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General
The *Journal of Dairy Research* publishes original scientific research on all aspects of the biology, wellbeing and technology of lactating animals and the foods they produce. Research Papers report innovative, hypothesis-driven research that is likely to have international impact. Research Communications are shorter and intended primarily for descriptive research and research of regional or technical impact. The Journal also publishes additional categories of Research Reviews and Research Reflections, which may be short review articles, opinion papers or hypothesis-based data-less papers. It also publishes Letters to the Editor, Book Reviews and Editorials. Research Reviews and Editorials are usually by invitation only. These Instructions for Contributors give the important information that applies to all submissions. Further information specific to the additional categories of article is provided in the Annex. Material for publication should be submitted using the online submission system at www.journalofdairyresearch.org where you will also find further details of the *Journal*'s scope, advice on preparing your manuscript and access to track your manuscript through Peer Review. If you have been directed to a dedicated submission portal (for a Special Issue, for instance) that is the one to use. Submission of a manuscript will be taken to imply that it reports original unpublished work that it is not under consideration elsewhere and that if accepted by the *Journal* it will not be published elsewhere in any language without the consent of the Editors. You will be asked to confirm that you accept these conditions. Your manuscript will be peer reviewed. If it is accepted for publication you will be asked to assign the copyright, under certain conditions, to the *Journal* to help protect your material. Although it is not a formal requirement, authors of submitted manuscripts are strongly encouraged to participate in the Peer Reviewing of other submissions.

Submission of manuscripts
Submission is online via www.journalofdairyresearch.org You should first consult the online guidance and these Instructions for Contributors to ensure that your manuscript is prepared in accordance with the Journal's requirements. You must submit the manuscript as a single Word document that incorporates all the tables and figures that are essential to the understanding of the research and its conclusions. If we subsequently require higher quality original files of figures or images we will ask you for them. When you submit the manuscript you take responsibility for all subsequent correspondence relating to the manuscript and, if deemed acceptable, the published paper, and the manuscript must identify you as Corresponding Author. You will also normally be required to submit a Supplementary File that provides the methodological detail required for repetition as well as data and other information that corroborate the conclusions without being essential to them.

Journal Scope
The *Journal*'s ability to cover the entire dairy foods chain is a major strength. The remit spans from animal nutritional aspects of feed input through the biology of lactating animals and the mammary gland to milk quality, technological aspects of processed dairy products and healthy nutrition for the consumer. The focus is on dairy species, but we also welcome comparative research related to human lactation and lactation in non-dairy animal species. The *Journal* does not categorize published articles by topic. Each issue will follow the dairy foods chain, starting with feeding-related research and ending with consumer-related.

Types of manuscript and general considerations
In the original research category the *Journal* publishes submitted Research Papers and Research Communications. Research Papers report innovative hypothesis-driven research of international impact and will not normally be appropriate for research that is purely descriptive. Research Communications are shorter. In addition to international impact research, Research Communications can also report descriptive studies of regional or technical interest. Within the *Journal* there is no categorization of original research by article type, which must be briefly stated in the first line of the Abstract. Page limits apply to all types of manuscript. These are reported as Text Equivalents (TEQ) where one word is one TEQ and each figure or table is 250 TEQ. Research Papers should be no longer than around 6000 TEQ and should include only figures, tables and reference citations that are essential to the understanding of the research objectives. Research Communications should be no longer than around 2500 TEQ and should include only one or two tables or figures and a maximum of around 10 citations. Manuscripts that exceed these recommendations will be returned for revision. The *Journal* places great emphasis on conciseness, and strongly encourages the use of a Supplementary File to ensure that the article is focused and succinct. Authors who choose not to include a Supplementary File will be asked to justify that decision.

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These are invited, and separate guidance will be provided with the invitation. The Editors are always interested to receive suggestions for topics, wi th or without possible authors.

Other Materials
Separate information is provided in an Annex for submission of Research Reviews, Research Reflections (mini-reviews, opinion papers, hypothesis-only papers), Letters to the Editor, Book Reviews and Editorials.

