

Peer Review Policy

Purpose

The Indian Journal of Animal Nutrition (IJAN), an official journal of Animal Nutrition Society of India (ANSI) is committed to maintain the highest standards of scientific quality, integrity, transparency, and ethical publishing. All manuscripts submitted to the IJAN will undergo a rigorous peer-review process to ensure the originality, scientific validity, relevance, and significance of the research.

Initial Editorial Screening

Upon submission, each manuscript will be screened by the Chief Editor for the scope, compliance to the author's guideline, scientific quality and novelty, ethical compliance, plagiarism assessment and the manuscripts that satisfy these mandatory criteria will be assigned to one of the section editors for the evaluation by a minimum two reviewer. Manuscripts that do not meet these requirements will be rejected without evaluation by the reviewers.

Manuscript evaluation

All research manuscripts that pass the initial editorial screening will be evaluated online by a **minimum of two independent reviewers**. All the reviewers participating in the review process are highly educated, with a broad exposure of research in the relevant area and publishing in high impact research journals. The editor will ensure that there is no conflict of interest between reviewers and authors while assigning the manuscript to the reviewers. The identity of reviewers shall remain not be revealed until the manuscript is accepted by the journal and publish. Under no circumstances shall a research manuscript be accepted based on the opinion of a single reviewer.

Reviewers will evaluate the manuscripts based on

- Originality and novelty
- Scientific soundness of methodology
- Appropriateness of statistical analysis
- Accuracy and interpretation of results
- Significance to animal nutrition and allied disciplines.
- Quality of presentation, organization, and language
- Compliance with ethical standards

Decision-Making

Based on the reviewers' comments and recommendations, the Editor may decide:

- Accept without revision
- Accept with minor revisions
- Reconsider after major revision
- Reject

If the recommendations of the two reviewers differ substantially, the editor may seek clarification from the reviewers; and/or assign the manuscript to a third independent reviewer. The editorial decision shall be based on the overall scientific merit of the manuscript and the reviewers' assessments. The editor shall communicate to the Chief Editor if any confusion arise during the

review process or decision making. The final decision regarding publication rests with the Chief Editor of the journal.

Revision and Resubmission

Authors receiving revision requests shall submit

- A clean copy of the revised manuscript
- Revised manuscript highlighting the changes or track change
- A detailed response to reviewers' comments indicating how each concern has been addressed.

Revised manuscripts may be returned to one or more original reviewers for further evaluation if desired so by the reviewers.

Confidentiality

Editors and reviewers shall treat all submitted manuscripts as confidential documents and shall not disclose, discuss, or use unpublished information obtained through the review process for personal advantage.

Ethical Responsibilities of Reviewers

Reviewers are expected to

- Provide objective, constructive, and timely reviews
- Identify relevant published work not cited by the authors
- Report suspected plagiarism, duplicate publication, data fabrication, or ethical concerns to the Editor.

Record Keeping

The journal maintains records of reviewer assignments, reviewer reports, editorial decisions, and author responses in accordance with the journal's publication and archiving policies.

Quality Assurance Statement

To ensure the integrity and quality of published research, every research manuscript submitted to IJAN shall undergo evaluation by at least two independent peer reviewers before any editorial decision on acceptance is made. A third reviewer may be consulted whenever deemed necessary by the Editor.