



Instructions to Authors – 2017¹

Topics:

1. Scope.....	1
2. Editorial policies.....	1
2.1. Open access and peer review.....	1
2.2. Assurance of contents and assignment of copyright.....	2
2.3. Language.....	2
2.4. Publication costs.....	2
2.5. Care and use of animals.....	2
2.6. Types of articles.....	3
3. Guidelines to prepare the manuscript.....	3
3.1. Structure of a full-length research article.....	3
3.2. Structure of the article for short communication and technical note.....	7
3.3. Additional guidelines for style and units – Use of percentage.....	7
3.4. Additional guidelines for style and units – Representation of dispersion.....	8
3.5. Additional guidelines for style and units – Use of abbreviations.....	12
4. Guidelines to submit the manuscript.....	15
4.1. The Manuscript Central™ online system.....	15
4.2. The cover letter.....	16

1. Scope

Revista Brasileira de Zootecnia-Brazilian Journal of Animal Science (RBZ) encompasses all fields of Animal Science Research. The RBZ publishes original scientific articles in the areas of Aquaculture; Biometeorology and Animal Welfare; Forage; Animal Genetics and Breeding; Animal Reproduction; Ruminant and Non-Ruminant Nutrition; Animal Production Systems and Agribusiness.

2. Editorial policies

2.1. Open access and peer review

The RBZ is sponsored by the Brazilian Society of Animal Science, which provides readers or their institutions with free access to peer-reviewed articles published online by RBZ. Users have the right to read, download, copy, distribute, print, search, or link to the full texts of

articles. **Revista Brasileira de Zootecnia** is included in the Directory of Open Access Journals (DOAJ).

All the contents of this journal, except where otherwise noted, are licensed under a Creative Commons attribution-type BY (<http://creativecommons.org/licenses/by/4.0/>), which permits unrestricted use, distribution, and reproduction in any medium, provided the original work is properly cited.

A peer-review system is exerted on manuscripts sent for appreciation to maintain standards of quality, improve performance, and provide credibility. We use the double-blind style of reviewing by concealing the identity of the authors from the reviewers, and vice versa. Communication with authors should only be through the Scientific Editor (named as Editor-in-chief). Authors are given the chance to designate names to be considered by the Editor-in-chief as preferred or non-preferred reviewers. Reviewers should notify the editor about conflicts of interest (either positive or negative) that may compromise their ability to provide a fair and an unbiased review.

¹ Revised January 2017.

2.2. Assurance of contents and assignment of copyright

When submitting a manuscript for review, authors should make sure that the results of the work are original, and that the total or partial content of the manuscript, regardless of the language, has not been/ is not being considered for publication in any other scientific journal. Additionally, the authors assure that if they have used the work and/or words of others this has been appropriately cited or quoted warranting absence of plagiarism, which constitutes unethical publishing behavior.

Papers already published or that have been submitted to any other journal will not be accepted. Fractioned or subdivided studies should be submitted together because they will be assigned to the same reviewers.

The content of the articles published by *Revista Brasileira de Zootecnia* is of sole responsibility of their authors.

Authors who have a manuscript approved by RBZ are also requested to authorize that the right of total or partial electronic and graphic reproduction (copyright) of the paper be transferred to the Brazilian Society of Animal Science, which ensure us the rights necessary for the proper administration of electronic rights and online dissemination of journal articles.

After completing the submission of the manuscript by using the Manuscript Central™ online system, the corresponding author will be asked to email the file named Assurance of Contents and Copyright and will be responsible for stating the information required in the document regarding the manuscript and all co-authors. A template with the same name has been already prepared by the Brazilian Society of Animal Science and is available on the journal website at <http://www.revista.sbz.org.br/assurance-of-contents/?idiom=en>.

The original text of the template must NOT be altered but only completed with the requested information. The corresponding author must fill it out properly, sign it, initial all pages, scan and email it to RBZ's office e-mail address secretariarbz@sbz.org.br confirming all authors' participation in the manuscript.

The manuscript will not be considered for peer reviewing without this form. The deadline will be set allowing a period of 15 days for delivery of forms, after which the editorial office will act by withdrawing the manuscript.

2.3. Language

Submissions will only be accepted in the English language (either American or British spelling). The editorial board of RBZ reserves the right to demand that authors revise the translation or to cancel the processing of the manuscript if the English version submitted contains errors of spelling, punctuation, grammar, terminology, jargons or semantics that can either compromise good understanding or not follow the Journal's standards. It is strongly recommended that the translation process be performed by a professional experienced in scientific writing familiar with Animal Science, preferably a native speaker of English.

2.4. Publication costs

Processing fee

The payment of the processing fee is a prerequisite for submitting manuscripts to referees. The processing fee is of R\$ 53.00 (Fifty-three reals and no cents) for both members and non-members of the Brazilian Society of Animal Science (BSAS). Payment must be done according to guidance available on the SBZ website (www.sbz.org.br).

Publication fee

Revista Brasileira de Zootecnia adopt an Open Access policy and OA articles are freely accessible through the journal's website at <http://www.scielo.br/rbz> at the time of publication. The current article publication fee in the journal is of R\$ 160.00 (One hundred and sixty reals and no cents) per page if at least one author is a member of the BSAS. The member must be the first author or the corresponding author of the manuscript. If no authors are BSAS members, the publication fee is of R\$ 260.00 (Two hundred and sixty reals and no cents) per journal page. The Real is the present-day currency of Brazil. Its sign is R\$.

2.5. Care and use of animals

The *Revista Brasileira de Zootecnia* is committed to the highest ethical standards of animal care and use. Research presented in manuscripts reporting the use of animals must guarantee to have been conducted in accordance with applicable federal, state, and local laws, regulations, and policies governing the care and use of animals. The author should ensure that the manuscript contains a statement that all procedures were performed in compliance with relevant laws and institutional

guidelines and, whenever pertinent, that the appropriate institutional committee(s) has approved them before commencement of the study.

2.6. Types of articles

Full-length research article

A full-length research paper provides a complete account of the experimental work. The text should represent the research process and foster its cohesive understanding and a coherent explanation regarding all the experimental procedures and results and must provide the minimal information necessary for an independent reproduction of the research.

Short communication

A succinct account of the final results of an experimental work, which has full justification for publication, although with a volume of information which is not sufficient to be considered a full-length research article. The results used as the basis to prepare the short communication cannot be used subsequently, neither partially nor wholly, for the presentation of a full-length article.

Technical note

An evaluation report or proposition of a method, procedure or technique that correlates with the scope of RBZ. Whenever possible, one should show the advantages and disadvantages of the new method, procedure or technique proposed, as well as its comparison with those previously or currently employed, presenting the proper scientific rigor in analysis, comparison, and discussion of results.

