

# AUSTRALASIAN PLANT PATHOLOGY (AUPP)

## Instructions for Authors

### Scope

*Australasian Plant Pathology* is an international journal publishing original research in all aspects relating to plant pathogens.

### Types of Articles Published

#### Research Papers

*Australasian Plant Pathology* welcomes the submission of research papers describing significant high quality research in plant pathology. Research papers should not exceed 20 pages of printed text including Tables, Figures and References (1 page of printed text is approx 600 words).

#### Research Notes

Research Notes are for publication of results that although they are insufficient to form a full paper are nonetheless deserving of publication. For example, descriptions of new methods, molecular data useful for typing pathogens short descriptions of genes isolated from pathogens and pest organisms, or of plant genes with a putative function in plant-pathogen interactions. Research Notes should contain firm data and will be refereed. Research Notes are not divided into sections as are research articles, the only heading is for the Abstract. Leave a blank line between the Abstract and the rest of the text. The rest of the text is merged into one continuous section. Research Notes should not exceed four pages of printed text including the Abstract (1 page of printed text is approx 600 words). They would usually contain one Table or Figure. However supplementary information can be provided on the web.

#### Reviews

Reviews should summarise the present knowledge in a certain field and should be focused around an attractive question of research rather than simply being a repository of all studies in a field. The most important criteria are that reviews are of interest to a wider audience and/or make a wide audience aware of novel and interesting aspects. Reviews should not be longer than ten pages of printed text; one page of printed text = approximately 600 words). Authors interested in writing a review are encouraged to discuss their ideas with the Editor-in-Chief before commencing to write the review.

#### Obituaries

Obituaries to commemorate prominent plant pathologists who have passed away are published in the journal. They should be written by a colleague who has been closely associated with the deceased and is familiar with their work. The obituary should highlight their contribution to plant pathology. Obituaries should not be longer than two printed pages and may contain a photograph.

## Disease Notes

First records of a disease, or notes on changes in the geographical distribution of diseases are referred to our companion online journal **Australasian Plant Disease Notes** for publication.

<http://www.springer.com/life+sciences/plant+sciences/journal/13314>

## Emerging Plant Pathogens

In many countries it is a requirement for information about emerging plant pathogens, to be reported to government or local authorities before publication. It is the responsibility of the author to comply with such requirements.

## Language and Language Services

Manuscripts should be written in English. The use of American English is not encouraged, but it will not however lead to rejection of a manuscript.

Poor language often obscures understanding of the science and leads to adverse reviews and can result in rejection of the manuscript. Where the language of a manuscript is not of a standard to enable peer review, the authors will be strongly advised to use an Editorial Service to bring it to an acceptable standard. Failure to do this may lead to rejection of the manuscript.

The following editing service provides language editing for scientific articles in medicine, biomedical and life sciences, chemistry, physics, engineering, business/economics, and humanities. Please contact:

EDANZ EDITING

- <http://www.edanzediting.com/springer>
- [中国作者请访问此处](#)
- [日本の著者の皆さまはこちら](#)

Using an editing service is neither a requirement nor a guarantee of acceptance for publication. Edanz will charge authors directly for these language polishing services.

## Manuscript Submission

*Australasian Plant Pathology* only accepts articles in English, based upon original, non-previously published data, regardless if the data were previously published in a language other than English.

Submission of a manuscript implies: that the work described has not been published before; that it is not under consideration for publication anywhere else; that its publication has been approved by all co-authors, if any, as well as by the responsible authorities – tacitly or explicitly – at the institute where the work has been carried out. The society and publisher will not be held legally responsible should there be any claims for compensation.

## Permissions

Author(s) wishing to include figures, tables, or text passages that have already been published elsewhere are required to obtain permission from the copyright owner(s) for

both the print and online format and to include evidence that such permission has been granted when submitting their papers. Any material received without such evidence will be assumed to originate from the author(s).

### **Online Submission**

Authors must submit their manuscripts online through the journal website. Please follow the hyperlink "Submit online" on the right and upload all of your manuscript files following the instructions given on the screen.

Note that PDF files cannot be used for publication, Microsoft word files are required. Upload your manuscript as a single word file Tables and Figures should be added after the bibliography (see the section on Tables and Figures).

