

Editorial for Weed Science, Volume 62

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Editorial for Weed Science, Volume 62

William K. Vencill*

Weed Science continues to be one of the premier journals in the discipline and in the agronomic sciences. The Editorial Board and staff strive to improve the efficiency of the publication process and improve the scope of the journal. *Weed Science* is seeking to publish more reviews and symposium articles. This year, we will publish a symposium on the environmental effects of herbicide resistance. Work is progressing on a special issue that will serve as a research methods book.

There will be a couple of changes to the journal format for 2014. First, you will notice that the journal has a new literature citation style. This style is more streamlined and similar to what many journals are doing now.

The other change may not be as noticeable, but *Weed Science* is now using the ORCID (open researcher and contributor ID) system. Authors' ORCID numbers will be a part of the footnote that identifies each author's affiliation (university, business, etc.). The ORCID is a unique 16-digit number that identifies separate authors when they have similar names or initials. It is similar to a DOI (digital object identifier), but it identifies authors instead of articles. If you are not familiar with ORCIDs, more information can be found at <http://orcid.org/>. PeerTrack has been modified so that authors can provide their ORCIDs when they submit a manuscript.

The excellent reputation of the journal would not be possible without the cutting-edge research submitted by authors. For the 12 mo preceding September 1, 2013, 211 manuscripts were submitted to *Weed Science*, compared with 210 in the previous 12-mo period. Of the manuscripts submitted, 41% were accepted, compared with 49% the previous year. The time from submission to first decision was 47 d this past year compared with 58 d for the previous year, and the time from submission to final decision was 107 d. Table 1 shows the Impact Factor for *Weed Science* and other related journals for 2011 and the aggregated numbers during the past 5 yr.

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Table 1. Impact factor of *Weed Science* and comparable journals in 2011 (Anonymous 2013).

Journal	2011 impact factor	5-yr impact factor
<i>Weed Science</i>	1.759	1.770
<i>Weed Research</i>	2.045	1.994
<i>Crop Protection</i>	1.303	1.598
<i>Pest Management Science</i>	2.594	2.771
<i>Agronomy Journal</i>	1.518	1.989

For the year preceding September 1, 2013, the journal depended on 312 unique reviewers from 30 countries for peer review. We genuinely appreciate the diligent work of the Editorial Board and the hundreds of refereed reviews that are submitted annually. I personally wish to thank the members of the Editorial Board and reviewers for all their efforts on behalf of the journal in 2013.

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