BULGARIAN JOURNAL OF SOIL SCIENCE®

INSTRUCTIONS FOR AUTHORS

Manuscript Submission

Submission of the manuscripts implies that they have not been published before nor are currently submitted or considered for publication in any other journals, which should be declared in **cover letter** by the authors.

The manuscripts must be submitted in electronic version to the Editorial e-mail address: ***Journal@bsss.bg*** **and** ***bulsoil@gmail.com***

Language

Manuscripts should be written in clear and grammatically correct English. British or American English spelling and terminology must be used. If English is not your native language we strongly recommend that the text of your paper be checked by a native speaker or a professional science editor before submission.

Types of Manuscripts

Bulgarian Journal of Soil Science publishes four categories of papers and the authors must indicate the category of their submission in the cover letter:

- Regular research papers must be based on results of original research. They will normally have a maximum length of 20 pages including tables, illustrations and references (on separate sheets).
- Research notes and short communications should be concise, focused on new results and data. They will be no longer than 5 pages, including the tables and figures.
- Review papers (invited or consulted with the Editor prior to preparation of the manuscript) with maximum length of 25-30 pages (according to the importance of the material).
- Book reviews and critical comments on articles and events up to 3 printed pages.

General presentation of the manuscripts

The manuscripts should be double-spaced (1800 characters per page), without section breaks, on A4 (210 x 297 mm) paper size, with margins of at least 2.5 cm at the top, bottom and sides. Lines should be numbered in the margins with a continuous numbering from the start of the manuscript. All pages should be numbered consecutively in the bottom, right-hand corner.

The manuscript should be arranged as follows:

Title Page

The title page should include:

- Full and short (running head) titles of the manuscript. The full manuscript title must be limited up to 20 words, and the short title – up to 7 words in small capitals;
- The name(s) of the author(s) in small capitals;

- The affiliate institutions(s) and address(es) of the author(s);
- The e-mail address of the corresponding author.

Abstract

Please provide an abstract up to 1500 characters that includes a clear statement of the research objectives, a short overview of the methods used, the most important results and a conclusion. No references and abbreviations should be used in the Abstract.

Key words

Please provide 4 to 6 key words, which can be used for indexing purposes. Avoid overlaps with the title.

Order of sections

The standard order of sections should be: Introduction, Material and Methods, Results, Discussion (or Results and Discussion), Conclusion, Acknowledgements, and References.

The content of the manuscript should be structured in accordance with the following criteria

Introduction. It should present a general framework of the topic in justifying why the authors have performed the study. State-of- art on the research topic has to be presented briefly to derive the novelty of the study and to show its relation to the preceding works. A distinct paragraph at the end of this chapter should state the objectives of the work.

Materials and Methods. This chapter should present detailed information of the place of research, as well as of data collection and analyses. Sufficient detail should be provided to allow the work to be reproduced. Methods already published should not be described in text but rather indicated by a reference.

Results and Discussion. It is recommended that results of the research are presented in a clear and concise manner. Information in charts, tables, photos or graphics should not be repeated in the text. This chapter should not contain a comparative assessment with similar papers or information on data analyses procedures. Also to make a comparative analysis between the results of the current research and those already published. This should not reiterate the results of the work but rather explore their significance. Published literature which is relevant to results and aim of the current study should only be cited.

Conclusion.

This chapter or subsection of the discussion chapter should be concise and derived from the results of the research and the discussion presented. General statements are not allowed.

Scientific style

Please always use internationally accepted signs and symbols for units, SI units. Genus and species names should be in italics.

Text Formatting

- Use a normal, plain font (e.g. 12-pt Times New Roman) for text and line spacing at 1.15.
- Use italics for emphasis.
- Use the automatic page numbering function to number the pages.
- Do not use field functions.
- Use the equation editor for equations.
- Save your file in *.docx format.

- Headings. Please use no more than three levels of displayed headings.
- Abbreviations should be defined at first mention and used consistently thereafter.
- Footnotes can be used to give additional information. Footnotes to the text are numbered consecutively; those to tables should be indicated by superscript lower-case letters (or asterisks for significance values and other statistical data). Footnotes to the title or the authors of the article are not given reference symbols.
- Acknowledgments (10-point plain font) of people, grants, funds, etc. should be placed in a separate section before the reference list. The names of funding organizations should be written in full.

Tables

The tables should always be cited in text in consecutive numerical order and must be numbered using Arabic numerals. Each table must be as simple as possible, double-spaced, of size no bigger than 12 x 18 cm. For each table, please supply a table caption (title) describing its content. Footnotes to tables should be indicated by superscript lower-case letters or asterisks and included beneath the table body.

