



Instruction for Authors

The publication instrument, FARA Research Report (FRR), is open to accept manuscript from members of the FARA forum which by implication, refers to all stakeholders in Africa agricultural research and development.

Prospective authors are encouraged to give attention to these instructions in preparation and submission of their manuscript.

1. Preparation of the manuscript

FRR will consider manuscript that are well written in English, preferably American English. The authors are required to pass their manuscript through science language editing before submission.

The manuscript should be typeset on an A4 paper in Times New Roman font size 12 or other soft serif font with 1.5 line spacing. Authors are required to give a broad margin of 1 inch.

The article structure should follow the introduction, **m**ethods, **r**esults, and **d**iscussion (IMRAD) format (<http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/IMRAD>). In principle, the segments should be in the following format:

- **Introduction** – This should address the questions on why the study was undertaken, what was the research question, the tested hypothesis or the purpose of the research?
- **Methods** – This should address when, where, and how was the study conducted and what materials were used or who was included in the study groups (patients, etc.)?
- **Results** – The results should report on what answer was found to the research question and respond to whether the tested hypothesis was true.
- **and**
- **Discussion** – This section should discuss what might the answers found in the result imply and why that matters. It should also show how the answer fits in with what other researchers have found and perspectives for future research.

2. Title

The title phrase of the article should be brief and succinctly provide an idea of the content. A good title should contain no more than 18 words. The next line after the title should have the list of authors with the last names (surnames) in full and the first and middle names as initials. The next lines should have the authors' affiliations (department and institution), with email address and phone numbers. The authors' affiliations should be denoted with figures in superscript attached to the last initial on the list of authors.

Example:

Land Degradation Evaluation in the Highlands of Magwiji, Eastern Cape, South Africa.

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3. Abstract

The abstract should be unstructured essentially presented as one paragraph prose. It should not be more than 300 words. The abstract should be followed by 3 to 5 key words. The keywords should not be a repetition of any word that is already used in the title of the manuscript.

4. The Introduction

The introduction should provide a good background of the issues with coherent presentations of what has been done and reported so far by others. The presentation should paint an attractive picture of the situation and then present the problem that the article will address in a clear and concise manner. When the manuscript aims to report a research issues, the research question, the tested hypothesis or the purpose of the research should be clearly stated.

5. Materials and methods

The materials and methods should be presented in a succinct manner but be clear enough to ensure reproduction of the work by other researchers. The SI unit is standard unit for measure and appropriate references should be provided for models, analytical tools and statistical system used.

6. Results and discussion

FRR will accept joint presentation of result and discussion or separate presentation. When presented separately, the authors should avoid repetition.

7. Acknowledgments

Acknowledgement of people, and donor agencies is acceptable. Since FRR publishes research result, authors should provide good acknowledgement of all organizations that contributed to the research efforts. If it is acceptable, authors may provide the logo of the organizations. This will appear on the cover page of your manuscript.

8. Tables, figures and plates

Tables should be prepared systematically with the clear heading row and closing row. The fully gridded table should be avoided; the lines demarcating the columns should be avoided. The number of tables in the article should be few, only the needed tables should be presented. The title of the tables should be at the top and should be short. A short foot note may be written at the bottom of the table as the need may arise. All tables must be numbered consecutively and be referred to in the text of the manuscript. It is preferable that the tables are presented on separate pages after the references.

Figures should be prepared with the Microsoft excel and saved in JPEG format. The figures should be appropriately cited. The titles of the figures should be at the bottom and foot note should be presented in lower font following the title. Just like table, figures should be on separate page after the references.

Authors should endeavor to present appropriate statistical bars on figures to indicate significant differences.

Plates should be clear enough and presented in JPEG format. All plates also should be labelled at the bottom and arranged in consecutive order. The plates should also be on separate page after the appendix and be referred to in the text.

9. References

All references should be listed in alphabetical order in a separate reference section.

Every statement of fact should be supported by a reference in the text and such should be listed in the reference section. Excessive repetition of reference or self-referencing should be avoided as much as possible

Examples:

Kolade CE, Mapfumo FA, Janice J, Belly C (2012). Production efficiency if triple rotation method of rice in Malabo valley Journal of crop management 167:17-26.

Bangali N and Brannas E (1996). Dominance-Browsing behavior of Highland goat in the forest ecologies of Liberia. J. Animal. Behaviours. 48:24-36.

Collings B (2014). Effects of Bulldozing and windrowing on soil organic matter content and grain yield in the virgin forest of Epemakinde. Nigeria Journal of soil science 123:259-270.

10. Submission of manuscript

Well-prepared manuscript should be sent to publications@faraafrica.org . Once sent an acknowledgement email will be received by the corresponding author with copies to possible co-authors.

11. Review of manuscript

The thematic editor will further correspond with the corresponding author on the progress of the manuscript. As an alternative, authors may follow up on the progress of the article online.

12. Proofs

A galley proof of the publication will be sent to the corresponding author with copies to co-authors for final verification. Authors are advised to read through and confirm their satisfaction with the contents and layout of the article.

13. Publication Notification

Once the proof is received and corrected, it will be published in current volume of FRR.