Board-invited reviews

An approach that represents state-of-the-art or critical view of issues of interest and relevance to the scientific community. It can only be submitted by invitation of the editorial board of RBZ. The invited reviews will be subjected to the peer-review process.

Editorial

Notes to clarify and establish technical guidelines and/or philosophy for designing and making of articles to be submitted and evaluated by RBZ. The editorials will be drafted by or at the invitation of the editorial board of RBZ.

3. Guidelines to prepare the manuscript

3.1. Structure of a full-length research article

Figures, Tables, and Acknowledgments should be sent as separated files and not as part of the body of the manuscript.

The article is divided into sections with centered headings, in bold, in the following order: Abstract, Introduction, Material and Methods, Results, Discussion, Conclusions, Acknowledgments (optional) and References. The heading is not followed by punctuation.

3.1.1. Manuscript format

The text should be typed by using Times New Roman font at 12 points, double-space (except for Abstract and Tables, which should be set at 1.5 space), and top, bottom, left and right margins of 2.5, 2.5, 3.5, and 2.5 cm, respectively.

The text should contain up to 25 pages, sequentially numbered in arabic numbers at the bottom. The file must be edited by using Microsoft Word® software.

3.1.2. Title

The title should be precise and informative, with no more than 20 words. It should be typed in bold and centered as the example: **Nutritional value of sugar cane for ruminants**. Names of sponsor of grants for the research should always be presented in the Acknowledgments section.

3.1.3. Authors

The name and institutions of authors will be requested at the submission process; therefore they should not be presented in the body of the manuscript. Please see the topic 4. Guidelines to submit the manuscript for details.

The listed authors should be no more than eight.

The list of authors must contain all authors' full name with no initials, current email address, and complete information about their affiliation. This list must follow the same authorship order presented in the Assurance of Contents and Copyright.

Spurious and "ghost" authorships constitute an unethical behavior. Collaborative inputs, hand labor, and other types of work that do not imply intellectual contribution may be mentioned in the Acknowledgments section.

3.1.4. Abstract

The abstract should contain no more than 1,800 characters including spaces in a single paragraph. The information in the abstract must be precise. Extensive abstracts will be returned to be adequate with the guidelines.

The abstract should summarize the objective, material and methods, results and conclusions. It should not contain any introduction. References are never cited in the abstract.

The text should be justified and typed at 1.5 space and come at the beginning of the manuscript with the word ABSTRACT capitalized, and initiated at 1.0 cm from the left margin. To avoid redundancy the presentation of significance levels of probability is not allowed in this section.

3.1.5. Key Words

At the end of the abstract list at least three and no more than six key words, set off by commas and presented in alphabetical order. They should be elaborated so that the article is quickly found in bibliographical research. The key words should be justified and typed in lowercase. There must be no period mark after key words.

3.1.6. Introduction

The introduction should not exceed 2,500 characters with spaces, briefly summarizing the context of the subject, the justifications for the research and its objectives; otherwise it will be rerouted for adaptation. Discussion based on references to support a specific concept should be avoided in the introduction.

Inferences on results obtained should be presented in the Discussion section.

3.1.7. Material and Methods

Whenever applicable, describe at the beginning of the section that the work was conducted in accordance with ethical standards and approved by the Ethics and Biosafety Committee of the institution.

Please provide ethics committee number as follows: "Research on animals was conducted according to the institutional committee on animal use (protocol number).

As for the location of the experiment, it should contain city, state, country, and geographical coordinates (latitude, longitude, elevation). Names of universities, laboratories, farms or any other institutions must not be mentioned.

A clear description on the specific original reference is required for biological, analytical and statistical procedures. Any modifications in those procedures must be explained in detail.

The presentation of the statistical model as a separate sentence from the text and as a numbered equation is mandatory whenever the research is about designed experiments, observational studies or survey studies. All terms, assumptions, and fitting procedures must be fully described to allow readers for a correct identification of the experimental unit.

3.1.8. Results

The author must write two sections by separating results and discussion. In the Results section, sufficient data,

with means and some measure of uncertainty (standard error, coefficient of variation, confidence intervals, etc.) are mandatory, to provide the reader with the power to interpret the results of the experiment and make his own judgment. The additional guidelines for styles and units of RBZ should be checked for the correct understanding of the exposure of results in tables. The Results section cannot contain references.

3.1.9. Discussion

In the Discussion section, the author should discuss the results clearly and concisely and integrate the findings with the literature published to provide the reader with a broad base on which they will accept or reject the author's hypothesis.

Loose paragraphs and references presenting weak relationship with the problem being discussed must be avoided. Neither speculative ideas nor propositions about the hypothesis or hypotheses under study are encouraged.

3.1.10. Conclusions

Be absolutely certain that this section highlights what is new and the strongest and most important inferences that can be drawn from your observations. Include the broader implications of your results. The conclusions are stated by using the present tense.

Do not present results in the conclusions, except when they are strictly important for the generalization.

3.1.11. Acknowledgments

This section is optional. It must come right after the conclusions.

The Acknowledgments section must NOT be included in the body of the manuscript; instead, a file named Acknowledgment should be prepared and then uploaded as "supplemental file NOT for review". This procedure helps RBZ to conceal the identity of authors from the reviewers.

3.1.12. Use of abbreviations

Author-derived abbreviations should be defined at first use in the abstract, and again in the body of the manuscript, and in each table and figure in which they are used.

The use of author-defined abbreviations and acronyms should be avoided, as for instance: T3 was higher than T4, which did not differ from T5 and T6. This type of writing is appropriate for the author, but of complex understanding by the readers, and characterizes a verbose and imprecise writing.

3.1.13. Tables and Figures

It is essential that tables be built by option "Insert Table" in distinct cells, on Microsoft Word® menu (No tables with

values separated by the ENTER key or pasted as figure will be accepted). Tables and figures prepared by other means will be rerouted to author for adequacy to the journal guidelines.

Tables and figures should be numbered sequentially in Arabic numerals, presented in two separate editable files to be uploaded (one for the tables and one for the figures), and must not appear in the body of the manuscript.

They may be uploaded separately and in a higher number of files if the size of the files hampers the upload.

The title of the tables and figures should be short and informative, and the descriptions of the variables in the body of the table should be avoided.

In the graphs, designations of the variables on the X and Y axes should have their initials in capital letters and the units in parentheses.

Non-original figures, i.e., figures published elsewhere, are only allowed to be published in RBZ with the express written consent of the publisher or copyright owner. It should contain, after the title, the source from where they were extracted, which must be cited.

The units and font (Times New Roman) in the body of the figures should be standardized.

The curves must be identified in the figure itself. Excessive information that compromises the understanding of the graph should be avoided.

Use contrasting markers such as circles, crosses, squares, triangles or diamonds (full or empty) to represent points of curves in the graph.