### **Reviewers**

During the submission process you are required to nominate four reviewers who are able to review your manuscript. Reviewers should be internationally recognised researchers in the subject area and must be in a different institution or country. Note that the editor retains the sole right to decide whether or not the suggested reviewers are used. In the event that the editor considers your suggested reviewers to be inappropriate you may be asked to suggest additional reviewers. This may delay the review process. Alternatively the editor may decide to select reviewers for your paper. Authors can also request that certain individuals should not review the manuscript.

## **Preparing the Manuscript**

### **Structure of the manuscript**

Research Papers are divided into the following sections:

1. Abstract
2. Additional Keywords
3. Introduction
4. Materials and Methods
5. Results
6. Discussion (the results and Discussion must be separate sections. Manuscript with combined Results and Discussion will not be accepted.)
7. Acknowledgment
8. References.

### ***Title page***

- Title informative and not more than 30 words
- Authors listed with first names as initials only (preceding the name)
- Addresses at which the work was carried out follow the names
- Author for correspondence indicated by an asterisk with an e-mail address provided (one author only)
- Short title of no more than 60 characters (including spaces) at the top of the page
- Key words - provide up to 6

### ***Abstract***

- Indicate why and how the work was done, the result and conclusions

- 250 words or less
- Abstracts should not be unnecessarily descriptive and must, where appropriate, contain quantitative data.
- They should not contain abbreviations or reference citations.

### *Introduction*

- Describe, succinctly, the current state of work in the relevant field
- Describe the reasons for carrying out the experiments
- Give a clear statement of the objectives and hypotheses being tested.
- The Introduction should emphasise the significance of the work and make a case as to why it should be published.

### *Materials and methods*

- Sufficient information must be given in this section to allow the reader to understand the experimental design and statistical methods used in the data analysis. All experiments should have adequate replication and, should have been repeated for confirmation.
- Where methods used have been described in a previous publication simply cite the publication rather than reproducing the description of the method.
- Système International (SI) units are preferred. Others should be related to SI units at the first mention.
- Commercial equipment and products used in experiments should name the product and company location.
- State the methods used e.g. analysis of variance (ANOVA), or mixed models and ensure that the analysis method chosen is appropriate for the data. Data tables presenting, for example, mean values should include the appropriate standard errors (SE) and degrees of freedom (DF) relevant to the SE. Where comparisons are made between data values care should be taken to ensure that the SE values quoted are suitable for the comparisons. Indiscriminate use of multiple range tests should be avoided.
- Molecular marker data need to be properly replicated using appropriate positive and negative controls and provide an assessment of error rates based on independent DNA extractions.

### *Results*

- The data presentation should follow a logical flow starting with a short description of the incentive of the experiment, followed by a description of the results. Do not repeat information on the experimental details; those belong to Materials and Methods. Describe the data, but interpretations and conclusions should be given in the Discussion. Papers with combined Results and Discussion sections will not be accepted.
- Make use of tables and figures where necessary and without duplication.
- Data should be presented as Figures or Tables but not both.

### *Discussion*

- Focus on the work presented and its relationship with other relevant published work
- It should not digress widely into general discussion of a research area, or into excessive speculation,.

### *Acknowledgements*

- All sources of funding should be listed (see Conflict of Interest below).

- Colleagues who contributed through helpful discussion, or review of the paper should also be acknowledged.

## General Style for all manuscripts

1. Typed with double spacing throughout.
2. Typescript should be font Times 12 point size.
3. Continuous line numbers must be used throughout.
4. Pages to be numbered consecutively including those carrying Tables and Figure Captions.
5. There must be a 3 cm margin on the left hand side of each page.
6. Author(s) names to be listed under the title.
7. Institutional affiliations and addresses for each author to be listed beneath the author list.
8. Corresponding authors name and email address listed before the abstract.
9. Abstract limited to 250 words.
10. Additional keywords useful for index retrieval listed following the abstract.
11. Tables follow the literature cited section
12. Each Table to be on a separate page.
13. Figures can be presented following the Tables
14. Each Figure to be on a separate page with the caption below the figure.
15. Figures and Tables are to be presented in the same order in which they are mentioned in the text.

## Headings

Section Headings should be in bold roman type. Subheadings should be roman type plain font. Level 3 headings should be in light italic type. Please use no more than three levels of displayed headings.

