

2ND U.S. PRECISION LIVESTOCK FARMING CONFERENCE (USPLF 2023)

Conference Theme: Field Implementation of PLF

A HYBRID event with both IN-PERSON and VIRTUAL attendance options



Author Instructions for Full Paper

2nd U.S. Precision Livestock Farming Conference

USPLF2023

Authors are required to follow instructions in this document for preparing their full papers. The Proceedings Committee reserves the right to reject papers that do not substantially meet the requirements or where spelling, grammar, format, and English require considerable work to bring the papers up to the standards for the proceedings. Authors need to make sure that their final full papers are ready for the publisher.

GENERAL INFORMATION

To ensure uniformity of style and layout throughout the proceedings we request that you follow these instructions carefully. Please also look at the example paper in association with these guidelines. All papers will be peer-reviewed. Thus, submission does not guarantee acceptance of a paper. Accepted papers will be published in the conference proceedings. Papers must be submitted via usplf2023.exordo.com.

- The paper must be provided as a Microsoft Word file.
- Authors who are not native English speakers are strongly advised to have their papers checked/corrected by a native English speaker before submission. Manuscripts with serious linguistic shortcomings will not be accepted for publication.
- There is no flexibility on the date for manuscripts to be sent to the publisher by the Proceedings Committee. Authors must therefore keep to the deadlines indicated.
- Max 8 pages. The total number of pages per paper is restricted to eight, including tables, figures, images, references and acknowledgements. Papers which exceed the eight-page limit will not be accepted.
- Max file size is 5MB.
- Please note: Papers will only be published in the Conference Proceedings if at least one of the paper authors has paid the registration fee.

REVIEWING

All submitted papers will be peer-reviewed. Papers with substantial comments or corrections will be returned to authors for revision. Papers which do not adhere to the guidelines for layout and formatting will not be accepted for publication.

LAYOUT AND PAGE FORMATTING

- The style of the whole MS Word document should be set as 'Normal'.
- Page size: A4.
- Font: 12 pt Times New Roman.
- Line spacing: single.
- Include line numbers.
- Do not include page numbers.
- No headers or footers (other than footnotes).
- Do not include paper ID number.
- Margins: 30 mm (1.2 inch) all sides.
- Section titles – main sections: left adjusted, bold, sentence case; sub-sections: left adjusted, regular,

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sentence case, under scored.

- One blank line before and after main section titles, and one blank line before sub-section titles.
- Paragraphs should be fully justified. Do not use indentation in main text.

TEXT FORMATTING

- Title – bold, left adjusted, sentence case.
- Authors – regular, left adjusted, sentence case.
- Institutions and Addresses – italics, left adjusted, sentence case.
- Name and email address of corresponding author - regular, left adjusted, sentence case.
- Abstract – approximately 250 words.
- Keywords – 5 maximum.
- Main text divided into sections. Suggested sections are Introduction, Materials and methods, Results and Discussion, Conclusions, Acknowledgements, References.
- Use italics for Latin biological names, journal titles, for Latin phrases such as 'et al.' and also for the statistical parameters P ($P < 0.001$) and R^2 ($R^2 = 0.87$).
- Use single ('.....') instead of double quotation marks (".....").
- For symbols and international characters, use the 'Insert/Symbol/Times New Roman' option of MS Word.

TABLE FORMATTING

- Tables should be placed close to where they are referenced in the text.
- A table number and legend should be placed above each table.
- The number of vertical and horizontal lines in a table must be kept to a minimum.
- Generally, there should be no vertical lines and no horizontal lines within the body of a table.
- Values in a table should be in regular font.

FIGURE FORMATTING

- Figures should be embedded in the paper close to where they are referenced in the text.
- Figures should preferably be placed at the top or bottom of a page.
- All figures must have a figure number and a legend placed underneath the figure.
- All axes should have legends with units (where appropriate).
- All captions/legends on a figure must be clearly legible – note that the A4 pages will be reduced to about three quarters in each direction when printed in the Proceedings.
- All maps must have a length scale.
- There should be no overall frame to a figure.
- The proceedings will be printed in B/W. Therefore, authors should check for clarity/quality of colour figures converted to B/W or gray scale.