Figures should be built by using Microsoft Excel® to allow corrections during copyediting, and uploaded as a separate editable Microsoft Word® file, named "Figures" during submission. Use lines with at least 3/4 width. Figures should be used only in monochrome and without any 3-D or shade effects. Do not use bold in the figures.

The decimal numbers presented within the tables and figures must contain a point, not a comma mark.

Mathematical formulas and equations must be inserted in the text as an object and by using Microsoft Equation or a similar tool.

3.1.14. References

Reference and citations should follow the Name and Year System (Author-date)

3.1.15. Citations in the text

The author's citations in the text are in lowercase, followed by year of publication. In the case of two authors, use 'and'; in the case of three or more authors, cite only the surname of the first author, followed by the abbreviation et al.

Examples:

Single author: Silva (2009) or (Silva, 2009)

Two authors: Silva and Queiroz (2002) or (Silva and Queiroz, 2002)

Three or more authors: Lima et al. (2001) or (Lima et al., 2001)

The references should be arranged chronologically and then alphabetically within a year, using a semicolon (;) to separate multiple citations within parentheses, e.g.: (Carvalho, 1985; Britto, 1998; Carvalho et al., 2001).

Two or more publications by the same author or group of authors in the same year shall be differentiated by adding lowercase letters after the date, e.g., (Silva, 2004a,b).

Personal communication can only be used if strictly necessary for the development or understanding of the study. Therefore, it is not part of the reference list, so it is placed only as a footnote. The author's last name and first and middle initials, followed by the phrase "personal communication", the date of notification, name, state and country of the institution to which the author is bound.

3.1.16. References section

References should be written on a separate page, and by alphabetical order of surname of author(s), and then chronologically.

Type them single-spaced, justified, and indented to the third letter of the first word from the second line of reference.

All authors' names must appear in the References section.

The author is indicated by their last name followed by initials. Initials should be followed by period (.) and space; and the authors should be separated by semicolons. The word 'and' precedes the citation of the last author.

Surnames with indications of relatedness (Filho, Jr., Neto, Sobrinho, etc.) should be spelled out after the last name (e.g., Silva Sobrinho, J.).

Do not use ampersand (&) in the citations or in the reference list.

As in text citations, multiple citations of same author or group of authors in the same year shall be differentiated by adding lowercase letters after the date.

In the case of homonyms of cities, add the name of the state and country (e.g. Gainesville, FL, EUA; Gainesville, VA, EUA). Sample references are given below.

Articles

The journal name should be written in full. In order to standardize this type of reference, it is not necessary to quote the website, only volume, page range and year. Do not use a comma (,) to separate journal title from its volume; separate periodical volume from page numbers by a colon (:).

Miotto, F. R. C.; Restle, J.; Neiva, J. N. M.; Castro, K. J.; Sousa, L. F.; Silva, R. O.; Freitas, B. B. and Leão, J. P. 2013. Replacement of corn by babassu mesocarp bran in diets for feedlot young bulls. *Revista Brasileira de Zootecnia* 42:213-219.

Articles accepted for publication should preferably be cited along with their DOI.

Fukushima, R. S. and Kerley, M. S. 2011. Use of lignin extracted from different plant sources as standards in the spectrophotometric acetyl bromide lignin method. *Journal of Agriculture and Food Chemistry*, doi: 10.1021/jf104826n (in press).

Books

If the entity is regarded as the author, the abbreviation should be written first accompanied by the corporate body name written in full.

In the text, the author must cite the method utilized, followed by only the abbreviation of the institution and year of publication.

e.g.: "...were used to determine the mineral content of the samples (method number 924.05; AOAC, 1990)".

Newmann, A. L. and Snapp, R. R. 1997. *Beef cattle*. 7th ed. John Wiley, New York.

AOAC - Association of Official Analytical Chemistry. 1990. *Official methods of analysis*. 15th ed. AOAC International, Arlington, VA.

Book chapters

The essential elements are: author (s), year, title and subtitle (if any), followed by the expression "In", and the full reference as a whole. Inform the page range after citing the title of the chapter.

Lindhal, I. L. 1974. Nutrición y alimentación de las cabras. p.425-434. In: *Fisiología digestiva y nutrición*

de los ruminantes. 3rd ed. Church, D. C., ed. Acríbia, Zaragoza.

Theses and dissertations

It is recommended not to mention theses and dissertations as reference but always to look for articles published in peer-reviewed indexed journals. Exceptionally, if necessary to cite a thesis or dissertation, please indicate the following elements: author, year, title, grade, university and location.

Castro, F. B. 1989. *Avaliação do processo de digestão do bagaço de cana-de-açúcar auto-hidrolisado em bovinos*. Dissertação (M.Sc.). Universidade de São Paulo, Piracicaba.

Palhão, M. P. 2010. *Induced codominance and double ovulation and new approaches on luteolysis in cattle*. Thesis (D.Sc.). Universidade Federal de Viçosa, Viçosa, MG, Brazil.

Bulletins and reports

The essential elements are: Author, year of publication, title, name of bulletin or report followed by the issue number, then the publisher and the city.

Goering, H. K. and Van Soest, P. J. 1970. *Forage fiber analysis (apparatus, reagents, procedures, and some applications)*. Agriculture Handbook No. 379. ARS-USDA, Washington, D.C., USA.

Conferences, meetings, seminars, etc.

Quote a minimal work published as an abstract, always seeking to reference articles published in journals indexed in full.

Casaccia, J. L.; Pires, C. C. and Restle, J. 1993. Confinamento de bovinos inteiros ou castrados de diferentes grupos genéticos. p.468. In: *Anais da 30ª Reunião Anual da Sociedade Brasileira de Zootecnia*. Sociedade Brasileira de Zootecnia, Rio de Janeiro.

Weiss, W. P. 1999. Energy prediction equations for ruminant feeds. p.176-185. In: *Proceedings of the 61th Cornell Nutrition Conference for Feed Manufacturers*. Cornell University, Ithaca.

Article and/or materials in electronic media

In the citation of bibliographic material obtained by the Internet, the author should always try to use signed articles, and also it is up to the author to decide which sources actually have credibility and reliability.

In the case of research consulted online, inform the address, which should be presented between the signs

< >, preceded by the words “Available at” and the date of access to the document, preceded by the words “Accessed on:”.

Rebollar, P. G. and Blas, C. 2002. Digestión de la soja integral en rumiantes. Available at: <http://www.ussoymeal.org/ruminant_s.pdf> Accessed on: Oct. 28, 2002.

Quotes on statistical software

The RBZ does not recommend bibliographic citation of software applied to statistical analysis. The use of programs must be informed in the text in the proper section, Material and Methods, including the specific procedure, the name of the software, its version and/or release year.

