

AUTHORS GUIDE

Publication Policy

The Nigerian Journal of Forestry appears two times a year and publishes original research papers on all aspects of the forestry (Silviculture, Agroforestry, forest mathematics, forest management and forest ecosystems), biodiversity conservation, forest products and resources (Wildlife, fisheries and ecotourism), environment, climate change etc. We aim to bring important work in all aspect of Forestry and renewable natural resources to a wide international audience and therefore we only publish papers with strong messages that advance the understanding of the sustainable management, utilization and conservation of natural resources. The research presented must transcend the limits of case studies. Both experimental and theoretical studies are accepted, as are descriptive or historical accounts, although these must offer insights into issues of general interest to natural resources and forest managers.

Papers should have a broad interest, and submission of reports that break new ground or advance our understanding in these subject areas is particularly welcomed. We always want the content of our Journal to reflect the changing emphasis in our subject area and therefore urge authors to consider submitting their best and most current work to us.

After this initial screening of all submitted manuscript by the Editor, all types of papers are subjected to peer review and authors can expect a decision within three months of receipt. If a revision is requested, the correspondence author should submit the revised manuscript within two months. Otherwise, revisions may be treated as new submissions and sent for further evaluation by new referees, unless there are special reasons for prolonged delay agreed, in advance, with the editor. All papers accepted remain copyright of the authors and the content is exclusively the opinion of the authors

Types of Papers Published

- **Standard Papers** - report practical or theoretical forestry research and typically comprise up to 12 typeset pages. Longer articles are also considered, provided the content justifies the extent.
- **Essay Reviews** - intended to promote discussion of a topical area (rather than offering exhaustive surveys of the literature)
- **Future Directions** - short articles that outline a provocative new direction for a discipline within plant ecology and intend to challenge currently accepted views

Manuscript Submission

Please follow these instructions carefully when preparing your manuscript to ensure that your submission is dealt with speedily.

During online submission, authors will be required to confirm that:

- The work as submitted has not been published or accepted for publication, nor is being considered for publication elsewhere, either in whole or substantial part.
- The work is original and all necessary acknowledgements have been made.
- All authors and relevant institutions have read the submitted version of the manuscript and approve its submission.
- All persons entitled to authorship have been so included.
- The work conforms to the legal requirements of the country in which it was carried out.

Manuscript Structure

Submitted manuscripts must be double spaced, numbered consecutively, including those containing acknowledgements, references, tables and figures.

Standard Papers: Standard papers should not normally be longer than 20 printed pages. The typescript should be arranged as follows, with each section starting on a separate page.

Title page. This should contain:

- A concise and informative title (as short as possible - not more than 18 words). Do not include the authorities for taxonomic names in the title.
- A list of authors' names with names and full addresses of institutions. Author Surname names should be provided in full and only the initials of other names are required after the surnames.
- Email address of the correspondence author, indicated using an asterisk on his name, to whom decisions will be sent should be provided.
- A running headline of not more than 45 characters.

Abstract: The abstract must not exceed 350 words and should list the main results and conclusions, using simple, factual, numbered statements. The final point of your abstract must emphasize the key findings of the work and its general significance, indicating clearly how this study has contributed to the sustainable management of renewable natural resources. This final point should therefore explain the importance of your paper in a way that is accessible to non-specialists.

Key-words: A list in alphabetical order not exceeding five words or short phrases, excluding words used in the title must be included.

Introduction: Explain the reasons for carrying out the work, outline the essential background and clearly state the nature of the hypothesis or hypotheses under consideration.

Materials and methods: Provide sufficient details of the techniques employed to enable the work to be repeated. This section could be broken into study areas, method of data collection, method of data analyses, laboratory works and statistical tools.

Result: State the results and draw attention in the text to important details shown in

tables and figures. *Discussion*: Point out the significance of the results in relation to the reasons for doing the work, and place them in the context of other work. Your findings should be sufficient corroborated by previous but very recent works

Conclusion and Recommendation: The conclusion is the summary of your findings. Recommend the way forward (future direction) and suggest policy implication of your finding

Acknowledgements: If authors refer to themselves as recipients of assistance or funding, they should do so by their initials separated by points (e.g. J.B.T.). Do not acknowledge Editors by name.

References (see Specifications).

