

Canadian Journal of Animal Science – 2009, Volume 89
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Editorial Board:

Volume 89 (2009) was produced by an Editorial Board of 22 Associate Editors and myself as Editor-in-chief. Four Associate Editors completed their first term in December 2009; they were A. Batal, J. House, A. Hristov and N. Rawlings. Drs. Batal, Hristov and Rawlings were appointed to a second 3-year mandate starting January 2010 and the position of Dr. House (Non Ruminant Nutrition) will be left open, to be filled if the need arises. Two Associate Editors finished their second mandate, namely N. Cook and D. Ouellet. These positions were filled by incoming Associate Editors in January 2010, being, W. Dixon (Physiology and Endocrinology) and A. AbuGhazaleh (Ruminant Nutrition). Two Associate Editors, J.E. Santos (Ruminant Nutrition) and A. Shah (ruminant Nutrition) left during the year 2009. These positions were filled by K. Plaizier and R. Berthiaume. Four statistical consultants agreed to help out Associate Editors in 2010, they are R. Cue, S. Méthot, R. Tempelman and Z. Wang. K. Schwartzkopf-Genswein was the CSAS liaison on the CJAS Editorial Board in 2009 and T. McAllister and D. Ouellet were on the Scientific Journals Committee. Great thanks to all these people for their wonderful contribution to the Journal.

Journal Statistics:

Current CJAS statistics (Tables 1 to 4) give an overview of the performance of the Journal during 2009. Table 1 shows that as in previous years, the greatest number of published manuscripts was in the area of Ruminant Nutrition, (19); yet, this was quite a decrease from the 28 papers published in 2008. The second area with most papers was, as in 2008, Non-Ruminant Nutrition (10), followed closely by Breeding and Genetics (9). There was a sharp decline in papers published in Physiology and Endocrinology (1 instead of 12), and in Welfare, Behaviour and Management (3 instead of 10) but an increase in Meat Science (6 instead of 1). Only one review was published compared to 5 in 2008 but numerous were submitted and should appear in 2010. The total number of published papers (and pages) decreased largely between 2008 and 2009 and this is likely the reflection from the decrease in submissions in 2009 and/or a decrease length of manuscripts.

Table 2 indicates that the number of submitted manuscripts in 2009 (123) decreased a bit from the 130 in 2008 and quite a bit from the 151 in 2007. The rejection rate of papers and short communications was 40.6% which is less than the 49% seen in 2008. In 2009, the rejection rates of AAFC, University and foreign papers were, respectively, 21.1%, 17.1% and 71.2% (Table 4). Data on time for the review process is shown in table 3 and is very similar to that of 2008 with an average review time of 111 days for short communications and 145 days for full papers.

The number of submissions (Table 3) from Universities has kept quite constant (36 in 2009, 38 in 2008 and 40 in 2007) but that of AAFC manuscripts decreased from 30 in 2007 to 21 in 2008 and has stayed low in 2009 (20). Submission of foreign manuscripts (67) was similar to that of last year (71), but decreased from 80 in 2007. The lower page charges for CSAS members starting in January 2010 may help to increase submissions from AAFC scientists.

Editorial board meetings and SJC follow-ups:

The editorial board of CJAS held its first “in-person” meeting since I have been appointed Editor-in-chief, last July at the Montreal CSAS/ASAS annual meeting. Excellent discussions took place and one important follow-up is that there will be 8 invited reviews in 2010 and 4 in 2011 to try and increase the impact factor of CJAS. The whole editorial board contributed to finding the appropriate topics and authors. The Editor’s discretionary fund will cover page charges for 10 pages of each review and CSAS will be asked for extra support if need be.

The SJC committee held its annual meeting last November in Ottawa and some important follow-ups are:

- 1) The second MOU between the 3 AIC Scientific Journals and AIC was signed. It was altered this year so that it now states that AIC will report financial information to the SJC each year. This ensures that the journals could go on in the event that AIC would cease to function because of lack of funds. This MOU will have to be re-signed each year by the CSAS president and AIC.
- 2) All CJAS back issues (1957 to 1996) were scanned in 2009. This is a great achievement for which the SCJ has worked really hard. Access to the most current 5 years of the Journal is available by subscription and that of all earlier issues is open access.
- 3) In Press manuscripts are now available on the CJAS site.
- 4) In order to entice scientists to review papers, all AIC Journals will now produce a yearly list of up to 10 outstanding reviewers. A short biography of these scientists will be published in the CJAS web site and on the back cover of CJAS. A list of 11 CJAS outstanding reviewers was put together for 2009 and was advertised.
- 5) As of January 2010, page charges in CJAS were reduced for all CSAS members (from \$80 to \$30 for papers and \$117 to \$30 for short communications) and remained similar (\$90) for non CSAS members. Library subscriptions were increased by 50%.

Over the past few months there were discussions between AIC and the 3 Editors of AIC Journals and it was decided that the electronic submission system (OSPREY) would be changed to ScholarOne (same as JAS). This is currently being done and will be finalized around August 2010. All manuscripts already in the system will still be handled via OSPREY but all new submissions will be done via ScholarOne. This system is more user-friendly and more versatile than OSPREY.

