

INSTRUCTIONS TO AUTHORS

Aims and Scope

Journal of Reproduction and Development (JRD) is the official journal of the Japanese Society of Animal Reproduction, published bimonthly, and welcomes original articles (Full paper, Research Note, Technical Note and Letter to Editor) that report new findings or concepts in reproductive biology, reproductive endocrinology, reproductive immunology, developmental biology, and any other relevant fields of scientific research. All manuscripts are peer-reviewed critically by two or more reviewers. Acceptance is based on scientific content and presentation of material. The Editors select reviewers, correspond with authors, and make final decisions about manuscripts.

JRD also publishes Reviews and Mini-reviews, which are usually invited by the Editorial Committee. Those who would like to contribute a review should consult with a member of the Editorial Board in advance.

Manuscript Submission

The manuscript submitted to **JRD** must represent original and unpublished material, and the manuscript should not be under editorial consideration elsewhere. The authors can provide the contact information of both the potential reviewers and the reviewers who should be excluded. Upon acceptance of the manuscript, the copyright transfer form should be signed by all authors and, sent or faxed to the editorial office. The copyright transfer form can be downloaded through the website of the Japanese Society of Animal Reproduction (<http://reproduction.jp/>).

As of January 2006, all the submission and review process for **JRD** has been transferred to the online system. To access this online submission system, the authors should first go to the website of the Japanese Society of Animal Reproduction (<http://reproduction.jp/>), then follow the link to the online submission system. All procedures required for the web-based submission are provided online.

Manuscript Preparation

General Format

Manuscripts are to be arranged in the following order and the following sections must begin on separate pages: Title page, Abstract, Introduction, Materials and Methods, Results, Discussion, Acknowledgements, References, Figure Legends, Tables, and Illustrations (line drawings, graphs, and continuous-tone prints). Results and Discussion sections may be combined if appropriate. Authors should prepare manuscripts in proper English, and the manuscripts that do not meet minimum standards in English grammar and syntax will be returned to the authors. Page set-up of the manuscripts must be A4 paper or 8-1/2" × 11" paper, typed in double-spaced (24-26 lines per page) throughout including References, Figure Legends, and Tables

with enough margins on either side and at the top and bottom of every page. The lines of the text should be numbered in the left margin (every fifth line in each page should be numbered). The length of papers, including Tables, Figures and any other appendices, should not exceed 6 printed pages.

The online submission system requires the entire manuscript (including figures and tables) to be supplied as ONE file in PDF format which size is less than 5 M bytes. Should the authors need any assistance for online submission process and preparing PDF file, or not have access to the online submission system, please contact:

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Title page

This page must include:

1. Titles and subtitles: Titles should be concise, specific, informative and clear and should emphasize the main point of the article. They should include key words or phrases that are useful for indexing. Subtitles may be used to amplify the title; however, they should be able to stand-alone.
2. Authorship: Authorship should be indicated immediately below the title or subtitle. It includes each author's full name and address with postal code of the institution where the study was done. Persons who made subsidiary contribution may be listed in the "Acknowledgements". A complete mailing address with one name of person to whom all the correspondence regarding the manuscript is to be directed, must be provided at the bottom of the title page. The mailing address will appear in the first page of the published article for readers who may want to request reprints or additional information.
3. Running head: Running head not exceeding 40 characters and spaces should be provided on the first page.

Abstract

Abstract is limited to 300 words. It summarizes the main points of an article: (1) the purpose of the study, (2) the basic procedures followed, (3) the main findings, and (4) the principal conclusions. The abstract should be clearly understandable in itself. Avoid abbreviations, terms, symbols, etc. not easily understood by general scientific readers. Three to five key words, which represent key concepts of the paper, should be given at the end of the abstract in an alphabetical order.

Materials and Methods

This section should provide readers with sufficient information to replicate the work. Although it is not necessary to give details of published methodology if appropriately cited, any modifications must be described. Information regarding statistical analysis of the data should be included.

References

References should be cited in the text by Arabic numeral in square brackets, e.g. [1, 2–5, 7]. They should be arranged and listed in the numerical order of appearance in the text at the end of manuscript. Articles included in the reference list must appear in peer-reviewed publications that are accessible to most scientists. Reference material that has been accepted for publication must be listed as “in press”; the listing must include journal title and anticipated year of publication, or, for books, the publisher and year of publication. The journal names should be abbreviated according to Serial Sources for the BIOSIS Database or Index Medicus. The source of reference which is “in preparation”, “submitted for publication”, “personal communication”, or “unpublished data” should not be included in the reference list; they should appear in the text parenthetically immediately following the names of the authors or the source of information.

