



# American Leather Chemists Association

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## Journal Publication Policy

### 1 - Submission

Manuscripts which meet the following requirements should be submitted in electronic format to [jalcaeditor@prodigy.net](mailto:jalcaeditor@prodigy.net) as a single Word e-mail attachment (including embedded Figures and Tables in JPG and/or Excel).

### 2 - Subject Matter

The *Journal of the American Leather Chemists Association* publishes manuscripts on all aspects of leather science, engineering, technology, and economics, and will consider related subjects that address concerns of the industry. Examples: hide/skin quality or utilization, leather production methods/equipment, tanning materials/leather chemicals, new and improved leathers and, collagen studies, leather by-products, impacts of changes in leather products industries, process efficiency, regulatory, safety, environmental, tannery waste management and industry economics.

### 3 - Types of Articles

Four categories articles are considered: **Technical Papers, Technical Notes, Reviews and Invited Lectures.**

Our major publication emphasis, **Technical Papers**, should be a thorough treatment of a specific subject, including such figures and tables (F&T) necessary to illustrate the points made in the text and to justify the conclusions drawn. Technical Papers are subject to peer review prior to acceptance. **Technical Notes** accommodate less formal presentations from the tanning industry and suppliers, especially those made at the Association's annual meetings. Notes from the supplier industries should include technical data to justify the statements made. Notes, while less formal, must meet the literary standards of the *Journal*, but need not contain an experimental section or references and are usually not Peer Reviewed.

**Review Papers** and **Invited Lectures** will be published only on currently important theoretical or practical aspects of leather science, manufacture, and economics and must meet *Journal* literary standards.

### 4 -General Requirements for Manuscripts

**English Language:** Manuscripts must be submitted in native American English language consistent with *Journal* standards (see Peer Review)

The **First page** should have a running head, title, authors' last names with initials, (corresponding author footnoted with e-mail address) and authors' affiliations/addresses. Also footnote occasion, place and date of presentation on which the paper is based.

While some formatting flexibility is permitted, it is recommended that **Technical Papers** be submitted with the following sections:

- **Abstract** tells why the work was done, states the results and their significance in one paragraph,
- **Introduction** must reference as superscripts (ex:...word.<sup>6,7</sup>) the important contributions to the subject that have been previously published, clearly state how the work in the submitted manuscript differs from the cited work and satisfy reviewers' determination of originality,
- **Experimental** must be detailed enough to permit other investigators to verify the work, include the source and grade of all chemicals used and detailed descriptions of equipment used to make the measurements,
- **Results:** The actual data obtained should be given under Results. The interpretation of this data should be under Discussion,

- **Discussion**

(Results and Discussion may be combined if clarity can be retained),

- **Conclusions:** Brief and based on the reported results,
- **Acknowledgement:** Necessary credits appear here,
- **References** Required for all citations (same numbering) adhering to *JALCA* format; Examples:
  1. Liu, C. P., White, R and McClendon, M.D.; Energy Approach to the Characterization of the Thermal Resistance of Leather. *JALCA* **92**, 103-118, 1997.
  2. Trade Practices for Proper Packer Cattlehide Delivery, 3<sup>rd</sup> ed., Leather Industries of America and U.S. Hide, Skin & Leather Association, pp. 12-19, 1993.

This *Journal* is referenced as *JALCA*; for other journals, use the Chemical Abstracts abbreviations. "In press" and web address referenced are discouraged; subject to editor discretion.

## 5 -Further Requirements for Manuscripts

Length should generally not exceed 16 single spaced (24 double-spaced) pages of typed text, including embedded F&T; using 12 point Times New Roman font with paragraphs not indented. The manuscript should contain reproduction quality figures and tables embedded at the appropriate locations in the text, thus offering the entirety of the manuscript as a single Word document.

### **Figures and Tables**

Figures (numbered with Arabic numerals) are preferred with images submitted in JPG format as black and white for the printed *Journal*. Excel table data should be converted to and presented in JPG image format whenever possible.

Tables (numbered with Roman numerals) presented in Excel format should be used only when there is no other way to reasonably present accurate readable data. Excel formatted tables must have a width of no greater than 3.5 inches (9 cm.) or 7.5 inches (19 cm.) and embedded in the Word text in a way that most closely follows the flow of the manuscript. F&T should be numbered consecutively with Arabic numerals.

If F&T are at the end of the Word document rather than embedded, their preferred location in the text should be clearly indicated;

Example: <**Fig.2 here**>

As a guidance, the total number of compliant F&T should be no more than eight (8) per manuscript.

**For a comprehensive overview of all manuscript requirements, authors are urged to review manuscripts in recent copies of the *Journal*.**

**6 - "Life Lines"** - Every manuscript should be accompanied by a brief biography of each of the authors or the citation of an earlier "Life Line" biography.

## 7 - Publication Rights

Authors of papers to be published in the *Journal* will be required to sign a "Transfer of Copyright" form before the paper is published. All papers based on oral presentations at the annual meetings of the ALCA are the property of the Association with the *Journal* having the exclusive right to publish. Authors employed by a U.S. government agency will be required to provide an employee certification.

Contents of papers published in the *Journal* may not be republished elsewhere without the written permission of the *Journal* Editor. Permission will be granted for publication of the entire paper in non-English-language publications or for summaries of the paper along with reference to the complete article in *JALCA* in English-language journals.

## 8 - Peer Review

Editor pre-screened manuscripts will be reviewed by two members of the Editorial Board. The reviewers' evaluate:

1. Interest to Subscribers (compliance with Subject Matter policy),
2. Originality (Introduction must make this case),
3. Scientific/technical validity (experimental design, results justify conclusions, controls, statistical validity and appropriate use of standard deviations),
4. Literary standards (English language readability, grammar, subject tense/verb matches, etc.).

The reviewers' written recommendations will be e-mailed to the corresponding author; who then must respond to all of the reviewers' recommendations by e-responding with a revised manuscript (response may include separately explanations specific disagreements with the recommendations). Other than inappropriate subject or lack of originality, most papers can be rendered acceptable for publication by this revision process.

The *Journal* Editor makes the final decisions as to acceptability and scheduling of manuscripts for publication in *JALCA*.

## 9 – Proofs and Reprints

When formatted, our design resource will e-mail a PDF galley proof to the corresponding author. The author will have 2 weeks to respond to the design with suggested final changes sent to: ([alca.authors@ksand.com](mailto:alca.authors@ksand.com))

Reprints of *Journal* articles are available through the ALCA website: [leatherchemists.org](http://leatherchemists.org).