

INSTRUCTIONS TO AUTHORS

The Journal of Field Ornithology welcomes original articles that emphasize the descriptive or experimental study of birds in their natural habitats, articles reporting techniques that make such studies possible, and articles that comment on or reinterpret published studies or existing ideas. Contributions are encouraged from throughout the world, but must be written in English.

Submission

The original and two copies of the manuscript should be sent to the Editor: Edward H. Burt Jr., Department of Biological Sciences, Ohio Wesleyan University, Delaware, Ohio 43015 USA. A cover letter should include the title of the paper and the name, address for the subsequent six months, and telephone number of the person to whom correspondence should be sent.

Format

Manuscripts may not exceed 10 text pages exclusive of the title page, abstract, tables, and figures. Type the manuscript double-spaced throughout the text, tables, figure legends, and literature cited. Put your name in the upper left corner of each page and the page number, beginning with the title page and including the literature cited, in the upper right corner. Laser printed or letter-quality, computer-printed manuscripts are acceptable. Manuscripts should be typed on one side of good quality bond paper that measures 21.5 × 28 cm (8.5 × 11 in). Margins should be at least 2.5 cm (1 in) on all sides of the page.

Title page.—The title page should contain the full title and the author's name and address at the time the research was conducted. The author's present address if different should be given at the bottom of the title page.

Abstract.—The second page should be an abstract that does not exceed 5% of the length of the paper. The abstract should explain briefly to a general reader why the research was undertaken and why the results are important. It should also outline the results or conclusions and emphasize the main point of the paper.

Text.—The English and scientific names of a species should be given the first time it is mentioned. The scientific name should be underlined—do not use italic type. Bird names should follow the A.O.U. Check-list of North American Birds (1983) and supplements or the appropriate equivalent unless departures are explained and defended.

Use metric units. Measurement unit abbreviations should be those given in the fifth edition of the Council of Biology Editors Style Manual (1983). Use the 24-hour clock (0500 and 1700) and "continental" dating (10 March 1951). Define all symbols, abbreviations, and acronyms, but minimize their use.

Tables.—Each table should be typed, double-spaced throughout, on a separate page. Table titles should be concise and should appear at the top of the table. Tables may contain horizontal ruling, but must not contain vertical ruling. Tables should supplement, not duplicate, material in the text or figures.

Figures.—Submit figures as glossy 13 × 18 cm (5 × 7 in) black and white prints. Type (double-spaced) the legends consecutively on a separate page. The author's name and the figure number should be penciled on the back of each figure. Figures should be uncluttered, but convey a maximum amount of information and should not duplicate material in the text or tables. When preparing figures use "thin" rather than "fat" letters so that reduction of the figure will not close the spaces in letters such as "e" or "p." Use mechanical lettering, pressure transfer letters, or calligraphy; typewritten lettering is not acceptable. Drawings should be large enough to permit reduction to the size they will appear in print.

Literature citations.—List literature citations for all manuscripts in a Literature Cited section following the text and Acknowledgments. Text citations should include the author or first author, if more than two, and year (e.g., Lorenz 1935, Tinbergen et al. 1951). If you cite or quote critical matter directly from longer works, indicate the pertinent pages (e.g., von Frisch 1956:189). Citations of two or more works on the same topic should be cited in alphabetical order (e.g., King 1986, Wood 1980). Journal names should be abbreviated using the abbreviations found in BIOSIS. Unpublished papers or reports not generally available should not be cited unless a copy has been deposited in the van Tyne Library at the Museum of Zoology, University of Michigan, where they may be obtained for use by other researchers. Do not cite manuscripts that are in preparation.

Spanish translation.—The editorial staff will prepare a Spanish title and abstract for all articles accepted for publication. Authors are welcome to submit suggested Spanish translations.