## Enzyme nomenclature

Enzyme names should conform to the Recommendations of the Nomenclature Committee of the IUB on the Nomenclature and Classification of Enzymes as published in *Enzyme Nomenclature 1984* (Academic Press Inc.: New York, 1984). If there is good reason to use a name other than the recommended name, at the first mention of the alternative name in the text it should be identified by the recommended name and EC number. The Editor-in-Chief should be advised of the reason for using the alternative name.

## Chemical Nomenclature

The nomenclature of compounds such as amino acids, carbohydrates, lipids, steroids, vitamins etc. should follow the recommendations of the IUPAC–IUB Commission on Biochemical Nomenclature. Other biologically active compounds, such as metabolic inhibitors, plant growth regulators, buffers etc. should be referred to once by their correct chemical name (which is in accordance with IUPAC Rules of Chemical Nomenclature) and then by their most widely accepted common name. For pesticides, the latest issue of *Pesticides–Synonyms and Chemical Names* (Australian Government Publishing Service) should be followed. Where there is no common name, trade names or letter, abbreviations of the chemical may be used.

## Virus Nomenclature

In formal taxonomic usage, the first letters of virus order, family, subfamily, genus and species names are capitalised and the terms are printed in italics. Other words in the species name are not capitalised unless they are proper nouns, or parts of proper nouns (e.g. Tobacco mosaic virus, East African cassava mosaic virus). It should be stressed that italics and capital letters need to be used only if the species name refers to a taxonomic category, and not a physical entity such as a virion or coat protein (e.g. tobacco mosaic virus virions were observed under the electron microscope). Tentative species that have not been officially assigned to a virus genus should also not be italicised, although the initial letter should be capitalised. See Mayo MA, Horzinek MC (1998) A revised version of the international code of virus classification and nomenclature. *Archives of Virology* **143**, 1645–1654. Standard abbreviations for virus names are provided by Fauquet MC, Mayo MA (1999) Abbreviations for plant virus names–1999. *Archives of Virology* **144**, 1249–1273.

## Citations

In the text, references should be cited by author and date (Harvard system). Where there are three or more authors use the following styles

“Has been shown to be less significant (Chuang et al. 2003).” or

“Fan et al. (2009) reported that this plasmid was responsible for pathogenicity.”

Where there are only two authors use

“based on a previously published method (Buell and Somerville 1997) or

Buell and Somerville (1997) developed a method for---.

Where multiple citations are made in the text they should be arranged by year (Ciereszko et al. 2001; Ciereszko et al. 2005; Ciereszko and Kleczkowski 2005). No editorial responsibility can be taken for the accuracy of the references. Authors are requested to check these with special care.

## References

The bibliography of all authors cited in the text should come at the end of the text. Only sources that are commonly available through libraries should be cited. Citations in the bibliography should be arranged alphabetically by the first author. Where multiple works by the same first author are cited they should be arranged by year. –Titles must be included for all references and the full title of journals must be given. Papers that have not been accepted for publication cannot be included in the list of references and should be cited as ‘unpublished data’ or ‘personal communication’. Where the doi (digital object identifier) number is available it comes after the page numbers.

Buell CR, Somerville SC (1997) Use of Arabidopsis recombinant inbred lines reveals a monogenic and a novel digenic resistance mechanism to *Xanthomonas campestris* pv *campestris*. *The Plant Journal* 12:21-29. doi:10.1007/s001090000086

Chuang H, Hsieh T, Duval M, Thomas TL (2003) Genomic analysis of Arabidopsis gene expression in response to a systemic fungicide. In: Prade RA, Bonhert HJ (eds) *Genomics of Plants and Fungi: Mycology*, vol 18. Marcel Dekker, New York, pp 237-253

Ciereszko I, Johansson H, Hurry V, Kleczkowski LA (2001) Phosphate status affects the gene expression, protein content and enzymatic activity of UDP-glucose

pyrophosphorylase in wild-type and *pho* mutants of Arabidopsis. *Planta* 212:598-605

Cierieszko I, Johansson H, Kleczkowski LA (2005) Interactive effects of phosphate deficiency, sucrose and light/dark conditions on gene expression of UDP-glucose pyrophosphorylase in Arabidopsis. *Journal of Plant Physiology* 162:343-353

Cierieszko I, Kleczkowski LA (2005) Expression of several genes involved in sucrose/starch metabolism as affected by different strategies to induce phosphate deficiency in Arabidopsis. *Acta Physiologiae Plantarum* 27:147-155

Fan J, Hill L, Crooks C, Doerner P, Lamb C (2009) Abscisic Acid Has a Key Role in Modulating Diverse Plant-Pathogen Interactions. *Plant Physiology* 150:1750-1761

When citing unpublished work, or work in preparation you must obtain the written permission of the originator of the work. This should be submitted with the manuscript.