Example: **Table 1.** *Soil indexes in the territory (2015–2016).*

Illustrations

All illustrations, including charts and photos, must be labelled as Figures. They must be numbered consecutively and should be provided with an explanatory legend on a separate sheet entitled 'Figure captions'. They should conform to the size of the typed area (12 x 18 cm) which is the maximum size for the illustrations. Magnification should be shown by scale bars. Files in XLS, TIF, JPG and WMF formats are accepted. After the paper is accepted the editors will ask for figures in JPG or TIF format with 300 Dpi. Colour illustrations are accepted without fees for electronic publications. The editors reserve the right to decide what figures are justified and can be published in RGB colour (other figures will be removed or published in black and white).

Example: **Fig. 1.** *Soil map of the study area.*

Citation and References

From July 2021, Bulgarian Journal of Soil Science adopts the APA (American Psychological Association) bibliographic style (7th edition – 2020). APA Referencing Basics: In-Text Citation.

Citation

Cite references in the text by name and year in parentheses as follows: Bauer (1932) or Bauer, Smith (1951) or (Bauer, 1930; Smith and Albert, 1931, 1935; Bauer et al., 1965) or Steffanic et al. (1951), up to two authors, give the names; for more than two authors, give the name of the first author followed by 'et al.'. Check each reference with the original article and refer to it in the text. All authors of a paper should be cited in the list of references. References 'in press' shall only be cited when they have been accepted for publication.

Reference list

If the author of the cited source is unknown, the first few words of the reference should be used. This is usually the title of the source. If this is the title of a book, periodical, brochure or report, is should be italicised. For example: (IUSS- Working group, 2015). If this is the title of an article, chapter or web page, it should be in quotation marks. For example: ("APA Citation", 2017). Citing a group or organization: (World Olympic Committee, 2018).

References should be arranged first alphabetically and then further sorted chronologically if necessary. More than one reference from the same author(s) in the same year must be identified by the letters 'a', 'b', 'c', etc., placed after the year of publication.

For example: (Hristov, 2017a) Or (Hristov, 2017b). In case of papers written in other than Latin letters, if there is an English (or German, French) title in the summary, it may be used. If there is not such a summary, the author's name must be transcribed (using British English transcription) and the title of the paper must be translated into English. This should be noted in round brackets at the end of the paragraph, for instance: (In Bulgarian).

Reference list

References should be arranged first alphabetically and then further sorted chronologically if necessary. Some examples for references to journal publications, books, chapters in edited books and electronic publications or databases:

Journal articles

- Atanassova, I., Doerr S. (2010). Organic compounds of different extractability in total solvent extracts from soils of contrasting water repellency. *European Journal of Soil Science*, 61(1),298-313.
- Calderón, H. W. (1982). The content and composition of humus in arid alluvial soil of Peru. *Soil Science, Academy of Sciences of USSR*, Moscow, 8(1), 53-59. (in Russian).

Books

- Sparks, D. L. (2002). *Environmental Soil Chemistry*, 2nd Edition, Academic Press, San Diego, CA.
- Lidanski, T. (1998). *Statistical methods in biology and agriculture*. Zemizdat, Sofia (in Bulgarian).

Book chapters or conference proceedings

- Maison, S. P. (1993). Advanced soil remediation. *In: Plants that accumulate heavy metals* (P. D. Tooks, ed.). CAB Int., Wallingwood, USA, 291-307.
- Kostov, D., Radev, H. Peeva, M. (2008). Study of newly introduced cultivars of green and red apples. *In: Sustainable Fruit Growing: From Plant to Product, Proceedings of International Scientific Conference, Bulgaria*, 46-53.
- Petrova, R. (1989). Loss of Humus Soil in the Process of Reclamation of Damaged Terrains. In: *Fourth National Conference on Soil Science 'Problems of Soil Science in Intensive Agriculture'*(N. Sherbanova, R. Nacheva, Eds.).. BSSS, N. Poushkarov Soil Science and Yield Programming Institute, Sofia, 203-206, (In Bulgarian).

Online publications

Lecoq, H. & Desbiez, C. (2012). Viruses of cucurbit crops in the Mediterranean region: an ever-changing picture. *Adv. Virus Res.*, 84, 67-126. http://doi.org/10.1016/B978-0-12-394314-9.00003-8.

Dissertations and Phylosophy Doctor Theses

Hristova, M., 2013. content and availability of microelements-metals in Technogenic soils. Ph.D. Thesis. Agricultural Academy, ISSAPP 'N. Poushkarov', Sofia, 140. (In Bulgarian) .