



3rd AFRICA-WIDE WOMEN AND YOUNG PROFESSIONALS IN SCIENCE COMPETITIONS

GUIDELINES FOR PAPERS

1. GENERAL INFORMATION

Each semi-finalist is required to submit a draft paper of not more than six (6) pages based on the abstract which was submitted, evaluated and approved by the Expert Panel for the 3rd Africa-wide Science Competitions. The paper must conform to the guidelines outlined below and be submitted to the organizers in MSWord 2003-2007 format on or before **Friday 31 August, 2012**. The draft paper must be submitted to scicom2012@cta.int with a copy to agsci_award@fara-africa.org. Failure to adhere to the August 31 deadline will result in immediate disqualification.

The competition organizers claim traditional copyright protection of all material except where copyright is held by a third party such as a governmental agency and, upon request, permit fair scientific use as long as the author and the competition organizers are credited.

Length of Paper

The maximum length of the full paper is 6 pages (A4) maximum, single spacing including references, figures, tables and photos.

Language

Papers should be written in either English or French, which are the official languages of the competitions. Latin words or phrases are written in italics, with the exception of very common expressions such as "i.e.," "e.g.," "et al.," "in vitro," "ex vitro" and "etc".

Referees

Each semi-finalist must submit one reference letter from a supervisor or head of organization as an attachment. Full name and contact details of the referee including telephone and fax numbers and email address(es) must be provided. The organizers reserve the right to contact all referees to verify information provided.

2. OUTLINE OF PAPER

The paper should include (i) the title (ii) an abstract followed by key words (iii) an introduction, (iv) Methodology (materials and methods), (v) results, (v) discussion and conclusion, (vi) communication strategy and impact (vii) acknowledgements and (viii) references. A brief description of the various sections follows.

Title

The title of the paper should be as concise as possible. Include the name of the lead author and the other author(s) without titles (such as Prof., Dr., Mr., Ms.) under the title. The surname or family name should appear after the initials of the given names. Initials are followed by a period. If two initials are listed, do not include a space between them but provide a space before the family name. If there are two authors, separate the names by "and", e.g. A.B. Smith

and C.D. Jones and; three authors would be A.B. Smith, C.D Jones and E.F. Brown. Accents and other symbols should be maintained so as not to violate their spelling rules. Place names of organizations or affiliation(s) and addresses under the name of the author(s).

Abstract

The abstract should not exceed 200-300 words and presented in a single paragraph. It should be a concise, comprehensive statement of the problem or hypothesis, methodology, and results. List five to seven keywords not used in the title below the abstract. Use a Rank two heading for the abstract.

Introduction

This should include a literature review, a statement of the problem or hypothesis, and the scope, objectives and/or purpose of the investigation/research/project. References should be included as appropriate.

Methodology (Materials and Methods)

Describe the method/approach, materials and the experimental design. Include the names of all chemicals and provide other relevant details as well as an overview of statistical methods.

Results

Present and describe the results based on approach, experiment, field work in a logical manner. Use well labeled tables, charts and figures as appropriate. Captions are provided directly above each table and below each figure with hanging indents. They are numbered consecutively, and aligned with the width of the Table or Figure, or to the full width of the page if the figure or table occupies more than half of the width of the page. Thus, Table 1, Table 2 etc. and Fig. 1, Fig. 2. etc. If the table or figure is not original, give the source at the end of the caption, e.g. Source: Jones et al. 2001.

Discussion & Conclusion

The primary purpose of the discussion is to show the relationship among observed facts Interpret the results obtained in relation to previous knowledge, formulated problems, hypothesis and objectives and present the principles, relationship, and generalizations shown. State your conclusions as clearly as possible, summarizing the evidence for each conclusion. Present future research/project scenarios as appropriate.

Communication Strategy & Impact

An important aspect of the science competition is the strategies used to communicate the results and the impact (demonstrated or potential) of the research undertaken. In a concise manner describe how results have been communicated and the impact (demonstrated or potential) of the research. Provide evidence as appropriate.