“... statistical procedures were performed using the MIXED procedure of SAS (Statistical Analysis System, version 9.2.)”

3.2. Structure of the article for short communication and technical note

The presentation of the title should be preceded by the indication of the type of manuscript whether it is a short communication or a technical note, which must be centered and bold.

The structures of short communications and technical notes will follow guidelines set up for full-length papers, limited, however, to 14 pages as the maximum tolerated for the manuscript.

Processing and publishing fees applied to communications and technical notes are the same for full-length papers.

3.3. Additional guidelines for style and units – Use of percentage

Because of the intense use of units in percentage form (%), the Editorial Board of *Revista Brasileira de Zootecnia* defines that percentage should be exceptionally and seldom used only for description of relative variations (e.g., variation of a result obtained in a given treatment in relation to other treatment) and not as an absolute unit of measurement.

3.3.1. Chemical or feed composition of diets

Chemical compositions of diets or feedstuffs have to be expressed as mass contents, e.g., g kg⁻¹ of dry matter or g kg⁻¹ as fed.

Examples:

Food composition of the concentrate mixture supplied to animals

Item	Incorrect (%)	Correct (g kg ⁻¹ as fed)
Corn grain	70.0	700
Soybean meal	27.0	270
Urea	1.0	10
Mineral mixture	2.0	20

Chemical composition of corn silage

Item	Incorrect (%)	Correct (g kg ⁻¹ as fed)
Dry matter ¹	35.23	352.3
Organic matter ²	95.45	954.5
Crude protein ²	7.86	78.6
Ether extract ²	2.35	23.5
Neutral detergent fiber corrected for ash and protein ²	55.86	558.6
Non-fibrous carbohydrates ²	29.38	293.8
Non-protein nitrogen ³	32.45	324.5

¹ Incorrect: percent as fed. Correct: g kg⁻¹ as fed.

² Incorrect: dry matter percentage. Correct: g kg⁻¹ dry matter.

³ Incorrect: total nitrogen percentage. Correct: g kg⁻¹ total nitrogen.

3.3.2. Measures of intake

Measures of intake have to be expressed as mass consumed per mass unit per unit of time.

Example:

Incorrect: “... animals presented average intake of 2.52% of body weight...”

Correct: “... animals presented average intake of 25.2 g kg⁻¹ d⁻¹ of body weight...”

3.3.3. Units expressed as coefficients

In animal science, it is common to produce variables given by the ratio between two variables. Therefore, because they represent direct measures made at the experimental unit and not relative comparisons among different situations (e.g., among treatments), those variables have to be expressed as mass unit per mass unit.

Most common examples:

Measures of digestibility coefficients:

Incorrect: “... the apparent digestibility coefficient of dry matter was 62.5%...”

Correct: “... the apparent digestibility coefficient of dry matter was 0.625...” (In this example, because it is a fractional measure, it is understood that it is expressed as g g⁻¹ or kg kg⁻¹). Another possibility is to express it as 625.0 g kg⁻¹ of dry matter.

Measures of fractions in degradation assays or body fraction yields or microbial growth

Incorrect: "... estimate of potentially degradable insoluble fraction of protein was 36.2%..."

Correct: "... estimate of potentially degradable insoluble fraction of protein was 36.3 g/100 g..." Another possibility is to express it as 363.0 g kg⁻¹ of crude protein.

Incorrect: "...average carcass dressing was 52.1% of body weight..."

Correct: "...average carcass dressing was 52.1 kg/100 kg of body weight..."

Incorrect: "... a microbial yield efficiency of 12.53% in comparison with intake of total digestible nutrients..."

Correct: "... a microbial yield efficiency of 125.3 g of microbial protein per kg of total digestible nutrients..."

Rates or variations over time in enzymatic measures or degradation assays or transit in the gastrointestinal tract

Incorrect: "... passage rate of fibrous material in the rumen environment was 3.5%/h..."

Correct: "... passage rate of fibrous material in the rumen environment was 0.035 h⁻¹..." The number of decimal places to be presented should not exceed four; otherwise use scientific notation, i.e., a × 10^b, or change the scale of measurements.

Coefficients of correlation and determination, and descriptive levels of probability

Coefficients of correlation and determination, and levels of probability are fractions and should not be expressed as percentage.

Incorrect: "... the coefficient of determination of the model was 92.53%..."

Correct: "... the coefficient of determination of the model was 0.9253..."

Incorrect: "... variables were strongly correlated (r = -82.39%)..."

Correct: "...variables were strongly correlated (r = -0.8239)..."

Incorrect: "... α = 5%..."

Correct: "... α = 0.05..."

3.3.4. Correct use of percentages

As previously highlighted, percentage should be used only for description of relative variations. And it must be used with parsimony.

Example:

Table 1 - Serum urea nitrogen concentrations (SUN, mg dL⁻¹) ... in grazing cattle

Item	Supplement ¹			CV (%)
	Control	Protein	Starch	
SUN	9.5b	14.3a	9.4b	7.8

¹ Means within rows followed by different letters are different by the Tukey test (P<0.05).

"...protein supplementation increased SUN concentration by 50.5% in relation to the control..."

3.4. Additional guidelines for style and units – Representation of dispersion

The clear, cohesive and correct representation of the results of a research paper is a key component of the characteristics that comprise comprehension, quality and reliability of the scientific publishing process.

However, the direct observation of the manuscripts submitted and the papers published by RBZ enlightens the plurality of the forms of exposure of the indicators of significance and dispersion (measures of uncertainty) of the results presented.

The Editorial Board of RBZ understands that the number of particularities in the form of exposing the results is directly proportional to the number of experimental designs and arrangements, as well as the number of statistical methods utilized.

Nevertheless, standard guidelines should and can be adopted by the authors in order to make the manner of exposure of the results more homogeneous. Thus, the guidelines presented below, which comprise the most common situations, must be followed by the authors for the correct establishment of the publishing style of Revista Brasileira de Zootecnia.

3.4.1. About the representation of the descriptive levels of probability for type I error (P-value)

Following the international trend of results exposure in research papers, the authors are recommended to present P-values from the statistical analyses to the readers, regardless of the critical level of probability adopted in the manuscript (α value). Whatever methods have been applied will not alter the discussion content at all. However, this makes the presentation of results more clear and allows the reader to make "judgments" on the results if they have a different view from that presented

by the authors. Reference notes for significance (e.g., use of asterisks) should be avoided.

It is mandatory that the P-value be presented with three decimal places. It must not be displayed with 2 decimal places, for it can generate ambiguity of interpretation (e.g., let us suppose that one assumes $\alpha = 0.05$. If two variables tested independently present P-values of 0.049 and 0.051, the rounding off for the two decimal places will make a P-value of 0.05 for both; however, one shows significant effect, whereas the other does not.)

