

Instructions to Authors

1. *Ekologija* publishes original papers, review articles, preliminary notes, short communications and case reports in various fields of ecology and environmental sciences. Papers offered for publication should be not submitted for publication or published elsewhere.

2. All papers are published in English, with a summary in Lithuanian. The English summary should correspond to the Lithuanian one.

3. Financial and other material support should be disclosed and acknowledged.

4. Methods of all biomedical studies should meet the requirements of bioethics.

5. Manuscripts submitted for publication are evaluated as to whether they present new insights into the announced research topic. The submitted manuscripts are first examined by the editors. Manuscripts with the insufficient priority for publication are rejected immediately. Incomplete submissions or manuscripts not prepared in the required style will not be considered. In order to make the submission process transparent, editors will recuse themselves from being responsible for manuscripts submitted by associates with whom they may have a conflict of interests. Accepted manuscripts are sent to two independent experts for scientific evaluation. Double-blinded review is practised in the journal. In case of controversial reviews, the third reviewer's opinion may become critical for the Editorial Board's decision.

6. The manuscript should include:

Title page containing the following information:

- full names of all authors
- name of the department and institution in which the work was done
- institutional affiliations of authors
- full title of the manuscript
- full name, address, telephone and / or fax number and e-mail address of the author responsible for manuscript preparation.

Summary page. The summary (250–300 words) should be in structured form and consist of four paragraphs labelled Background, Materials and Methods, Results, Conclusions. Summary in Lithuanian must be typed on a separate sheet with the names of authors, title and key words.

Key words (4 to 6) or short phrases should be written at the bottom of the page that contains summary.

The text of the article should be divided into paragraphs labelled as follows: Introduction, Materials and Methods, Results, Discussion, Conclusions, Acknowledgements, References.

Introduction – the scientific rationale for and the purpose of the study, or (in case of a review) the purpose of the article. Materials and Methods should present a clear description of the selected observational or experimental subjects and methods.

The protocol for data acquisition, procedures, study parameters, methods of measurements and apparatus should be described in sufficient detail to allow other scientists to reproduce the results.

Results should present a concise and reasonable summary of the findings. Tables and figures should be restricted to the number actually needed to justify the arguments advanced in the paper and allow for the evaluation of its supporting evidence. Data provided in graphs and tables should not be duplicated.

Discussion should be limited to novel and / or important aspects of the study and should deal with the results reported by other investigators, especially those quoted in the text.

Conclusions must be linked to the goals of the study. New hypotheses should be advanced only when warranted. Recommendations may be included when appropriate.

References should be cited in the text in parentheses by designating the names of the authors and the year of publication. References should be written in Roman alphabet. Uniform requirements for references and sample references can be found at http://nlm.nih.gov/bsd/uniform_requirements.html.

Reference examples:

a) for articles in journals:

Pereira P., Baltrėnaitė V. 2010. Mapping total nitrogen in ash after a wildland fire: a microplot analysis. *Ekologija*. Vol. 56(3): 144–52.

b) for books:

Lugauskas A. (ed.). *Mikrobiologiniai medžiagų pažeidimai: morfologija*. Vilnius: Mokslas; 2009.

c) for chapters in books:

Alloway B. J. Soil processes and the behaviour of metals. In: Alloway B. J. (ed.) *Heavy Metals in Soils*. London: Chapman and Hall; 2000: 93–113.

7. The paper should be submitted by e-mail. Text should be typed in Times New Roman font 12-point only, double-spaced on white paper. The size of figures should be suitable for direct reproduction. For charts, graphs and diagrams MS Word (*.doc), MS PowerPoint (*.ppt) or MS Excel (*.xls) are suitable; photographs can be made using image-editing programs. Legends (captions) should be typed in sequence on a separate page or pages and should be understandable without reference to the text.

Manuscripts shall be sent to:

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