstrated that each animal takes independent foraging decisions.

Manuscripts that deal with the effects of plant secondary metabolites (PSMs) or plant extracts using in-vitro methods only are not published, unless if associated to a large-scale, long-term in vivo study. In studies with PSMs or plant extracts, advanced chemical analysis of the extracts should be documented. In vitro studies of the nutritional value of feeds are not in our scope unless they provide a background for in vivo studies in the same manuscript. Studies of the quality of semen, oocytes, embryos, following exposure to various materials (plant extracts, anti-oxidants, fatty acids and diluents) will be considered only if they are associated with in vivo evidence.

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For products, we will consider studies on carcasses but not on the further processing of meat products for human food. Studies on the textile processing of fibres are also excluded. We will evaluate studies with milk as a whole entity, in the frame of a well-defined production system, and not as a generic commodity. Studies on the manufacture of "milk products" as mixtures of milk components or fractionated milk with non-milk ingredients will not be considered for publication.

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- All tables (including titles, description, footnotes)
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Unnecessary cruelty in animal experimentation is not acceptable to the Editors of *Small Ruminant Research*.

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- Material studied, area descriptions, methods, techniques
- Results
- Discussion
- Conclusion
- Acknowledgment and any additional information concerning research grants, etc.
- References

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Equations should be numbered serially at the right-hand side in parentheses. In general only equations explicitly referred to in the text need be numbered.

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Levels of statistical significance which can be mentioned without further explanation are \*P<0.05, \*\*P<0.01 and \*\*\*P<0.001.

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Citations may be made directly (or parenthetically). Groups of references can be listed either first alphabetically, then chronologically, or vice versa.

Examples: 'as demonstrated (Allan, 2000a, 2000b, 1999; Allan and Jones, 1999).... Or, as demonstrated (Jones, 1999; Allan, 2000)... Kramer et al. (2010) have recently shown ...'

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*Examples:*

Reference to a journal publication:

Van der Geer, J., Hanraads, J.A.J., Lupton, R.A., 2010. The art of writing a scientific article. *J. Sci. Commun.* 163, 51–59. <https://doi.org/10.1016/j.Sc.2010.00372>.

Reference to a journal publication with an article number:

Van der Geer, J., Hanraads, J.A.J., Lupton, R.A., 2018. The art of writing a scientific article. *Heliyon.* 19, e00205. <https://doi.org/10.1016/j.heliyon.2018.e00205>.

Reference to a book:

Strunk Jr., W., White, E.B., 2000. *The Elements of Style*, fourth ed. Longman, New York.

Reference to a chapter in an edited book:

Mettam, G.R., Adams, L.B., 2009. How to prepare an electronic version of your article, in: Jones, B.S., Smith, R.Z. (Eds.), *Introduction to the Electronic Age*. E-Publishing Inc., New York, pp. 281–304.

Reference to a website:

Cancer Research UK, 1975. Cancer statistics reports for the UK. <http://www.cancerresearchuk.org/aboutcancer/statistics/cancerstatsreport/> (accessed 13 March 2003).

Reference to a dataset:

[dataset] Oguro, M., Imahiro, S., Saito, S., Nakashizuka, T., 2015. Mortality data for Japanese oak wilt disease and surrounding forest compositions. *Mendeley Data*, v1. <https://doi.org/10.17632/xwj98nb39r.1>.

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