3.4.2. About the critical level of probability (the α value) adopted in the manuscript and the significance representation throughout the text

For the right discernment between significance and non-significance in hypothesis testing, according to the Neyman-Pearson school, there is the need for establishing a (maximum) critical level of probability acceptable for type I error, from which the differences must be assumed as non-significant, most commonly known as " α value". This must be properly exposed at the end of the description of the statistical procedures, because it is part of the methods set for the research paper.

Example: "... $\alpha = 0.05$."

The choice of the α value must be done during the experimental planning, considering the factors inherent to the environment and the experimental material and the natural variability of the response variables to be assessed at the assay. Although the α value refers nominally to control of type I error, it must be pointed out that the probability of occurrence of type I and II errors commonly manifest antagonistically. Therefore, more strict α values (e.g., 0.01) represent a great control of type I error, but may reduce the level of control of type II error. In this way, it is up to the researcher, after the proper experimental considerations, to define the priorities of control of the statistical errors in their conditions and to adopt the pertinent α level.

If an author chose to make assertions about significance or no significance based on the previous choice of α , the indication of significance must agree with that choice. For instance, let us take a study conducted with $\alpha = 0.05$. In this study, the analysis of variance showed a P-value of 0.019. When presenting this to the reader in the text, the author must utilize: "...a difference was observed ($P < 0.05$)."

For expressions in the text, use the letter P (capital letter), not in italic and without spaces. Example: "...intake increased ($P < 0.05$), but there was no change in weight gain ($P > 0.05$)."

Additionally, for an RBZ's convention, the symbols \leq or \geq must not be used. Use only $<$ or $>$. Do not use the form " $P = 0.XX$ ".

The basic theory of hypothesis testing shows us the fact that there are two, and only two, distinct regions under a distribution of probability when this is utilized in the test: acceptance region of H_0 and rejection region of H_0 (or region of no rejection of H_0 and region of no acceptance of H_0 , as some areas would rather use).

This leads us to the warning about two common mistakes involving the interpretation of significance: the use of the term "tendency" or "trend" and the qualification of significance (according to the Neyman-Pearson school).

To illustrate the first mistake, let us suppose that an author is conducting a research project in whose planning $\alpha = 0.05$. At the analyses, for one of the variables, a P-value of 0.061 was observed. Due to the proximity of this value to the α value, the researcher presents in their text: "...for the X variable there was tendency for difference..."

Considering the summarized idea of tests and hypotheses presented previously, this type of argument is invalid, since there is no region of "tendency for acceptance of H_0 " or "tendency for rejection of H_0 ". Thus, the value of the statistics calculated can only be included in the regions of "rejection" or "not rejection" of H_0 . In this sense, the proximity of the value to α does not matter, contrarily to which region the statistics' calculated value suits.

Otherwise, to illustrate the second mistake, let us take a research paper in whose planning $\alpha = 0.05$. In this case, two variables presented at ANOVA, P-values of 0.035 and 0.002. Some may state that the first result is taken as significant, and the second as "highly" significant, which characterizes qualification. Again, there is the warning: the proximity between the values of P and α does not matter. Hence, there are no "little", "very", "highly" or "poorly" significant results, but only significant or non-significant.

There is an increasing tendency among authors worldwide to commingle the Fisher school with the Neyman-Pearson school, i.e., to present significance level and compromise statistical precision with body of evidence in rejecting or not rejecting the null hypothesis. The Fisher school is based on body or strength of

evidence, which means that the lower the P-value, the stronger the evidence. By body of evidence we mean that for some reason, such as some experimental conditions that could be controlled but were not, or some variable or variables that are known to interfere on treatment effects but were not dealt with for some particular reason (cost, rain, drought, etc.), a researcher is not forced to conclude in favor of the maintenance of the status quo simply because he (she) found $P=0.058$. Therefore, we strongly suggest the presentation of the confidence intervals because they combine the magnitude of a treatment effect with statistical precision and, as such, it circumvents the accept-reject dichotomy of the null hypothesis. Confidence intervals move us away from that dichotomy (Stang et al., 2010)¹.

The probability that a continuous random variable equals any one value is ZERO. That's why confidence intervals are built, because instead of making inference about the true value of a parameter, we are now interested in inferring that the true value of the parameter lies within some interval, i.e., the confidence interval. For all practical applications this means that estimates have to be given as the estimate of the mean plus or minus a certain amount (Mood et al., 1974)². Therefore,

$$P \left[\bar{x} - t_{1-\alpha/2} \sqrt{s^2 / n} < \mu < \bar{x} + t_{1-\alpha/2} \sqrt{s^2 / n} \right] = 0.95$$
 means that the probability that the random interval $\left(\bar{x} - t_{1-\alpha/2} \sqrt{s^2 / n}, \bar{x} + t_{1-\alpha/2} \sqrt{s^2 / n} \right)$ covers the unknown true mean μ equals 0.95. The length of the interval is $2t_{1-\alpha/2} \sqrt{s^2 / n}$ and is dependent on sample size (n) and sample variance (s^2). The value $t_{1-\alpha/2}$ is some statistics that could be computed from sample size and on the prior establishment of the significance level (α). Therefore, if authors want to present confidence intervals, they must previously define them. As possible examples we list:

"... the means were presented as $\bar{x} \left(\bar{x} - t_{1-\alpha/2} \sqrt{s^2 / n}, \bar{x} + t_{1-\alpha/2} \sqrt{s^2 / n} \right)$ ";

"... and confidence intervals for the means presented as $\bar{x} + t_{1-\alpha/2} \sqrt{s^2 / n}$."

There are statistical softwares that present confidence intervals as outputs, and in such cases, the length of the

¹ Stang, A.; Poole, C. and Kuss, O. 2010. The ongoing tyranny of statistical significance testing in biomedical research. *European Journal of Epidemiology* 25:225-230.

² Mood, A. M.; Graybill, F. A. and Boes, D. C. 1974. *Introduction to the theory of statistics*. McGraw-Hill Kogakusha, LTD., Tokyo.

³ All the examples herein described are hypothetical. None of them was taken from real experimental situations.

intervals presented can be calculated as the *upper* minus the *lower* limits of the confidence interval. Therefore, provided that the assumption about the distribution of errors holds true, for a given statistics computed from the data, $t_{1-\alpha/2} \sqrt{s^2 / n} = (upper - lower) / 2$. For all cases reported above, $s^2 = \text{RMS}$, in which RMS is the residual mean square.