General style of all manuscripts
Please consult the online guidance and refer to a recent issue to familiarize yourself with *Journal* conventions and layout. Attention to these and other details will speed publication. Manuscripts should be written in UK English using the spelling of the Concise Oxford Dictionary and should as far as possible be comprehensible to the non-specialist reader. They should be concise and focused on the scientific hypothesis and objectives. Research Papers and Research Communications must be completely comprehensible without reference to any Supplementary File; what was done and what was found must be fully apparent. However, the detailed methodological descriptions or cited methodologies required to allow repetition must be given in the Supplementary File, and not in the manuscript. Similarly, data that is methodological (eg tabular description of a diet) or that is supportive of the conclusions without being essential to them must be given in the Supplementary File. Formatting should include double spaced and consecutively numbered lines, standard margins and an appropriate font of appropriate size. Do not hyphenate words at the end of a line unless a hyphen is to appear in the printed text.

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The manuscript should generally be divided as follows:

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- **Abstract**, preferably not more than 300 words, should encapsulate the whole paper, showing clearly the new knowledge acquired. The first line of the summary should identify the article as a Research Paper and present the objectives, preferably in the form of a hypothesis (eg *This Research Paper addresses the hypothesis that…*). Without using separate sections, the Abstract should briefly explain what was done, why it was done, how it was done and what was found. Results and conclusions should be clearly stated, but the Abstract should not contain individual data values unless this is essential to the conclusions.
- **Keywords:** up to 5 keywords must be supplied
- **Introduction** should not have a heading. It should not contain a full review of the literature, but should help the non-specialist to understand why the subject of enquiry is interesting or important, why the authors have chosen the approach described and what the likely impact of the research will be. The objectives must be clearly stated, preferably in the form of a hypothesis.
- **Materials and Methods** section should be sufficiently informative to allow the reader to understand what was done, but should not contain the detail needed to allow repetition (this should be given in the Supplementary File). Proper reference must be made to the Supplementary Materials and Methods.
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- **Discussion** should not repeat the results but discuss their significance. Refer to existing or accepted knowledge in the present tense and the authors' work in the past tense; the difference in tense should clearly show the authors' contribution. A separate conclusion is not necessary but authors should summarize their main conclusions briefly at the end of the Discussion. A combined Results and Discussion is acceptable but not preferred.
- **Acknowledgements** of financial support, technical assistance and so on are given in a separate paragraph. It is the responsibility of the authors to ensure that individuals or organizations acknowledged as providing materials or otherwise are willing to be identified.
- **References** must be consistent and must use the style described below.
- **Tables** and table legends, following the style described below.
- **Figure legends** sufficient to allow the figure to be understood without reference to the text
- **Figures** should be produced using an editable software and copied into the Word document.

Please remember that the complete manuscript should be submitted as a single document.

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In general, follow the same format and layout as for a Research Paper. The introduction will typically be shorter and the results and discussion are more likely to be combined into one section. The number of citations will be less, and presentation of data should be restricted to one or two figures and tables. Use of a Supplementary File for the presentation of supporting data is normally a requirement. The Abstract should start with a sentence clearly identifying the article type and presenting the objectives (eg *This Research Communication describes….*)

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Refer to a recent issue and ensure that your reference citations comply with *Journal* style. References should be given in the text as Brown & Jones (1987) or (Schmidt, 1985; Nakamura *et al.*1989); the first author with *et al.* is used for papers with three or more authors. Where necessary, papers are distinguished as Lenoir (1988*a*), (Litov *et al.* 1990*a, b*). When several references appear together in the text, cite them in chronological order, and alphabetically within years. The Reference list at the end of the paper, which should begin on a fresh page, is given in strict alphabetical order and uses the minimum of punctuation. Each reference should contain authors' names, with initials (in capitals), the year, the title of the paper, the name of the journal in full, the volume and the page range. Titles of articles originally published in another language should be given in English translation, and this indicated by the use of square brackets. References to books should include the town of publication and the publisher, with editor(s) and volume and edition number where appropriate. Unpublished work should be given in the text (use authors' initials and surname) and not in the Reference list. You are reminded that it is your responsibility to check all references.

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