

EDITORIAL FOREWORD

Publication Ethics of the Journal

We are proud to inform that the Journal of Agricultural Sciences – Sri Lanka has been honored with the offering of the membership of the Committee of Publication Ethics (COPE) (<https://publicationethics.org/members/journal-agricultural-sciences-sri-lanka>). The Journal has a high responsibility to maintain ethics related to publication of research articles where copy rights of the articles are vested upon respective authors. The journal is also responsible for the conduct of its editors, reviewers, and staff, for archiving and safeguarding of research publication records, and ensuring the reliability and authenticity of the research articles they publish. Publication of a research article in a peer-reviewed, open access research journal as JAS- SL is a hard working and lengthy process of a group of experts. It is a direct reflection of the quality of the work of the authors, the Board of Editorial of the journal, peer reviewers, publishers and the institutions that support them.

It is therefore, important to agree upon the standards of expected ethical behavior for all parties involved in the act of publishing that include authors, journal editors, peer reviewers and the publisher. Being a member of COPE, now, we can follow the best practices of conduct of the editors, authors, reviewers and publishers introduced by them. We can also seek the opinions and advices from other members of COPE with regard to troublesome cases whenever required.

The Journal of Agricultural Sciences – Sri Lanka has taken strict measures to check plagiarism of the articles submitted to the journal and we do not tolerate more than 20 % of plagiarism in publishing an article. We also kindly request all authors to read carefully the author guidelines of the journal, format and prepare their manuscript exactly according to the author guidelines. We are experienced that more than 70 % of the authors do not read the author guidelines before submitting the manuscript to the journal and we will not entertain such manuscripts and regret to inform that we will reject them immediately.

Further, we request all authors to read the resources available at COPE with regard to publication ethics (<https://publicationethics.org/resources>) to ensure proper conduct of research and publication.

Currently, the JAS has been included in more than 35 journal databases including AGRICOLA, AGORA, Cabi Abstracts, TEEL and DOAJ. It shows the wider acceptance of JAS by international citations and journal databases. This is an indicator for our progress in journal quality during past years. There were many people behind this success. This honour must go to Prof. Chandrika Dissanayake - Coordinating Editor of JAS, Mr Prasad C. Iddamalgoda - Editorial Assistant, Ms Suiox Cummings of INASP, Ms Amila Thennakoon of SLJOL, Mr Harsha Udayakantha Peiris - Copy Editor, all the authors, reviewers and Editorial Committee Members.

Prof (Dr) Rohana P Mahaliyanaarachchi
Editor in Chief
01st January 2019

<http://dx.doi.org/10.4038/jas.v14i1.8450>