EQUATIONS

- Preferable, equations should be written in Microsoft Equation Editor.
- Equations should normally be placed on separate lines from the text.
- Equations should be numbered sequentially, the number appearing to the right of the equation and in round parentheses ().

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IMAGES/PHOTOGRAPHS

- Photographs should be used sparingly.
- If you are using images/photographs, please use high resolution images.

ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS

- Any acknowledgements should follow the discussion.
- If grant support is acknowledged, the complete names of the funding agencies should be included unless these are well understood, e.g., USDA.

REFERENCES

- For references within the text: use the format 'author (year) or (author, year)' for a single reference only, or '(author, year; author, year)' for more references; please use round brackets only. Use '&' and not 'and'; for example, Ardiani & Scimone. If there are more than two authors per reference, reduce to 'first author *et al.* (year) or (first author *et al.*, year)'. If several papers by the same first author or by first authors with the same surname and published in the same year are cited, the year of publication should be suffixed by the letters a, b, c, etc. All sources quoted in the text should be listed in the list of references at the end of the paper. No references should be given in the abstract.
- For the list of references: Use 'Times New Roman' size 10.
- References should be listed alphabetically. If there are more references by the same author, please place them in chronological order.
- Use a hard return after each reference and no hyphenation. Do not leave blank lines between references.
- Each reference should be arranged as follows:
 - For journal articles:

Author(s) (year) Title. *Journal Title* (in full) volume number, page-page.

Example:
Dulphy J.P., Demarquilly C., Baumont R., Jailler M., Hotelier L. and Dragomir C. (1999) Study of modes for preparation of fresh and conserved forage samples for measurement of their dry matter and nitrogen degradations in the rumen. *Annales de Zootechnie* 48, 275-288.
 - For book chapters or contributions:

Author(s) (year) Chapter title. In: Editor(s) names (eds) *Book Title* (in full), Publisher, Address, page-page.

Example:
Cherney D.J.R. (2000) Characterization of forages by chemical analysis. In: Givens D.J., Owen E., Axford R.F.E. and Omed H.M. (eds) *Forage Evaluation in Ruminant Nutrition*, CAB International, Wallingford, UK, pp. 281-300.
 - For whole books:

Author(s) (year) *Book title*, Edition, Publisher, Address, pages.

Example:
Frame J., Charlton G.F.L. and Laidlaw A.S. (1997) *Temperate Forage Legumes*, CAB International, Wallingford, UK, 336 pp.
 - For conference proceedings:

Author(s) (year) Title. In: Editor(s) names (eds) *Proceedings Title*. Proceedings name,

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Publisher, Address, page no.-page no.

Example:

Ritchie M.E. and Olff H. (1999) Herbivore diversity and plant dynamics: Compensatory and additive effects. In: Olff H., Brown V.K. and Drent R.H. (eds) *Herbivores: Between Plants and Predators*. The 38th Symposium of the British Ecological Society, Blackwell Science, Oxford, UK, pp. 175-204.

ABBREVIATIONS, UNITS AND NUMBERS

- Only SI units and abbreviations should be used.
- Abbreviations should be explained when they first appear in the text. If a non-standard abbreviation is to be used extensively, it should be defined in full.
- For mineral contents in soil, fertilisers, manures, plants and animal products, etc., the elements (i.e. P, N, K, etc.) should be used instead of their oxides. Isotopes should be indicated as ¹⁴C, ³²P, etc.; ions should be mentioned as H⁺, Mg²⁺, etc.
- For molar concentrations italic M should be used.
- Write units of measurement in scientific notation (use kg ha⁻¹ and not kg/ha), concentration as g kg⁻¹ or mg kg⁻¹ and not as percentage (%) or as ppm.
- In numbers, use the 'full stop' decimal separator instead of 'comma', e.g. 230.4 (two hundred and thirty and four tenths) instead of 230,4. Where a number does not refer to a unit of measurement it should be spelled out unless it exceeds one hundred. Where a number begins a sentence, it should also be spelled out.
- There should be a single space on each side of *, /, >, <, -, +, =, etc.
- When using units, please include a space after the number and before the unit, e.g. 5 kg ha⁻¹ not 5kg ha⁻¹.