



Fourrages Journal

(www.afpf-asso.org)

Authors guidelines

I - General directions

Fourrages is a journal written in French with the aim of serving as a medium of interchange between research and development. It deals with subjects bearing on grasslands, on forage crops and forage resources, and on their utilization, and taking the environment into account. The fields of interest of the journal are classified under 7 headings, mentioned on cover page 2 ; they may be briefly summarized by the following key-words : grasslands, forage crops, rangelands, livestock rearing, territories. **The publication of a paper in Fourrages is free of charge.**

Fourrages has a large gamut of readers : technicians, research workers, teachers, advisers, farmers... over a quarter of whom live in foreign countries. The papers, written in French, have to be an important source of information to them, whether that information be of a technical or of a scientific nature. For a better response to the requirements of these various kinds of readers, the editorial part of the journal comprises **different headings** :

* Under the heading '**Scientific papers**', be they **syntheses or original contributions**, come studies that conform to the prime mission of this journal : to make available to the largest number of readers valid scientific information (if possible validated in international journals) in a synthetic form. The original contributions, whether of a scientific or technical nature, having a potential value as examples for transposition or generalization, must therefore be based on rigorous methods (results from 1 year or 1 place trials are to be proscribed). The contributions should promote exchanges and debates among the various persons involved in forage production. A large place should therefore be given to the discussion of results, with particular emphasis on economic data and on possible questions raised, and on applications. Synthetic papers (or bibliographical reviews) will present the results and conclusions of several research studies in a readily accessible manner, or will give the present state of knowledge regarding a particular problem at a given moment. **The papers will be examined by members of the Editorial Board and by two 'expert reviewers' who will appreciate the submissions** according to :

- their conformity to the readers' interest and their adequation to the themes covered by the journal ;
- the closeness of reasoning and clarity of wording (they should be understandable by non-specialist readers).

The reviewers' judgement is decisive for the acceptance or rejection of any paper submitted to the journal. Their critical remarks will be sent to the authors for the modification and improvement of their texts.

For scientific contributions, it is advisable to publish in advance the results in a journal internationally recognized; so, they receive some validation and recognition (reviewed in high impact factor); publication in *Fourrages* then require an adaptation of the presentation of the work, depending on the particularity of our journal (dissemination of results of research to a wide audience).

* The heading '**Technical notes**' gives to those operating on local development the possibility to present their original results, often of a regional character, based on trials, surveys, monographs, etc. These papers mirror the experience and reflections of local operators and, in a very concise form, are a means to communicate them to others working in the field of forages.

These papers are submitted to the critical appreciation of non-anonymous reviewers judging on criteria that are more specific to this type of studies.

* Under the heading **'Free opinions'** will be found ideas feeding the debates on the larger problems of forage production and utilization, and also on the protection and conservation of the environment. It should thus be possible to express in '*Fourrages*' a variety of ideas otherwise difficult to air within the rigorous and reducing framework of a scientific publication.

Furthermore, by sending us an article:

- * **Authors commit to not offer us an article elsewhere in the same form;**
- * **The authors report, when submitting the document, if other publications have been reported results;**
- * **Authors commit to not quote previously published work without crediting the source.**

Since it is well known that too lengthy papers are less read, the Editorial Board is recommending a limited number of pages for the submissions coming under each heading (table under-mentioned). The text should be easily 'readable' :

- short, but well-directed papers, are preferable,
- a consistent and logical structure of the paper is required,
- the style should be clear (think of the foreign readers), with short enough sentences.

Heading	Recommended number of pages	Corresponding volume*	Estimated volume of an illustration (table, figure, photograph)
Scientific papers :			
- Syntheses	14 pages	65 000	- small : 1 400 - large : 2 400
- Technical / Scientific contributions	4-10 pages	18 - 53 000	- small : 1 400 - large : 2 400
Free opinions	2-4 pages	19 000	

* number of signs, spaces and illustrations included ; an illustration (table, figure, photograph) is estimated on an average of 2 000 signs

II - Direction to the writers

1. Length of paper

The paper must be written in French.

