

PUBLICATION ETHICS AND MALPRACTICE STATEMENT

Oil Palm Industry Economic Journal (OPIEJ) is committed to meet and uphold the highest standards of publication ethics whereas the publication malpractice is strictly prohibited by all possible measure. Our responsibility is to publish original work of value to the intellectual community in the best possible form and to the highest possible standards. We expect similar standards from our reviewers and authors. Honesty, originality and fair dealing on the part of authors, and fairness, objectivity and confidentiality on the part of editors and reviewers are among the critical values that enable us to achieve our goal. We endorse and behave in accordance with the codes of conduct and international standards established by the Committee on Publication Ethics (COPE). Hence, Authors, Reviewers and Editors are required to conform to standards of ethical guidelines. Below is a summary of our key expectations of authors, reviewers, editors, editorial board and publisher or society responsibilities.

Author's Responsibilities

Reporting Standards - Authors should report their results clearly, honestly, and without fabrication, falsification or inappropriate data manipulation. Authors should provide sufficient details on the method and references to allow others to replicate the work.

Originality and Plagiarism - Authors should adhere to publication requirements that the submitted manuscript is original, is not plagiarized, and has not been published elsewhere. If the authors have used the work and/or words of others, this must be appropriately cited or quoted.

Multiple, Redundant or Concurrent Publication - Authors should not in general publish manuscripts describing essentially the same research in more than one journal or primary publication. Submitting the same manuscript to more than one journal concurrently constitutes unethical publishing behaviour and it is unacceptable.

Acknowledgement of Sources - All authors should disclose the sources of funding for the research reported in the manuscript.

Authorship of the Paper - Authors should ensure that authorship is limited to those who have made a significant contribution to the research works and reporting. All those who have made significant contributions should be listed as co-authors. Others who have participated in certain substantive aspects of the research project, they should be acknowledged.

Disclosure and Conflicts of Interest - All authors should disclose in their manuscript any financial or other substantive conflict of interest that might be construed to influence the results or interpretation of their manuscript. All sources of financial support for the project should be disclosed.

Fundamental Errors in Published Works - When an author discovers a significant error or inaccuracy in his/her own published manuscript, it is the author's obligation to promptly notify the journal editor or publisher and cooperate with the editor to retract or amend the manuscript.

Reviewer's Responsibilities

Contribution to Editorial Decision - The reviewers of the journal assist the editors in making editorial decisions as well as editorial communications. The reviewers should assist the authors in improving the manuscript.

Promptness - Any selected referee who feels inadequately qualified to review the assigned manuscript or knows that its prompt review will be impossible should notify the editor and excuse himself/herself from the review process.

Confidentiality - Reviewers must treat the received manuscript as a confidential document. The manuscript must not be shown or discussed with others except as authorized by the editor.

Standards of Objectivity - Reviewers should express their views objectively and clearly with supporting arguments. There shall be no personal criticism of the author.

Acknowledgement of Source - Reviewers should identify relevant published manuscript that has not been cited by the authors. Any statement that an observation, derivation, or argument had been previously reported should be accompanied by the relevant citation. Reviewers should also notify the editor if there is any substantial similarity or overlapping between the manuscripts under consideration with any other published manuscript of which they have personal knowledge.

Disclosure and Conflicts of Interest - The reviewers must treat privileged information or ideas obtained through reviewing process as confidential and they should not use this information for personal advantage. Reviewers should not consider reviewing manuscripts in which they have conflicts of interest resulting from competitive, collaborative, or other relationships or connections with any of the authors, companies, or institutions connected to the manuscripts.

Editor's Responsibilities

Publication Decision - The decision of accepting and publishing the manuscript submitted to the journal is the responsibility of the editors. Editor-in-Chief can make the final decision for any publication oriented issue.

Fair Play - The evaluation of the manuscript is done based on the intellectual merit regardless of race, gender, ethnic origin, citizenship, sexual orientation, religious belief, or political philosophy of the authors.

Confidentiality - The editors must not disclosed any information about the submitted manuscript to anyone other than the corresponding author, reviewers, potential reviewers, other editorial advisers and the publisher.

Disclosure and Conflicts of Interest - Unpublished materials disclosed in a submitted manuscript must not be used by anyone who has a view of the manuscript in his or her own research without the written consent of the author.

Editorial Board Responsibilities

Handling Manuscripts - Every manuscript will be assigned to an Editor and if the manuscript is in the area of Editor's research interest, the Editor should take up the assignment at an earliest possible time. The assigned Editor should not have any conflict of interest with any assignment. The Editor should communicate with the reviewers or authors depending on the processing stage of manuscript in case of any delay.

Ethics - The Editors evaluate manuscripts for their intellectual content regardless to race, gender, sexual orientation, religious belief, ethnic origin, citizenship, or political philosophy of the authors. The Editors must not disclosed any information about the submitted manuscript to anyone other than the corresponding author, reviewers, potential reviewers, other editorial advisers and the publisher, as appropriate. The Editors should guard the integrity of the published record by issuing amendments and retractions when needed and pursuing suspected or alleged research and publication misconduct.

Editorial Board Special Issues - Special Issues are one-off issues of a journal that focus on a specific topic or contemporary theme. Special Issues are proposed and managed by a team of Guest Editors from outside the Editorial Board. Editorial Board members may also be requested to act as Guest Editor for their own Special Issue. Guest Editor can handle a special issue independently while maintaining a regular communication with the Editorial Board member and Editorial Office. Once a proposal has been accepted by the Editorial Board members for creating a special issue, the corresponding Guest Editors will be responsible for the handling and processing of the special issue articles.

Promoting the Journal - The key role of Editorial Board members is to promote scholarship in the specialise field associated with the journal, whilst also promoting the journal as the best journal for publishing purpose. An editor should encourage new and established authors to submit articles and set up a reliable panel of expert reviewers.

Publisher or Society responsibilities

Handling of Unethical Publishing Behaviour - Oil Palm Industry Economic Journal (OPIEJ) and the societies on behalf of which it publishes shall ensure that good practices are maintained to the standards outlined above.

In cases of alleged or proven scientific misconduct, fraudulent publication or plagiarism, the publisher, in close collaboration with the editors, will take all appropriate measures to clarify the situation and to amend the manuscript in question. This includes the prompt publication of an erratum, clarification or, in the most severe case, the retraction of the affected work. The publisher, together with the editors, shall take reasonable steps to identify and prevent the publication of papers where research misconduct has occurred, and under no circumstances encourage such misconduct or knowingly allow such misconduct to take place.

Access to Journal Content - Oil Palm Industry Economic Journal (OPIEJ) is committed to the permanent availability and preservation of scholarly research and ensures accessibility and maintaining our own digital archives.