### Citing Websites

The style for websites in the bibliography is; Author(s) (Year) Title of Article. Title of Internet Page. URL. Date webpage was accessed.

COPE (2011) Principles of Transparency and Best Practice in Scholarly Publishing. Committee on Publication Ethics. <http://publicationethics.org/resources/guidelines-new/principles-transparency-and-best-practice-scholarly-publishing> (Accessed 8/11/2013).

### Citing Books or Book Chapters

South J, Blass B (2001) *The future of modern genomics*. Blackwell, London

Brown B, Aaron M (2001) *The politics of nature*. In: Smith J (ed) *The rise of modern genomics*, 3rd edn. Wiley, New York, pp 230-257

### Dissertation

Trent JW (1975) *Experimental acute renal failure*. Dissertation, University of California

Authors are referred to the latest issue of the journal for the style used in citing references. Authors are encouraged to use Endnote or RefMan to create their bibliographies, and in text citations.

If information used in text can be found online but is not from an established publication, it should be referenced in text as a personal communication (requiring the same verification from the authors as any other personal communication), e.g., (J. Jones, B. Myers, and P. Johnson, *personal communication*).



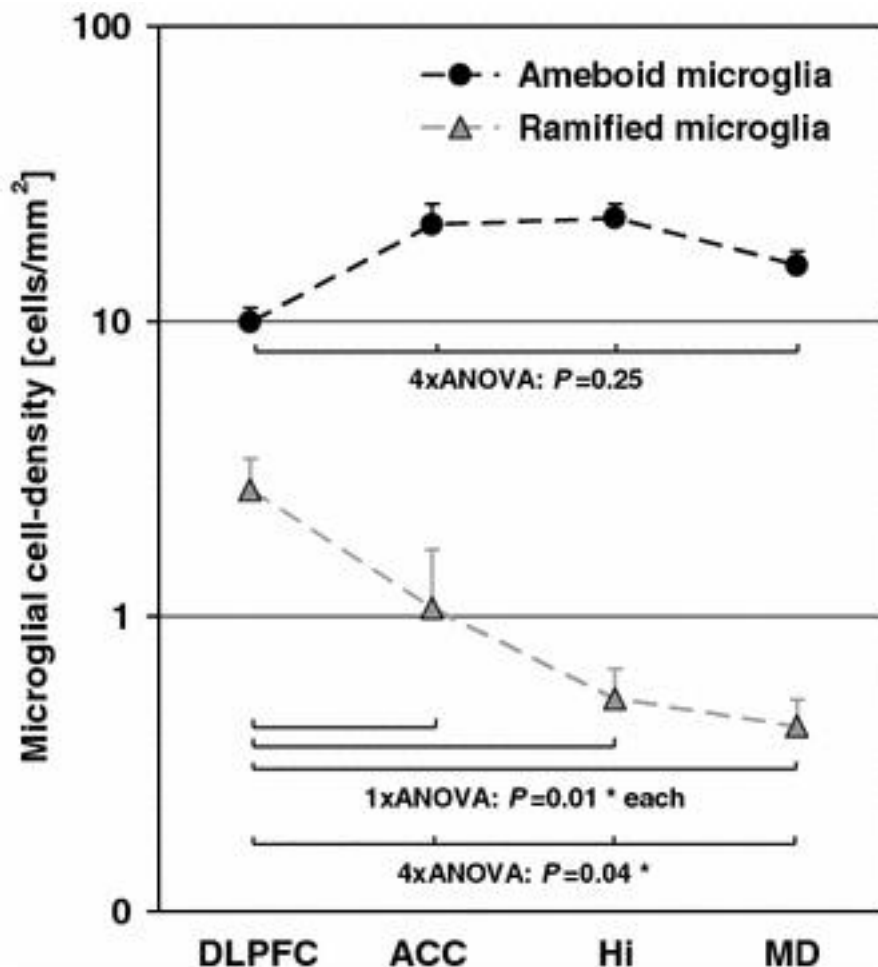
## Figures

### Illustrations

- Supply all figures electronically.
- Indicate what graphics program was used to create the artwork.
- For vector graphics, the preferred format is EPS; for halftones, please use TIFF format. MS Office files (Word, Excell, Powerpoint) are also acceptable.
- Vector graphics containing fonts must have the fonts embedded in the files.

