Paper types

All paper types should be submitted online. Weak and poorly presented manuscripts will be rejected without review and it is the responsibility of the authors to check that the paper fits within the Aim and Scope of this journal. The Editor-in-Chief will allocate submitted papers to a member of the Editorial Board, who will oversee the refereeing process, before making a recommendation to the Editor in Chief. Authors are advised to have their papers subjected to an internal review process before submission and also have the paper checked by a fluent English speaker.

Research paper

Research papers should report a new and original study that is directly relevant to organic farming and food systems. The study may be focussed on one aspect or take an inter- or trans-disciplinary approach. For full details of the range of topics suitable see the Aims and Scope. While the broad scope of the journal makes prescriptions about presentation difficult, it is likely that a research paper will include the following sections (see Instructions to Authors for full details on presentation):

Abstract
150-250 words

Introduction
Setting the context of the work and giving the reader access to a summary of the most relevant recent literature on the topic; concluding with a clearly stated aim for the work).

Methods
Including criteria for case study selection if relevant.

Results
Clearly summarised with appropriate statistical analysis; additional materials may be provided as appendices in the on-line version.

Discussion
Critical appraisal of the results in the light of the study aim and previous published findings /hypotheses.

Conclusions
These should not simply be a summary of the previous results and discussion section but should integrate key points or draw out recommendations.

Acknowledgments
All funders whether in cash or kind should be clearly acknowledged.

References

Review

Authors, who are considering compiling a review paper, should contact the Editor-in-Chief in the first instance with a brief outline of the topic to be covered and the scope of the review including main subsections (1 page of A4). This is to avoid unnecessary work for authors where a number of reviews on the same topic are submitted almost simultaneously. Reviews which take a broad inter- or trans-disciplinary perspective towards an issue of concern to researchers and practitioners in organic farming and food systems are particularly welcomed. Reviews will follow normal editorial processes of consideration. Therefore a review once submitted following the initial invitation by the Editor-in-Chief does not guarantee acceptance of the final manuscript. It is likely that a review will include the following sections (see Instructions to Authors for full details on presentation):

Abstract
150-250 words

Introduction
Setting the broad context of the work and concluding with a clearly stated aim.

Methods
The scope and approach to the compilation of the information forming the basis of the review together with any criteria used for inclusion/exclusion of studies should be reported clearly.

Main body
In appropriate sub-sections

Conclusions
These should not simply be a summary of the previous results and discussion section but should integrate key points or draw out recommendations

Acknowledgments
All funders whether in cash or kind should be clearly acknowledged.

References
Region / country overview
Authors considering preparing a country / regional overview should contact the Editor-in-Chief in the first instance indicating the scope proposed. A country overview should include the following sections:

- **Abstract**: 150-250 words
- **Introduction**: Brief information on physical geography (climate, geology, topography, soils) and typical conventional agricultural systems
- **History and development**: Key statistics (if available) and organisational structure of the organic sector
- **Extent and characteristics of farming systems**: Extent and characteristics of food systems
- **Consumer demand and markets**: Policy and governance
- **Conclusion**: Key challenges and recommendations
- **Acknowledgments**: All funders whether in cash or kind should be clearly acknowledged.
- **References**

Technical note
These should draw together the results of a number of research studies in a format suitable for wider application. They will not present the results of new studies (research papers) nor provide an extensive critical review of the literature (reviews). Instead these papers should be focussed summaries (1000-1500 words excluding references) which draw out key principles with broad applicability and which might for example: support the further development of advisory notes to farmers at a regional level; the uptake of a new/revised research approach, or; highlight a key trend in consumer attitudes or behaviour. A technical note should include the following sections:

- **Abstract**: 100-150 words
- **Introduction**: Setting the broad context of the work and concluding with a clearly stated aim.
- **Main body**: In appropriate sub-sections
- **Conclusions**: These should not simply be a summary of the previous sections but should integrate key points or draw out recommendations
- **Acknowledgments**: All funders whether in cash or kind should be clearly acknowledged.
- **References**