3.4.3. Suggestions of styles for the representation of P-values and dispersion indicators in Tables for the most common experimental designs and arrangements³

Balanced experiments with qualitative treatments, conducted without the adoption of experimental arrangements, and considering homogeneous variances among treatments

In these situations, this form of table is recommended:

Table 1 - Voluntary intake of animals fed a diet with different energetic sources

Item	Energetic source ¹			P-value	CV (%)
	Alpha	Beta	Gamma		
	kg d ⁻¹				
Dry matter	6.301a	5.302b	5.892ab	0.036	5.3
...	g kg ⁻¹ of body weight				
Neutral detergent fiber	12.5a	10.4b	11.2b	0.045	4.8

¹ Means in the same row followed by different letters are different by the Tukey test (P<0.05).

In this example, the coefficient of variation (CV) is calculated as:

$$CV (\%) = \frac{\sqrt{RMS}}{\bar{Y}} \times 100$$

in which: RMS = residual mean square; and \bar{Y} = overall mean obtained from all the observations.

Although CV is widely adopted in Brazil, there is a trend for its replacement in the international journals by the standard error of the mean. This also shows as reality for the users of PROC MIXED of SAS, which does not compute CV values for ANOVA. If this is the option for the authors, the tables can be put together as:

Table 2 - Total digestibility coefficients (g g⁻¹) of animals fed diets containing different energetic sources

Item	Energetic source ¹			P-value	SEM
	Alpha	Beta	Gamma		
Dry matter	0.605b	0.612b	0.669a	0.0172	0.035
...					

¹ Means in the same row followed by different letters are different by the Tukey test (P<0.05).

The standard error of the mean must be expressed with the same number of decimal places applied to the means, and can be represented in the table by the acronym “SEM” or by the notation $S_{\bar{x}}$. For the specific case of this example, SEM is calculated as:

$$S_{\bar{x}} = \frac{\sqrt{RMS}}{\sqrt{n}}$$

in which: RMS = residual mean square; and n = number of observations in each treatment.

It is important to emphasize that in case of supposition of homogeneous variances among treatments, only one indicator of variance must be presented; the indication of different standard errors to the different treatments is inconsistent with the presuppositions of the analyses.

Balanced experiments balanced with qualitative treatments, conducted without the adoption of experimental arrangements and considering heterogeneous variances among treatments

This type of experimental interpretation has become common with the evolution of the statistical software, especially with the utilization of PROC MIXED, from SAS. In this case, as different variances will be assumed among treatments, each treatment must be followed by its respective indicator of dispersion; in this case, the standard error may be used. Another possibility is to present the associated confidence intervals for treatment means.

Table 3 - Characteristics of the metabolism of nitrogen compounds in animals fed different protein sources

Item	Protein source ¹			P-value
	Omega	Pi	Kapa	
Serum urea nitrogen (mg dL ⁻¹)	12.35±1.36b	17.18±1.75a	18.54±0.98a	0.023
...				

¹ Means in the same row followed by different letters are different by the Tukey-Kramer test (P<0.05).

We stress that the indicator of dispersion presented in Table 1 is inherent to the treatment’s mean (thence the association by the symbol ±). In this case, the standard error is mandatory (standard deviation must not be used). The presentation of the confidence intervals may offer a rather comprehensive data description.

Balanced experiments with quantitative treatments, conducted without the adoption of experimental

⁴ When fitting the linear regression models, use the notation “r²” (lowercase) for functions with a single independent variable (e.g., simple linear) and “R²” (capital letter) for the functions with more than one independent variable or for polynomial models (e.g., quadratic).

arrangements and considering homogeneous variances among treatments

The differences between quantitative treatments must not be interpreted by means of conventional tests of multiple comparisons (e.g., Tukey, LSD, Duncan, SNK, Dunnett). Utilize appropriate tests of multiple comparisons (e.g., The Williams test) or utilize regression models (linear or nonlinear).

A common and usually efficient form to interpret can be achieved by performing orthogonal decomposition of the sum of squares for treatments in contrasts associated with the different order effects (e.g., linear, quadratic, cubic, etc.). This decomposition can be done through the adjustment of equation of linear regression corresponding to the highest significant order effect⁴.

In the case of orthogonal decomposition, it must be emphasized that experiments carried out with “p” levels (in the case above, four levels of additive in the diet; p = 4) provide evaluation of “p-1” order effects (in the example, p - 1 = 3; linear, quadratic and cubic).

The adoption of the maxim “models of cubic or superior order do not make sense” must be careful, and in some cases, this can distort the presentation and interpretation of results.

Example:

Table 4 - Performance characteristics of animals fed diets containing different levels of additive

Item	Additive (g kg ⁻¹ of dry matter)				CV (%)	P-value ¹		
	0	3	6	9		L	Q	C
Intake (g) ²	125	135	147	152	3.8	0.015	0.225	0.567
...								

¹ L, Q and C - linear, quadratic and cubic effects, concerning the inclusion of additive in the diet.

² $\hat{Y} = 125.8 + 3.10 \times X$ (r² = 0.976).

In some cases where high-degree effects are not significant, one can proceed to its grouping in the interpretation of the experiment as “lack of fit”, which can reduce the number of columns in the tables.

Example:

Table 5 - Performance characteristics of animals fed diets containing different levels of additive

Item	Additive (g kg ⁻¹ of dry matter)					CV (%)	P-value ^{1,2}		
	0	3	6	9	12		L	Q	LF
Intake (g) ³	125	135	147	152	161	4.1	0.032	0.359	0.603
...									

¹ L and Q - effects of linear and quadratic order concerning the inclusion of additive in the diet.

² LF - lack of fit.

³ $\hat{Y} = 126.2 + 2,966 \times X$ (r² = 0.985).

One example is shown in Figure 1, which simulates the interpretation of the concentration of rumen ammonia nitrogen as a function of the time after feeding. Observing the points equivalent to the average concentrations obtained in each period, it can be easily seen that the concentration of ammonia nitrogen rises up to the point of highest concentration more intensely than it declines after this point. So, at the interval evaluated, the elevation and reduction of the concentration of ammoniacal nitrogen are asymmetric in relation to the point of maximum concentration. The interpretation of this by a model of second degree (quadratic) implicitly assumes that elevation and reduction happen with the same intensity, i.e., symmetrically in relation to the point of maximum concentration (which ends up distorting the location of the maximum point). In this case, as can be seen in Figure 1, the description is more coherent and logically done by function of the third degree (asymmetric in relation to the maximum point).

