

## IJABE Editorial

# Open Access Leads to Success

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International Journal of Agricultural and Biological Engineering (IJABE, [www.ijabe.org](http://www.ijabe.org)) is a peer reviewed open access international journal, launched in 2008. Open access (OA) means unrestricted online access to peer-reviewed scholarly research. OA literature is free, digital, and available to anyone online. An open-access article has limited copyright and licensing restrictions which means anyone, anywhere, with access to the Internet may read, download, copy, and distribute that article. As an OA journal, the papers published in IJABE are freely accessible online immediately upon publication via the IJABE website. With the OA strategy, IJABE can reach a broader spectrum of readership by removing price barriers (subscriptions, licensing fees, pay-per-view fees) that some individual readers may experience.

Because open access provides barrier-free access to information, readers and researchers anywhere in the world can read scholarly output that has been made available in an open-access journal. A wider audience, in turn, has the potential to increase the impact of the research presented in an open-access article; i.e., the more readers, the greater the impact. Many studies indicate that open-access articles are more immediately and more frequently cited than non-open-access articles. For example, a 2006 study by a University of Southampton researcher in the United Kingdom found that authors of OA articles receive 50% to 250% more citations. More recent research shows that there are different levels of OA citation advantage for different disciplines: 170% to 580% increase for Physics/Astronomy, 300% to 450% increase for Medicine, and 200% to 600% increase for Agriculture. Increased citation rates lead to greater research impact. Therefore, the way to maximize the impact of your research findings is to maximize the exposure to your work. Publishing in OA journals is generally recognized as the most efficient way to maximize your impact.

Meanwhile, in order to help to share knowledge and creativity with the global scientific community and to protect authors' intellectual property (as with any scholarly article, traditional or otherwise), authors of an OA article should be properly acknowledged and cited. IJABE adopts the Creative Commons Attribution 3.0 License (CC-BY3.0) to support these goals.

IJABE provides a platform for sharing the latest high-quality research concerning agricultural, food and biological engineering and the application of these engineering techniques in all areas of agriculture. The journal features works of great significance, originality, and relevance in all of the primary areas. Our readers are from the international scientific community and include educators, policy makers, agricultural engineers and scientists, and interested members of the public around the world. IJABE has established strong quality control in the overall publication process, with the help of an international editorial board including over 300 renowned experts from about 50 countries and a high-quality editorial team, by performing rigorous peer review, repeated revision for improvement, professional editing and proofreading, academic misconduct checking such as multiple contributions of the same manuscript, and checks for fabricated data, falsified results, pleonasm or plagiarizing, and unwarrantable authorship and signature.

IJABE has gained great success based on the above joint efforts. Up to February 22, 2014, over 1100 submissions were received from over 20 countries, and six volumes with 22 issues and over 220 papers were published. The IJABE website has attracted over 500,000 visits from more than 90 countries around the world. Many papers published in IJABE were cited by other prestigious journals including Web of Science™ Core Collection-indexed journals. To date, the total registered users in IJABE database has reached over 10,000.

So far, online and print IJABE has been covered and indexed by over 20 world-renowned indexing databases including Ei Compendex, CA, INSPEC, Abstract Journals (VINITI RAN), Agricola, AGRIS, Scopus, CSA, OCLC, ProQuest, Index Copernicus, Google scholar, CAB International, CAB ABSTRACTS Full Text Select, Colorado Alliance of Research Libraries-Open Access Digital Library, EBSCOhost---Academic Search Complete, Academic Search R&D, Academic Source Complete, and Food Science Source, Socolar, China Educational Publications Import & Export Corporation. All the papers published in IJABE can be searched in the Thomson Reuter's Web of Science All Databases category. IJABE papers are also indexed in the Abstracting & Indexing Sources for AgBiotech News and Information (Active) (Print), Genetics Abstracts (Active) (Print), Index Veterinarius (Active) (Print), Pig News & Information (Active) (Print), Pollution Abstracts (Active) (Print), Postharvest News and Information (Active) (Print), Review of Aromatic and Medicinal Plants (Active) (Print), Virology and AIDS Abstracts (Active) (Print), Wheat, Barley and Triticale Abstracts (Active) (Print), and Ulrich's Periodicals Directory (Active) (Print). And IJABE has been listed on the world's biggest online OA journals platforms: Directory of Open Access Journals (DOAJ) and Open J-Gate.

Most importantly, up to February 25, 2014, 207 papers published prior to the fourth IJABE issue of 2013 were indexed in Thomson Reuter's Web of Science™ All Databases category, which were cited 343 times including the top-cited paper which was cited 98 times (which was published in IJABE in 2009). IJABE's average citation per item was 1.66 and the corresponding h-index was 7. According to the google scholar citations, as of February 23, 2014, the total number of times that IJABE papers were cited reached 938 for the 221 papers published in IJABE (through issue 4 of 2103), with an average citation per item of 4.2. It is especially noteworthy that all the 50 papers published in IJABE in 2013 have been indexed by Ei Compendex, with the Compendex abstracted and indexed records uploaded on IJABE website.

Let's look at other indicators. The SCImago Journal & Country Rank is a portal that includes the journals and country scientific indicators developed from the information contained in the Scopus® database (Elsevier B.V.). These indicators can be used to assess and analyze scientific domains. The SCImago Journal Rank (SJR) indicator, developed by SCImago from the widely known algorithm Google PageRank™, shows the visibility and impact of the journals contained in the Scopus® database. IJABE has been included in Scopus since 2009. According to the latest Journal Rankings by SJR in 2012, IJABE ranked in the second quartile (Q2, 25%-50%) among all the covered journals in the subject category of both "Engineering (miscellaneous)" and "Agricultural and Biological Sciences (miscellaneous)". IJABE ranks second and fifth among the Scopus-covered journals in the subject categories of "Agricultural and Biological Sciences (miscellaneous)" and "Engineering (miscellaneous)" published in China, respectively.

We welcome you to submit your research to IJABE, since publishing papers in OA-based IJABE can maximize your impact. OA research publications can provide wider sharing of knowledge and the acceleration of discovery and innovation, leading to increased open science, and web-based interactive and collaborative research.

Executive Editor-in-chief of the IJABE

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