### Line Art

- Definition: Black and white graphic with no shading.
- Do not use faint lines and/or lettering and check that all lines and lettering within the figures are legible at final size.
- All lines should be at least 1 pt wide.
- Scanned line drawings and line drawings in bitmap format should have a minimum resolution of 1200 dpi.
- Vector graphics containing fonts must have the fonts embedded in the files.
- Use solid black or white or hatch or stripe patterns in bar graphs
- Use solid black and white symbols in line graphs.
- Only standard symbols (boxes, circles, triangles) or other typographic elements should be used. If necessary, please provide a key to any symbols as part of the figure (as in the Fig below). *Only* standard symbols can be reproduced in captions and may change in conversions





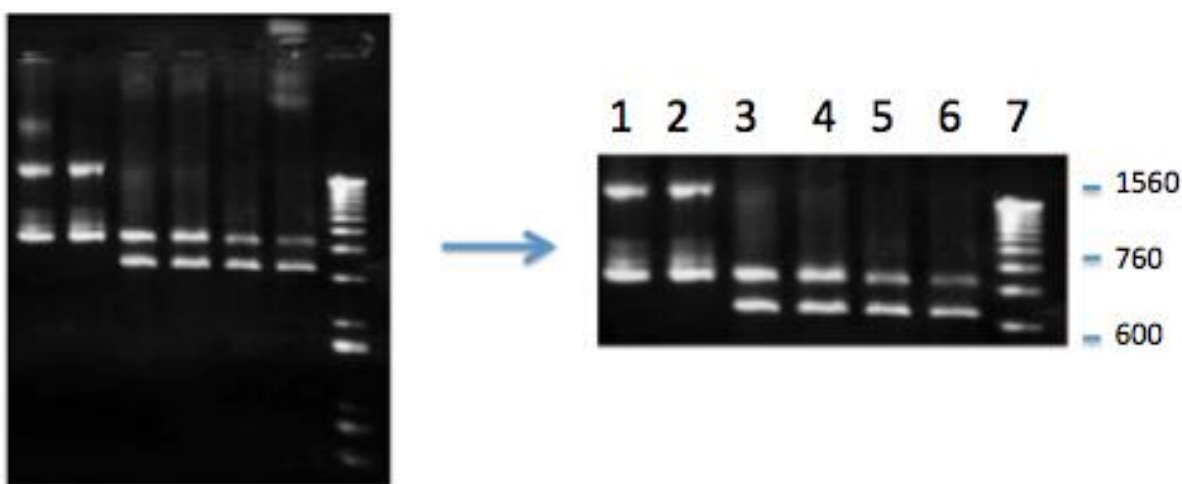
### Halftone Art

- Definition: Photographs, drawings, or paintings with fine shading, etc.
- If any magnification is used in the photographs, indicate this by using scale bars within the figures themselves.
- Halftones should have a minimum resolution of 300 dpi.

### Electrophoresis gels

When presenting figures of electrophoresis gels, the gel figures should be cropped to show only the relevant area of the gel (as in the figure below).

Each lane, or at the very least every second lane should be numbered at the top of the gel. Size markers should be indicated at the side of the gel.



### Combination art

- Definition: a combination of halftone and line art, e.g., halftones containing line drawing, extensive lettering, colour diagrams, etc.
- Combination artwork should have a minimum resolution of 600 dpi.

### Colour Art

- Colour art is free of charge for online publication as supplementary information to the paper (see supplementary material below).
- Colour photographs will be accepted for inclusion in the paper if they are essential but the cost of colour reproduction must be borne by the author. The Publisher will provide an estimate of the cost before publication.
- If black and white will be shown in the print version, make sure that the main information will still be visible. Many colours are not distinguishable from one another when converted to black and white. A simple way to check this is to make a photocopy to see if the necessary distinctions between the different colours are still apparent.
- If the figures will be printed in black and white, do not refer to colour in the captions.