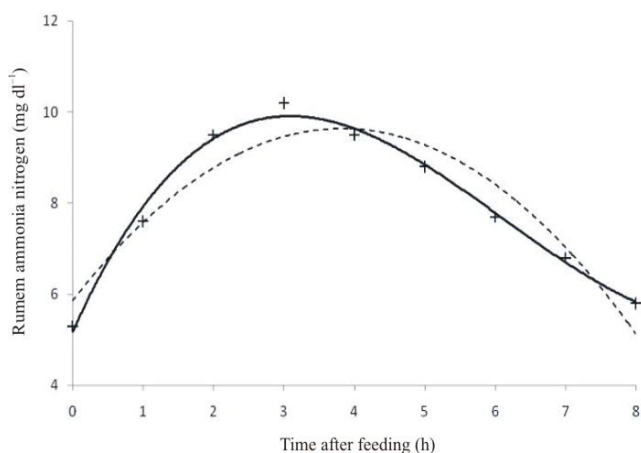


Figure 1 - Concentration of ruminal ammonia nitrogen as a function of the time after feeding (dashed line indicates quadratic function; continuous line indicates cubic function).

Balanced experiments with qualitative treatments, conducted with the adoption of experimental arrangements and considering homogeneous variances among treatments

The adoption of experimental arrangements (e.g., factorial, split plot) is common in experiments in the animal science area, and the information from their application must be adequately exposed to the reader.

As an example, in factorial arrangements the treatments are defined by the combination of the different levels (quantitative or qualitative) of the factors studied. They

start to build the aim of studies in terms of their possible interaction or their direct (independent) effects, should they not interact with themselves, on the response variables. Hence, this piece of information (interaction and/or independent effects) must be presented coherently to the reader.

Example:

Table 6 - Voluntary intake in ruminants fed low-quality forage supplemented with nitrogen compounds and/or starch

Item	WN		N		SEM	P-value ¹		
	WS	S	WS	S		N	S	N × S
g kg ⁻¹ of body weight								
NDFap	11.2	10.5	12.8	12.0	1.1	0.003	0.046	0.485
...								

WN - without nitrogen compounds; N - with nitrogen compounds; WS - without starch; S - with starch; NDFap - Neutral detergent fiber corrected for ash and protein.

¹ N, S and N × S - effects of supplementation with nitrogen compounds, supplementation with starch and their interaction, respectively.

3.5. Additional guidelines for style and units – Abbreviation

The use of defined abbreviations and acronyms by the authors, especially for treatments, should be avoided. When necessary, the abbreviation should be defined the first time it is used in the summary (abstract) and again in the body of the manuscript.

There is no need to define symbols for chemical elements or simple compounds. Units of weights and measures conform to international standards; therefore it is incorrect to create new abbreviations.

Abbreviations in the titles and tables should be avoided. Long terms or expressions that aesthetically do not fit as written in tables should be spelled out as footnote of the table or figure.

Example: “Average contents of dry matter (DM), crude protein (CP), acid detergent fiber (ADF), neutral detergent fiber (NDF), ether extract (EE), mineral matter (MM), organic matter (OM), total carbohydrates (TC), non-fiber carbohydrates (NFC), and total digestible nutrients (TDN) of the ingredients of the experimental diets.”

Suggestion: “Chemical composition of the experimental diets”

Do not start a sentence with an abbreviation, acronym or symbol.

Wrong: “TC is a parameter that influences the final quality of the silage.”

Suggestion: Total carbohydrate composition influences the final quality of the silage.

The use of abbreviations and acronyms in the summary should be limited. Too many abbreviations in the text makes it aesthetically cluttered and impairs the comprehension. The description by using abbreviations is appropriate for the author, but difficult to interpret for the reader, who will need to stop reading to consult the descriptions in the text.

Units of measure are not abbreviated when they follow a number in full at the beginning of a sentence.

Wrong: 2 L of water were added to the contents for analysis (...)

Suggestion: Two liters of water were added (...)

All abbreviations are written as singular, although they can be plural in the context (VFA instead of VFAs).

Abbreviations are generally not permitted in either the title or conclusions.

3.5.1. Abbreviations

AA = amino acid
AAI = essential amino acid(s)
ACTH = adrenocorticotrophic hormone
ADDM = apparent digestibility of dry matter
ADF = acid detergent fiber
ADFI = average daily feed intake (differs from DMI)
ADG = average daily gain
ADIN = acid detergent insoluble nitrogen
ADL = acid detergent lignin
ADP = adenosine diphosphate
AI = artificial insemination
AIA = acid insoluble ash
AMP = adenosine monophosphate
ANOVA = analysis of variance
ATP = adenosine triphosphate
ATPase = adenosine triphosphatase
avg = average (use only in tables)
BCS = body condition score
BHBA = β -hydroxybutyrate
BLUE = best linear unbiased estimator
BLUP = best linear unbiased predictor
bp = base pair
BSA = bovine serum albumin
bST = bovine somatotropin
BTA = *Bos taurus* autosome
BUN = blood urea nitrogen
BW = body weight
CCW = cold carcass weight
cDNA = complementary deoxyribonucleic acid

CF = crude fiber
CI = confidence interval*
CLA = conjugated linoleic acid
CN = casein
CoA = coenzyme A
Co-EDTA = Cobalt ethylenediaminetetraacetate
CP = crude protein
cRNA = complementary ribonucleic acid
CV = coefficient of variation*
DCAD = dietary cation-anion difference
DE = digestible energy
df = degrees of freedom*
DFD(meat) = dark, firm, and dry
DIM = days in milk
DM = dry matter
DMI = dry matter intake
DNA = deoxyribonucleic acid
DNase = deoxyribonuclease
EBV = estimated breeding value
eCG = equine chorionic gonadotropin
ECM = energy-corrected milk
EDTA = ethylenediaminetetraacetic acid
EE = ether extract
EFA = essential fatty acid
EIA = enzymeimmunoassay
ELISA = enzyme-linked immunosorbent assay
EPD = expected progeny difference
ETA = estimated transmitting ability
FA = fatty acid
FCM = fat-corrected milk
FFA = free fatty acids
FSH = follicle-stimulating hormone
GAPDH = glyceraldehyde 3-phosphate dehydrogenase
GC-MS = gas chromatography-mass spectrometry
GE = gross energy
GH = growth hormone
GHRH = growth hormone-releasing hormone
GLC = gas-liquid chromatography
GLM = general linear model
GnRH = gonadotropin-releasing hormone
h² = heritability*
hCG = human chorionic gonadotropin
HCW = hot carcass weight
HEPES = N-2-hydroxyethyl piperazine-N'-ethanesulfonic acid
HPLC = high performance (pressure) liquid chromatography
HTST = high temperature, short time
i.d. = inside diameter
i.m. = intramuscular
i.p. = intraperitoneal
i.v. = intravenous
IFN = interferon
Ig = immunoglobulin