Tables and table captions: Each table should be on a separate page, numbered and accompanied by a legend at the top and must NOT end in a full stop. Tables should be constructed using software options. Units should appear in parentheses after the column or row name, e.g. Time (weeks). Tables should be cited in the text as, e.g., Table 1, Table 1a, b, Tables 1 and 2. The table caption label should not be abbreviated, and must be in bold. Table footnotes should be indicated using symbols *. Do not present the same data in both figure and table form or repeat large numbers of values from Tables in the text. Do not use an excessive number of digits when writing a decimal number to represent the mean of a set of measurements (the number of digits should reflect the precision of the measurement).

Figures: Figures and their legends should be grouped together. The word figures should be abbreviated in the text (e.g. Fig. 1; Figs. 2 and 3), except when starting a sentence. Each figure must have a legend, presented separately from the figure (i.e. as text rather than as part of the image). The legend should give enough detail so that the figure can be understood without reference to the text. Information (e.g. keys) that appears on the figure itself should not be duplicated in the legend. The figure legend label should be abbreviated, in bold, and end in a period (e.g. Fig. 1.). The figure legend text should end in a full stop. To make best use of space, you may need to rearrange parts of figures (e.g. so that they appear side by side). If figures are prepared that will require reduction, please ensure that symbols, labels, axes text, etc., are large enough to allow reduction to a final size. Photographic illustrations should be referred to as plates.

Appendices: These refer to any supporting information. This should be placed at the end of the paper and referred to in the text.

Language: *Nigerian Journal of Forestry* only publishes papers in English and spelling should conform to the *Concise Oxford Dictionary of Current English*. Editors reserve the right to modify accepted manuscripts that do not conform to scientific, technical, stylistic or grammatical standards, and minor alterations.

Units, symbols and abbreviations: Authors are requested to use the International System of Units (SI) where possible for all measurements. Mathematical expressions

should contain symbols and not abbreviations. If the paper contains many symbols, it is recommended that they should be defined as early in the text as possible, or within a subsection of the Materials and methods section. Time units should not be abbreviated (e.g. seconds, minutes, hours, days, weeks, months, years). *Scientific names.* Give the Latin names of each species in full, together with the authority for its name, at first mention in the main text. Subsequently, the genus name may be abbreviated, except at the beginning of a sentence. If there are many species, cite a Flora or checklist which may be consulted for authorities instead of listing them in the text. Do not give authorities for species cited from published references. Give priority to scientific names in the text (with colloquial or local names in parentheses, if desired).

Manufacturers' names: When a special piece of equipment has been used, it should be described so that the reader can trace its specifications by contacting the manufacturer; thus, 'Data were collected using a solid-state data logger (CR21X, Campbell Scientific, Utah, USA)'.

Mathematical material: Equation software should be used always. If there are several equations they should be identified by an equation number (e.g. 'eqn 1' after the equation, and cited in the text as 'equation 1').

Number conventions. Text. Numbers from one to nine should be spelled out except when used with units; e.g. two leaves but 10 species; 4 months and 8 kg.

Citations and references. Citation to work by three or more authors in the text should be abbreviated with the use of *et al.* (e.g. Popoola *et al.* 2010). Work with the same first author and date should be coded by letters, e.g. Fuwape *et al.* 2009a, b. Citations should be listed in chronological order in the text and separated by a comma, e.g. Popoola *et al.* 2010, Fuwape *et al.* 2008. The references in the Reference list should be in alphabetical order with the journal name unabbreviated. The format for journal papers, entire books and chapters in books and proceedings is as follows:

Journals:

Zianis, D. & Mencuccini, M. (2004). On simplifying allometric analyses of forest biomass. *Forest Ecology & Management*. 187: 311-332.

Adekunle, V. A. J., Akindele, S. O. & Fuwape, J. A. (2004). Structure and Yield Models for Tropical Lowland Rainforest Ecosystem of SW Nigeria. *Food, Agric and Environment*, 2: 395-399.

Books:

Zobeiri M. 2000. Forest Inventory. University of Tehran Press, Tehran. 401p.

Conference Proceedings:

Oyebo, M. A. (2006). History of forest management in Nigeria from 19th century to date. In: Imperatives of space technology for sustainable forest management

(Ayobami, T. S. - Editor). Proceedings of an international stakeholders' workshop sponsored by National Space Research and Development Agency held In Abuja, Nigeria between 27 and 28 March 2006, pg 1 - 14.

Reference to unpublished works, works in preparation or works under review should be avoided as much as possible.

Accepted Manuscripts: Authors are entitled to a copy of the issue where their papers were published. Additional copies can be purchased from the Business Manager of Forestry Association of Nigeria.

Publication Charge: The current publication fee is N15,000 (USD100). This is subject to review from time to time.