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General. Submit the original and two copies of the manuscript on 8½ × 11 in. (216 × 279 mm) line-numbered paper and three sets of each figure. All material must be typed double-spaced: title, by-line, abstract, text, literature cited, tables, and figure legends. In the upper right corner of each page, type PLANT DISEASE, the author(s) name(s), and the page number. Number the pages consecutively; literature cited follows the text, then tables (each on a separate page), and figure legends.

Format. Consult the “Research” and “New Diseases and Epidemics” sections of this issue for arrangement of heads and subheads, use of capital letters, indents, etc.

Title. The title should reflect the important aspects of the article and be as concise as possible.

By-line. The author(s) name(s) should be followed by affiliations and complete addresses. Acknowledgments should be at the end of the text, preceding literature cited.

Abstract. Solid lines should separate the by-line material from the abstract and the abstract from the text. The complete citation for the article should appear before the word “ABSTRACT” and the text of the abstract. The abstract should be as brief as possible—100 words or less for “Research” articles and 50 words or less for “New Diseases and Epidemics” articles. Content should be limited to major findings and conclusions.

Additional key words, if provided, should appear in the text but not in the title or the abstract and should be listed in alphabetic order.

Text. The major sections after the introductory statements are MATERIALS AND METHODS, RESULTS, and DISCUSSION; RESULTS and DISCUSSION may be combined, if desired. Subheads may be used, but excessive fragmentation of the text should be avoided. Footnotes are not permitted. Tables and figures should be cited in numerical order.

Tables. Titles should be self-explanatory and include enough information so that each table is intelligible without reference to the text or another table. Information presented in a table must agree with that in the text. Nonessential details should be omitted. Numbers should be rounded off to significant digits, and ditto marks should not be used. Abbreviations are acceptable; nonstandard ones can be explained in footnotes. Footnotes are designated with superscript lowercase letters.

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Each illustration should be labeled with the figure number, author’s name, and PLANT DISEASE. Figure captions should be fully descriptive so that the illustrations are understandable when considered apart from the text.

If color illustrations are submitted, transparencies or glossy prints should be included with the manuscript. A cost quotation will be provided, and the author or an institutional officer must formally indicate acceptance of the quoted rate before processing will be started.


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The metric system is preferred. Use numerals before standard units of measurement, eg, 1 g, 9 hr; otherwise use words for numbers one through nine and numerals for larger numbers. Nonstandard abbreviations that facilitate comprehension may be used; at the first use, spell out the term and enclose the abbreviation in parentheses. Words to be italicized should be underlined. A fungicide should be listed by the approved common name; the chemical name is used only if a common name is not available. Ambiguous characters—eg, the letter O and the number 0, a prime sign and an apostrophe, the letter l and the number 1, the multiplication symbol X and the letter X—should be clearly identified in the left margin of the text.