IGF = insulin-like growth factor
 IGFBP = insulin-like growth factor-binding protein
 IL = interleukin
 IMI = intramammary infection
 IR = infrared reflectance
 IVDMD = *in vitro* dry matter disappearance
 LA = lactalbumin
 LD50 = lethal dose 50%
 LG = lactoglobulin
 LH = luteinizing hormone
 LHRH = luteinizing hormone-releasing hormone
 Lig = lignin
 LM = *longissimus(dorsi)* muscle
 LPS = lipopolysaccharide
 LSD = least significant difference*
 LSM = least squares means*
 mAb = monoclonal antibody
 ME = metabolizable energy
 ME_n = metabolizable energy corrected for nitrogen balance
 MIC = minimum inhibitory concentration
 ML = maximum likelihood
 MP = adenosine monophosphate
 MP = metabolizable protein
 mRNA = messenger ribonucleic acid
 MS = mean square*
 mtDNA = mitochondrial deoxyribonucleic acid
 MUFA = monounsaturated fatty acids
 MUN = milk urea nitrogen
 n = number of samples*
 NAD = nicotinamide adenine dinucleotide
 NADH = reduced form of NAD
 NADP = nicotinamide adenine dinucleotide phosphate
 NADPH₂ = reduced form of NADP
 NAGase = N-acetyl-β-D-glucosaminidase
 NAN = nonammonia nitrogen
 NDF = neutral detergent fiber
 NE = net energy
 NEFA = nonesterified fatty acids
 NE_g = net energy for gain
 NE_l = net energy for lactation
 NE_m = net energy for maintenance
 NE_{m+p} = net energy for maintenance and production
 NE_p = net energy for production
 NFC = nonfiber carbohydrates
 NPN = nonprotein nitrogen
 NRC = National Research Council
 NS = nonsignificant*
 NSC = nonstructural carbohydrates
 o.d. = outside diameter
 OM = organic matter

PAGE = polyacrylamide gel electrophoresis
 PBS = phosphate-buffered saline
 PCR = polymerase chain reaction
 pfu = plaque-forming unity
 PG = prostaglandin
 PGF_{2α} = prostaglandin F_{2α}
 PMNL = polymorphonuclear neutrophilic leukocyte
 PMSG = pregnant mare's serum gonadotropin
 PSE = pale, soft, and exudative (meat)
 PTA = predicted transmitting ability
 PUFA = polyunsaturated fatty acids
 QTL = quantitative trait loci
 r = correlation coefficient*
 R² = coefficient of determination*
 RDP = rumen-degradable protein
 REML = restricted maximum likelihood
 RFLP = restriction fragment length polymorphism
 RIA = radioimmunoassay
 RNA = ribonucleic acid
 RNase = ribonuclease
 rRNA = ribosomal ribonucleic acid
 RUP = rumen-undegradable protein
 s.c. = subcutaneous
 SCC = somatic cell count
 SCM = solids-corrected milk
 SD = standard deviation*
 SDS = sodium dodecyl sulfate
 SE = standard error*
 SEM = standard error of the mean*
 SFA = saturated fatty acids
 SNF = solids-not-fat
 SNP = single nucleotide polymorphism
 sp., spp. = one species, several species
 SPC = standard plate count
 SS = sums of squares*
 SSC = sus scrofa chromosome
 SSPE = saline-sodium phosphate-edta buffer
 ST = somatotropin
 TCA = trichloroacetic acid
 TDN = total digestible nutrients
 TLC = thin layer chromatography
 TMR = total mixed ration
 Tris = tris(hydroxymethyl)aminomethane
 TSAA = total sulfur amino acids
 UF = ultrafiltration, ultrafiltered
 UHT = ultra-high temperature
 UV = ultraviolet
 VFA = volatile fatty acids
 wt = weight (use only in tables)

Physical units and other units

× = crossed with, times

°C = celsius (with number)

* Use generally restricted to tables and parenthetical expressions.

μ (prefix) = micro
 μCi = microcurie
 μE = micro-einstein
 μF = microfarads
 μg = microgram
 $\mu\text{g kg}^{-1}$ = parts per billion
 μL = microliter
amu = atomic mass unit
atm = atmosphere
bp = base pair
ca. = circa
cal = calorie
cc, cm^3 = cubic centimeter
cfu = colony-forming unit
Ci = curie
cm = centimeter
cM = centimorgan
 cm^2 = centimeter, square
cP = centipoise
cpm = counts per minute
cps = counts per second
CPU = central processing unit
cu = cubic
D = density
d = day(s)
Da = dalton
dL = deciliter
Eq = equivalents
g = gram
g = gravity
h = hour(s)
ha = hectare
Hz = cycles per second (hertz)
IU = international unit
J = joule
K = Kelvin
k (prefix) = kilo
kb = kilobase
Kbp = kilobase pair
KB = kilobyte
kcal = kilocalorie
keV = kiloelectron volts
kg = kilogram
kPa = kilopascal
KU = Klett units
L = liter
ln = logarithm (natural)
log₁₀ = logarithm (base 10)
lx = lux
M (prefix) = mega
m (prefix) = milli
m = meter

M = molar (concentration)
 mg kg^{-1} = parts per million
min = minute(s)
mL = milliliter
mM = millimolar (concentration)
mm Hg = millimeters of mercury
 mm^3 = cubic millimeter
mmol = millimole (mass)
mo = month(s)
mol = mole (number, mass)
n (prefix) = nano
N = Newton
N = normal (concentration)
ng = nanogram
p (prefix) = pico
P = probability
Pa = Pascal
pfu = plaque-forming unit
pg = picogram
rpm = revolutions per minute
RU = rennet activity unit
s = second(s)
U = unit
use lx = foot-candle
use mmol kg^{-1} = osmolality
V = volt
vol = volume
vol vol^{-1} (use parenthetically) = volume/volume
W = Watt
wk = week(s)
wt vol^{-1} (use parenthetically) = weight/volume
yr = year(s)
Time: The 24h clock should be used, e.g.: 14.00 hours;
14.30 hours

4. Guidelines to submit the manuscript

4.1. The Manuscript Central™ online system

The journal editorial office of *Revista Brasileira de Zootecnia* is now using an online system, The Manuscript Central™, to manage the submission and peer review the manuscripts. Manuscript Central™ is a product of the ScholarOne® platform of Thomson Reuters (<http://scholarone.com/>).

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4.2. The cover letter

It is expected that the corresponding author writes a letter that explains the reasons why the editor would want to publish your manuscript.

See an example of what should go in this letter:

- Inform the title of the manuscript and the last name of the author;
- Primarily it is important to emblazon the relevance of the subject studied in a concise manner.
- If there is any novelty on your work, please report this to the editor. It is also important to stress the originality of the research, if it is the case.
- What is the main finding of the study?
- Additional results but less relevant shall be mentioned then.
- What is the implication of the findings of the study?
- Inform the editor if there is any patent related to your study.
- If any part of this study has already been published, tell the editor that this is the case of preliminary result, or only partial. Also inform the location, the event and the date of such publication. Otherwise, state that this is an original study that has not been published either in part or as a whole.

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