### Figure Lettering

- To add lettering, it is best to use Helvetica or Arial (sans serif fonts).
- Keep lettering consistently sized throughout your final-sized artwork, usually about 2–3 mm (8–12 pt).

- Variance of type size within an illustration should be minimal, e.g., do not use 8-pt type on an axis and 20-pt type for the axis label.
- Avoid effects such as shading, outline letters, etc.
- Do not include captions within your illustrations.

### Figure Captions

- Each figure should have a concise caption describing accurately what the figure depicts.
- The caption is usually located below, or beside the figure.
- Figure captions begin with the term Fig. in bold type, followed by the figure number, also in bold type. The rest of the caption is not bold.
- No punctuation is to be included after the number, nor is any punctuation to be placed at the end of the caption.
- Identify all elements found in the figure in the figure caption; and use boxes, circles, etc., as coordinate points in graphs.
- Identify previously published material by giving the original source in the form of a reference citation at the end of the figure caption.
- The caption must be placed so that it does not interfere with comprehension of the figure.
- Lettering of graphs should be kept to a minimum, as excessive lettering within the frame of a graph makes the lines difficult to decipher.
- Figure captions should be sufficiently descriptive so that each figure is understandable when considered apart from the text.

### Figure Size

- As most illustrations will be reduced to fit either one or two columns, care should be taken with the size of lettering and small detail. Keep font sizes consistent between illustrations.
- Labelling must be in Helvetica or Arial type 1 font; refer to a recent issue of the journal or the sample papers on the *AUPP* website.
- Lettering should have the first letter of the first word and any proper names capitalised.
- Species names should be italicized e.g., *Escherichia coli*.
- The minimum type size after reduction should be 8. Thus for reductions of illustrations to 40, 50, 65 or 80% of their linear dimensions, the original type size should be 20, 16, 12 or 10 pt, respectively.
- Symbols, axes and grid marks should be of a size that is appropriate for the likely reduction.
- Explanations of symbols should be given in the caption to the figure or in a legend placed within the graph/chart.
- For graphs, grid marks should point inwards; titles on axes should state the quantity being measured and be followed by the appropriate SI units in parentheses.

### Use of already published figures

If you include figures that have already been published elsewhere, you must obtain permission from the copyright owner(s) for both the print and online format. Please be aware that some publishers do not grant electronic rights for free and that Springer will not be able to refund any costs that may have occurred to receive these permissions. In such cases, material from other sources should be used.

## Journal Cover

Illustrations (photographs, drawings, or diagrams) from an article or related to an article may be submitted for consideration for the journal cover. Such figures should be submitted through Manuscript Central as Supplemental material and labelled as cover art followed by a caption.

## Tables

- Each table should be on a separate page after the references.
- The approximate position of each table in the paper should be indicated in the text.
- Each table should be numbered with Arabic numerals and be accompanied by a caption located above the table.
- Each table should be understandable by itself without reference to the text or to another figure or table.
- Tables should be arranged with regard to the width of the printed page (175 mm) and the number of columns kept to a minimum. Excessive subdivision of column headings is undesirable and long headings should be avoided by the use of explanatory notes incorporated as footnotes.
- The first letter only of headings to rows and vertical columns should be capitalised except for proper nouns.
- The symbol for the unit of measurement should be placed in parentheses beneath the column heading.
- Horizontal rules should be inserted only above and below column headings and at the foot of the table.
- Vertical rules should not be used.
- Authors are advised to consult a recent issue of the journal for the correct style.
- Each table must be referred to in the text.
- Only in exceptional circumstances will the presentation of essentially the same data in both tabular and graphical form be permitted; where adequate, the graphical form should be used.
- Short tables can frequently be incorporated into the text as a sentence or as a brief untitled tabulation.
- Tables should be submitted as editable text, not images and formatted using the Table function in Word or similar software. Do not use tabs to delimit columns

## Lodgment of Cultures

Authors must lodge cultures and/or specimens of plant pathogens at recognized herbaria or culture collections i.e. those listed by Index Herbarium (<http://sciweb.nybg.org/science2/IndexHerbariorum.asp>) or World Directory of Collections and Cultures of Microorganisms. This applies: (1) where a new record is being reported; (2) for papers describing comparative studies of two or more organisms; (3) where a study is based on a particular strain of a microorganism. The specimen numbers must be quoted in the paper.