The Editorial Board will henceforward be very attentive and strict regarding the length of papers. The desired maximum length will vary according to the type of paper : see corresponding table above-mentioned.

2. Presentation of typescript

* **The beginning of the article should contain :**

- the title, concise (less than 15 words) but complete, covering at best the subject-matter ;
- the author's (s) name(s), preceded his (her) (their) initial(s) ;
- 'with the collaboration of...' (on occasion) ;
- 'key-words' : 5 to 12 words, covering the paper as completely as possible (*Fourrages* [key-words list](#));
- 'authors' : professional identification (organization, firm...) ;
- 'correspondence' : author's postal address, and E-mail ;

- a short introductory paragraph (4 - 5 lines, i.e. 390 signs, spaces included) which is intended to whet the reader's appetite for the paper. It gives the scientific or technical context and the interest of the work presented ;
- the French summary, rather short (8 - 10 lines, i.e. 780 signs, spaces included) follows this introduction on the first page ; it has to state the main results (writers should not hesitate to give the more important figures). This summary should provide the reader with the significant results ;

*** The main part of the text :**

- The paper's title, the introduction, subtitles, legends of tables and figures, and the conclusion, should give the hurried reader a good and adequate idea of the work. The titles of headings and paragraphs have to reflect the contents of the corresponding portions and should convey an information. Don't let the subtitles be too long (6 to 10 words are sufficient for a good subtitle most of the time). Three levels of subtitling are allowed for, but a fourth one may be added if necessary.
- **In order to facilitate a rapid perusal of the papers, the more important sentences** (those explaining the idea conveyed in the paragraph or enhancing a new stage in the reasoning process) should be written in bold type.

3. Illustrations

Tables and figures are essential to the understanding of the paper. Their titles and legends have therefore to be clear and concise, but complete, and adequately clarify the contents of the picture. Every reader should be able to grasp the meaning of a table or of a figure by reading its title and (in the case of a figure) its legend, without having to refer to the main text.

All tables and figures should be numbered and cited in the text with their respective numbers. The width of the figures should be comprised between 16 and 22 cm (bill of type in 11-12 point to be used). With figures (black and white figures), don't use screens that cannot be reduced or printed, but prefer features with larger widths, such as dots, hatches, etc. Typewritten tables and figures comprising words should never be wider than 24 cm (in 12 point body) before reduction, as otherwise they would become unreadable after reduction. Excellent black and white photographs may be inserted, provided they are an indispensable complement to the paper.

4. References

The list of references should comprise all those mentioned in the text. They will be arranged in alphabetical order, according to the review's usual norms :

Author1 P., Author 2 P., Author 3 P. (Year) : "Title of the paper", *Book title, title of the journal, the thesis, the seminar Proceeding, Reference document* (issue of the journal or publisher of the book), Pages (folios or total number of pages for a complete book).

It is possible to use a preformatted style that approaches that of *Fourrages*, that of the *Journal of Materials in Civil Engineering* is available :

- in End Note ([Journal of Materials in Civil Engineering](#)), fichier .ens
- in zotero ([Journal of Materials in Civil Engineering](#)), fichier .csl

5. Reprints : The editor supplies one exemplar of the issue (paper).

6. Transfer of rights contract

Considering 1) the insertion of the article (in pdf format) in the internet database of the AFPF and the journal *Fourrages* (<http://www.afpf-asso.fr>), and 2) the online sale of the file on certain internet sites, the author and all the co-authors must sign before publication a transfer of rights contract (including photos), proposed by the AFPF.

7. Submission of typescript

The typescript (under Word PC) should be addressed (preferably by e - mail ; .file in doc format (not .docx) to Mrs. V. Alléard, AFPF, F-01640 Boyeux-Saint-Jérôme (France) ; revue.fourrages@gmail.com