

CSIRO Publishing



AUSTRALIAN JOURNAL *of* BOTANY

VOLUME 50, 2002

© CSIRO 2002

AN INTERNATIONAL JOURNAL FOR
THE PUBLICATION OF ORIGINAL
RESEARCH IN PLANT SCIENCE

All enquiries and manuscripts should be directed to:

Australian Journal of Botany
CSIRO Publishing
PO Box 1139 (150 Oxford St)
Collingwood, Vic. 3066, Australia



CSIRO
PUBLISHING

Telephone: +61 3 9662 7613
Fax: +61 3 9662 7611
Email: publishing.ajb@csiro.au

Published by CSIRO Publishing
for CSIRO and the Australian Academy of Science

www.publish.csiro.au/journals/ajb

Editorial

Overview

This year, *Australian Journal of Botany (AJB)* celebrates **50 years of publication**. There are many people who have contributed to its success during this time. I thank present and past Editorial Advisory Committee members, my predecessors, authors, referees and subscribers for its past success, and will work to ensure its future. We celebrate this anniversary with the publication of the Special Issue on *Century-scale Landscape Change* (issue 3).

Impact Factor and Ranking

Australian Journal of Botany had an impact factor of **0.78** and **1.09** and was ranked **71/137** and **47/136** (Plant Sciences Category) respectively in the 2000 and 1999 SCI Journal Citation Reports. This represents a consolidation of *AJB*'s readership and improved accessibility via the internet (Contents pages and Abstracts may be viewed free of charge). The publication of the *Turner Review Series* [now at no. 5 with Mark Burgman's paper in the first issue of 2002] has also broadened the Journal's readership and continues to consolidate *AJB* as a leading botanical journal. *AJB* continues the policy of NO page charges.

World Wide Web & Electronic Edition of Journal

Information about the *Australian Journal of Botany* [print and electronic versions (pdf and XML)] is accessible through the *AJB* home page:

<http://www.publish.csiro.au/journals/ajb>

Subscription packages that include the full web edition of *AJB* (with search engine) are available to subscribers. Readers and browsers can find out about recently accepted papers by subscribing to a free early alert service:

<http://www.publish.csiro.au/early.cfm>

With this service readers are notified by email when a new issue of *AJB* is about to be published, usually about 3 weeks in advance of the print publication.

Accessing Individual Electronic Papers Online

You can now purchase individual papers online, if you don't have a subscription to the journal. Browsers can access the tables of contents of any journal, find a paper of interest, and read its online abstract. If you decide to purchase the paper (from AU\$15), you should choose 'add to basket' from the table of contents, and follow the simple instructions to download the paper to your desktop.

Submission Rate

There were 108 manuscripts submitted in 2001, more than the number of papers submitted in 2000 (95 manuscripts).

About 33% of submissions in 2001 were from overseas contributors.

Published Papers and Acceptance Rate

The journal published 74 papers (794 pages) in 2001. The category *Ecology and Ecophysiology* remained strong (33% of papers published), although there was good representation from all other categories. Five papers in the *Turner Review Series* have been published. The acceptance rate was about 60% in 2001.

In 2001, *AJB* published one Special Issue on *The Gondwanan Connection*.

Acceptance to Publication Times

The time from acceptance to print publication for a paper in *AJB* is presently just under 5 months, and is even shorter (about 4 months) for online publication as papers appear online as soon as they are approved for printing.

Source of Reviewers

The quality of the published papers depends on the quality of the refereeing system. In 2001 the journal editor consulted 167 referees (36% overseas) from over 20 countries. This breadth not only allows for a wide range of opinions, but also serves to bring the journal to the attention of an increasing number of scientists, some of whom may submit their work for publication.

Australian Journal of Botany 2001 Student Prize

The *AJB* Student Prize for the best student-authored paper published in 2001 will be announced in the next issue. The award is a \$250 book voucher (selections from CSIRO Publishing Booklist) and a year's subscription to the journal. I would like to correct my mistake in last year's announcement of the winner of the 2000 Student Prize regarding his institutional affiliation: Richard Jobson's paper arose from his M.Sc studies at the University of Western Sydney.

Electronic Mail

For faster communication electronic mail is encouraged, email: simone.farrer@csiro.au.

Simone Farrer (Managing Editor)
January 2002