Records for new species of fungi must be lodged with Mycobank (<http://www.mycobank.org/>). From 1<sup>st</sup> July 2011 no new fungal species will be valid unless nomenclature data has been lodged with Mycobank.

## Lodgement of Data

### Gene Sequences

Nucleic acid sequences of limited length, which are the primary subject of a study, may be presented freestyle in the most effective format. Only in exceptional circumstances will long sequences be published. Deposition of sequences with one of the publicly accessible databases (see below) is preferred. Accession numbers for primary nucleotide and/or amino acid sequence data must be included in the original manuscript or be inserted at the time the manuscript is last revised. The accession number should be included in the Methods section in research papers or at the end of the text in Research Notes.

### DNA Sequence Databases

DNA sequences must be lodged in one of these public databases and the accession numbers provided in the paper.

Genbank <http://www.ncbi.nlm.nih.gov/>

DNA Data Bank of Japan <http://www.ddbj.nig.ac.jp/>

European Molecular Biology Laboratory (EMBL): <http://www.ebi.ac.uk>

### Amino Acid Sequences

Where amino acid sequences are not derived from a DNA sequence, the amino acid sequence should be deposited with the SwissProt protein database:

<http://us.expasy.org/sprot/>

### Phylogenetic Trees

Authors are required to deposit phylogenetic trees and the data used to generate them in TreeBASE (<http://www.treebase.org>). The accession numbers for these depositions must be quoted in the paper. If it is required that the data is kept confidential, then the accession numbers do not have to be included in the paper, but they must be provided to the reviewers and editorial staff so that the manuscript can be properly reviewed.

### Gene Expression Data

APP requires microarray data to be reported in accordance with the MIAME standards and this to be clearly documented in the Materials and Methods section. Please refer to <http://www.mged.org/>. In addition, expression data should be deposited in a relevant repository such as:

Gene expression omnibus: <http://www.ncbi.nlm.nih.gov/geo>

EBI Microarray Databases: <http://www.ebi.ac.uk/Databases/microarray.html>

Centre for Information Biology gene Expression database: <http://cibex.nig.ac.jp>

Submission should be documented in the manuscript.

## Electronic supplementary material

Electronic supplementary material will be published in the online version only.

Supplementary files can be published online along with an article or a book chapter. This feature can add dimension to the author's article, as certain information cannot be printed

or is more convenient in electronic form.

Electronic supplementary material may consist of

- Information that cannot be printed: animations, video clips, sound recordings
- Information that is more convenient in electronic form: sequences, spectral data, etc.
- Large original data, e.g. additional tables, illustrations, etc.

### Manuscript Submission

- Supply all supplementary material in standard file formats.
- Please include in each file the following information: article title, journal name, author names; affiliation and e-mail address of the corresponding author.
- To accommodate user downloads, please keep in mind that larger-sized files may require very long download times and that some users may experience other problems during downloading.

### Audio, Video, and Animations

- Always use MPEG-1 (.mpg) format.

### Text and Presentations

- Submit your material in PDF format; .doc or .ppt files are not suitable for long-term viability.
- A collection of figures may also be combined in a PDF file. Colour figures can be included in the supplementary material without incurring costs.

### Spreadsheets

- Spreadsheets should be converted to PDF if no interaction with the data is intended.
- If the readers should be encouraged to make their own calculations, spreadsheets should be submitted as .xls files (MS Excel).

### Specialized Formats

- Specialized formats such as .pdb (chemical), .wrl (VRML), .nb (Mathematica notebook), and .tex can also be supplied.

### Collecting Multiple Files

- It is possible to collect multiple files in a .zip or .gz file.

### Numbering

- If supplying any supplementary material, the text must make specific mention of the material as a citation, similar to that of figures and tables.
- Refer to the supplementary files as “Online Resource”, e.g., “... as shown in the animation (Online Resource 3)”, “... additional data are given in Online Resource 4”.
- Name the files consecutively, e.g. “ESM\_3.mpg”, “ESM\_4.pdf”.