The following are examples:

Journal article:

1. **Lee VH, Fields PA.** Rabbit relaxin: The influence of pregnancy and ovariectomy during pregnancy on the plasma profile. *Biol Reprod* 1991; 45: 209-214.

Chapter in a book:

2. **Desjardins C, Lopez MJ.** Sensory and nonsensory modulations of testis function. In: Steinberger A, Steinberger E (eds.), *Testicular Development, Structure and Function*. New York: Raven Press; 1980: 381-388.

Abstracts in published proceedings:

3. **Yanagawa T, Shirasu K, Uemura T, Minaguchi H.** Effects of chronic administration of GnRH analog to the pituitary and the ovary. In: Program of the 8th International Congress of Endocrinology; 1988; Kyoto, Japan. Abstract 189.

Supplements:

4. **Bravo PW, Stabenfeldt GH, Fowler ME.** Ovarian follicular activity in llamas. *Biol Reprod* 1989; 40 (suppl 1): 51 (abstract 11).

The title and the journal name of references published in Japanese or in any other non-European languages should be translated into English, with the author's consent if necessary, followed by a description of the original language in parenthesis, e.g., (In Japanese), at the end:

5. **Ushijima H, Tsunoda Y, Eto T, Imai H.** *In vitro* development of bovine reconstituted eggs after fusion with a blastomere from 8-cell to blastocyst stage embryos.

Jpn J Anim Reprod 1991; 37: 15-19 (In Japanese).

Illustrations and Tables

Illustrations (including photographs) are preferred to be prepared in the original size and should be 8 cm (one column) or 16.5 cm (double column) in horizontal width by less than 19 cm vertical length. The figure numbers of the illustrations and photographs (Fig. 1, Fig. 3 etc.) should be marked in the margins of the figure pages. They should be cited, in consecutive numerical order, in the text. Titles and legends of illustrations and photographs should be typewritten on separate pages. Tables without vertical lines are preferred. Any explanation essential to the understanding of the table should be given as a footnote designated by symbols in the order a), b), c)

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Abbreviations in the body of the paper should be used after having been initially explained. Common recognizable abbreviations can be used without definition such as M, mM, μ M, N, m, cm, mm, μ m, nm, pm, cm², l, ml, μ l, kg, g, mg, ng, pg, h, min, sec, msec, rpm, Hz, GBq, MBq, KBq, cpm, dpm, ppm, C, cal, Kcal, lux, etc. The metric system of weights and measures, and the 24-hour clock to express time (e.g. 0500 h or 1900 h) should be used.

Make sure that the nomenclature and/or abbreviations of genes or proteins for the particular organisms you are dealing with in your manuscript are correct. For genes or DNA use italicized letters (e.g., *Sry*, *SRY*, or *lacZ*), although numbers indicating mutant or allelic symbols should not be italicized (*Hox-1*, *HOX1*, *MDH2*, or *Mor-1*). For proteins, use Roman letters with at least the first letter capitalized (e.g., Hprt, HPRT, Gpi, GPI, or Gal). Note that in names of restriction enzymes, only first 3-4 letters are italicized (*EcoRI*, *EcoR124/3*, *HindIII*, or *StySBI*). Use lowercase k for ‘kilo’ like kDa or kb.

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Statistical analysis of the data must be done by appropriate methods. Simultaneous comparisons among multiple estimates should be based on the multiple *t* test, multiple range test or similar techniques to permit these comparisons. Authors should use appropriate nonparametric test of significance when the data depart substantially from a normal distribution. For bioassays and competitive protein assays, measures of the precision of the estimates should be given such as: the standard deviation, standard error of the mean, coefficient of variation, or 95% confidence limits.

Ethics

Investigators should follow the highest standards for the humane care and use of animals in research. The minimum number of animals that meets rigorous scientific and statistical standards should be used. Research animals shall be properly housed and fed, and their surroundings shall be kept in sanitary condition. The animals shall receive appropriate anesthetics, analgesics, and tranquilizers and care to minimize pain and

discomfort during preoperative, operative and postoperative procedures. All experiments using animals should be done under the approval of an institutional animal experiment committee and this should be stated and documented in the text.

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