I am currently in my fifth (and last) year as editor of CJAS and I am quite happy with how CJAS is doing. In my opinion, our major hurdle at the present time is our low impact factor... The numerous reviews which will be published this year and the coming years as well as the changes made in the sections of the Journal should help on that matter. I also sent a request to PubMed asking that they review our Journal so that CJAS could be included in their citations. I am waiting to hear back from them. Lastly, I would like to congratulate and thank Dre. Christiane Girard who will be the incoming Editor-in-chief of CJAS, starting January 2011. Dre. Girard was AE for CJAS from 2002 to 2007 and possesses all the skills and qualities necessary for being a great Editor. I am very confident that the Journal will be in good hands and I leave with a feeling of satisfaction for the work accomplished over the past 5 years and complete confidence that in our new Editor.

Respectfully submitted,

Chantal Farmer
Editor-in-chief, CJAS

Table 1. Discipline areas of papers published in Canadian Journal of Animal Science (1981-2009)

Volume Year	81 2001	82 2002	83 2003	84 2004	85 2005	86 2006	87 2007	88 2008	89 2009
Application of Technology	6	2	6	3	3	0	1	0	N.A.
Welfare, Behaviour and Management	6	7	5	3	6	4	8	10	3
Biographical Sketch	-	2	0	1	0	0	0	0	0
Breeding and Genetics	2	5	1	8	6	1	5	6	9
Cellular & Molecular Biology	2	4	3	5	4	3	1	2	3
Growth and Development	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	1	2
Letters	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Meat Science	7	11	8	10	4	5	7	1	6
Nonruminant Nutrition	18	18	17	14	9	12	14	14	10
Other	2	0	4	2	2	0	2	0	1
Physiology and Endocrinology	15	9	12	4	5	5	9	12	1
Reviews	3	1	5	7	5	4	0	5	1
Ruminant Nutrition	17	21	27	28	20	23	27	28	19
Symposium/Workshop	0	0	8	0	0	5	0	0	0
Grand Total	79	82	96	85	64	62	74	79	55
Pages Published	656	643	844	814	560	612	664	753	558

Table 2. Disposition of papers (P) and short communications (SC) submitted to Canadian Journal of Animal Science, 2006–2009

	Assigned		Accepted		Outstanding		Inappropriate		Rejected		Withdrawn	
	SC	P ^{z, y, x}	SC	P	SC	P	SC	P	SC	P	SC	P
Total 2006	21	114	16	49	0	0	0	0	7	51	0	12
Total 2007	25	126	20	57	0	0	0	0	5	51	3	15
Total 2008*	28	102	15	46	0	0	0	0	13	51	1	4
Total 2009 [^]	19	104	16	47	0	3	0	1	5	45	1	5

^z Includes review papers.

^y In 2008, 1 manuscript was submitted as a paper but rejected as a short communication.

^x In 2009, 3 submitted papers were accepted as short communications

* 130 total excludes 3 duplicate submissions

[^] 123 total excludes 5 duplicate submissions

Table 3. Average time (days) taken by associate editors and authors to process accepted manuscripts submitted to Canadian Journal of Animal Science, 2006–2009

DAYS TAKEN IN REVIEW OF ACCEPTED MANUSCRIPTS								
	Author		Editor		Reviewer		Total	
	SC	P	SC	P	SC	P	SC	P
Weighted Average 2006	24	45	60	59	43	55	133	159
Weighted Average 2007	33	37	74	78	38	55	145	171
Weighted Average 2008	19	33	68	63	27	40	112	136
Weighted Average 2009	24	35	58	70	29	40	111	145

Table 4. Source of manuscripts submitted to Canadian Journal of Animal Science – 2009

ORIGIN	TOTAL	ACCEPTED	UNACCEPTED	IN PROGRESS
AGRICULTURE & AGRI-FOOD CANADA				
Agassiz	3	2	1	
Lacombe	4	3	1	
Lennoxville/Sherbrooke	6	4	1	1
Lethbridge	4	4		
Ottawa	1		1	
Provincial - Alberta Agriculture	2	2		
TOTAL	20	15	4	1
UNIVERSITIES				
Alberta	3	1	2	
Guelph	10	8	1	1
Manitoba	6	5	1	
NSAC	1	1		
UBC	2	2		
Saskatchewan	14	12	2	
TOTAL	36	29	6	1
FOREIGN				
Bangladesh	1	1		
Belgium	1	1		
Bulgaria	1		1	
Chile	1		1	
China	21	4	17	
Denmark	1		1	
Egypt	1		1	
Germany	1	1		
Greece	1	1		
India	2		2	
Iran	8	1	7	
Ireland	2		2	
Italy	1	1		
Malaysia	1		1	
Mexico	1		1	
Poland	1		1	
South Korea	2		2	
Spain	3	1	1	1
Turkey	6	1	5	
UK	2	2		
Uruguay	1		1	
USA	8	5	3	
TOTAL	67	19	47	1
GRAND TOTALS	123	63	57	3