## Captions

- For each supplementary material, please supply a concise caption describing the content of the file.

## Processing of supplementary files

- Electronic supplementary material will be published as received from the author without any conversion, editing, or reformatting.

## Accessibility

In order to give people of all abilities and disabilities access to the content of our supplementary files, please make sure that

- The manuscript contain a descriptive caption for each supplementary material
- Video files do not contain anything that flashes more than three times per second (so that users prone to seizures caused by such effects are not put at risk)

## The Manuscript Review Process

Manuscripts are initially reviewed by the Editor-in-Chief. Important criteria for judging the manuscript at this stage are **originality** and **significance**. To be acceptable for publication papers need to present significant new information. Authors need to highlight the significance of the work, they need to make a case as to why it should be published. If the work described in the manuscript is not considered significant or original the manuscript may be rejected even though the science may be of a high standard.

Manuscripts are also assessed on whether or not the style conforms to that in these instructions, and whether the language is of sufficient standard. If the manuscript is not considered acceptable by these criteria it will be sent back to the authors for revision. This will delay the review process.

If the manuscript is deemed acceptable at this stage it is sent to a Senior Editor who is a specialist in the area. The Senior Editor may reject the manuscript, or send it out to independent reviewers for further opinions.

## Responding to Reviewers Comments

Once the reviewers comments have been received unless the manuscript is rejected it will be sent back to you to make changes suggested by the reviewers.

1. When revising the manuscript use track changes so that we can see clearly what changes you have made. Submit the revised manuscript with the track changes.
2. Submit a letter with the revised manuscript. In this letter list **each** of the changes and comments suggested by the reviewers and detail how you have responded to each suggestion. If you disagree with changes suggested by a reviewer please explain why.

## After Acceptance

Upon acceptance of your article you will receive a link to the special Author Query Application at Springer's webpage where you can sign the Copyright Transfer Statement online and indicate whether you wish to order OpenChoice, offprints, or printing of figures in color. Once the Author Query Application has been completed, your article will be processed and you will receive the proofs.

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In addition to the normal publication process (whereby an article is submitted to the journal and access to that article is granted to customers who have purchased a subscription), Springer provides an alternative publishing option: Springer Open Choice. A Springer Open Choice article receives all the benefits of a regular subscription-based article, but in addition is made available publicly through Springer's online platform SpringerLink. We regret that Springer Open Choice cannot be ordered for published articles.

For further information see:

<http://www.springer.com/authors/journal+authors/resources?SGWID=0-1723213-12-799305-0>

### **Copyright transfer**

Authors will be asked to transfer copyright of the article to the Publisher (or grant the Publisher exclusive publication and dissemination rights). This will ensure the widest possible protection and dissemination of information under copyright laws. Open Choice articles do not require transfer of copyright as the copyright remains with the author. In opting for open access, they agree to the Springer Open Choice Licence.

### **Offprints**

Offprints can be ordered by the corresponding author.

### **Color illustrations**

Online publication of color illustrations is free of charge. For color in the print version, authors will be expected to make a contribution towards the extra costs.

### **Proof reading**

The purpose of the proof is to check for typesetting or conversion errors and the completeness and accuracy of the text, tables and figures. Substantial changes in content, e.g., new results, corrected values, title and authorship, are not allowed without the approval of the Editor. After online publication, further changes can only be made in the form of an Erratum, which will be hyperlinked to the article.

### **Online First**

The article will be published online after receipt of the corrected proofs. This is the official first publication citable with the DOI. After release of the printed version, the paper can also be cited by issue and page numbers.



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Abstracts are limited to 200 words.

The background to the work and the significance of the work is explained in the Introduction.

The Results and Discussion are separate sections.

The manuscript is double spaced throughout.

Continuous line numbering is used.

Typescript is Times 12 point.

Section headings are bold roman type with blank lines before and after.

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The first line of each paragraph is indented.

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Australasian Plant Pathology

Journal of the Australasian Plant Pathology Society

Editor-in-Chief: O'Brien, P.

ISSN: 0815-3191 (print version)

ISSN: 1448-6032 (electronic version)

Journal no. 13313



<http://www.springer.com/journal/13313>

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Co-Editors-in-Chief: Carnegie, A.; Backhouse, D.

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ISSN: 1448-6032 (electronic version)

Journal no. 13313