Acknowledgements

Acknowledge sponsorship, source(s) of funding, contributions from supervisors, colleagues or professional associates. Avoid acknowledgement of routine secretarial help or family members.

References

List only references used in the paper. List the authors in alphabetical order and in chronological order for publications of the same author(s). Do not use a comma before "and" after the

penultimate author. Do not use an issue number if the journal uses consecutive numbers for each volume. In the examples that follow, note that in all cases the given name or initials follow the surname or family name.

e.g. Journal Paper

Navazoi, J.P. and Simon, P.W. 2001. Diallel analysis of high carotenoid content in cucumber. *J. Amer. Soc. Hort. Sci.* 126:100-104. Van Os, E. and Benoit, F. 1999. State of the art of Dutch and Belgian greenhouse horticulture and hydroponics. *Acta Hort.* 481:765-767

e.g. Book:

Darrow, G.M. 1966. *The Strawberry: History, Breeding and Physiology*. Holt, Rinehart and Winston, New York.

e.g. Chapter in Book:

Daubeny, H.A. 1996. Brambles. p.109-190. In: J. Janick and J.N. Moore (eds.), *Fruit Breeding, Vol. 3, Nuts*. Wiley, New York.

e.g. Chapter in Conference Proceedings:

Aviram, M. and Fuhrman, B. 1998. Tomato lycopene and carotene inhibit LDL oxidation. *Proc. Tomato and Health Seminar*. Pamplona, Spain 25-28 May. p. 45-52.

e.g. Website:

Food and Agricultural Organization. 2002. www.fao.org. Accessed on 25th September, 2011.

3. FORMATTING REQUIREMENTS

Font and Type Size

Use Times New Roman font exclusively - 14 point for main headings and 12 point for the rest of the manuscript, including tables.

Spacing

Text should be "justified" in order to fill the entire printable area. Single spacing is required for paragraphs.

Citations

References in the text should be listed chronologically in parentheses e.g. (Peters, 1950; Jones and Smith, 1990; Brown et al., 1999a). If there are two authors with the same surname who have published in the same year, initials may be used to avoid confusion. Use "et al." for three or more authors. For citations of personal communications include the surname and initials of the person within the text e.g. (A.B. Peters, pers. commun.). The date is optional e.g. (A.B. Peters, pers. commun. 2001). Personal communication is not included in the list of references.

Units

Use the metric system exclusively. Use abbreviation "L" for liter, "mg/L" for milligram per liter, "ml" for milliliter, and "t" for tonne (metric ton). SI units can be used where appropriate.

Abbreviations

Other than units, avoid abbreviations, unless the word(s), name of organization or phrase is repeatedly used and the abbreviation is provided initially when the full word, name or phrase is first used.

Headings

Rank one: Use bold type and capital letters for Rank One headings e.g. INTRODUCTION, MATERIALS AND METHODS, RESULTS, DISCUSSION and CONCLUSION. They should be aligned with the left hand margin. Use a space between this heading and the following paragraph.

Rank two: This heading subdivides Rank One headings. Titles are bold. Capitalize the first letter of important words and use lower case for the others. Do not use a period or full stop after Rank Two headings. The paragraph starts on the first line after the Rank Two heading.

Rank three: This heading may be used to divide Rank Two headings. The beginning of each word should be in capital letters. The subheading ends with a period or full stop. The paragraph continues on the same line.

Rank four: This heading subdividing Rank Three headings is to be used rarely. The font is italic, not bold, with the beginning of each word in capital letters. Align left, end with a period, and continue on same line.

4. ARTICLE SUBMISSION

Submit the electronic version of the article in MSWord 2003-2007 format. Attach a copy of the referee letter. For print-technical reasons and to enhance the output quality where possible include a separate (electronic) copy of any picture, image or other graphic object files in high resolution and indicate the source.