

Guide to Authors

LAB ANIMAL is a peer-reviewed magazine that accepts manuscripts on nearly all aspects of laboratory animal science and welcomes articles from all individuals affiliated with laboratory animal research facilities.

Style

Lab Animal features an informal, narrative style, as opposed to standard scientific format. Manuscripts should generally range between 2,500-4,500 words. All manuscripts are subject to editing for *Lab Animal* style, and may be edited for clarity and length.

Please do not include 'headers,' 'footers,' or footnotes in electronic documents. References should be numbered sequentially throughout the document, and full citations should be listed numerically at the end of the manuscript. Please refer to a recent issue for bibliographic style. Figure captions should appear in full at the end of the manuscript.

For more help on manuscript style, please consult the *Council of Biology Editors Style Manual*, published by the Council of Biology Editors, Inc., Bethesda, MD (ISBN 0-914340-02-6); telephone the Editorial office at 212-726-9317; send an email to labanimal@natureny.com; or fax 212-696-9638.

Features

Review articles should be thorough and provide a representative review of the available literature. While they will often have a historical basis, ideally they should ask and answer a question, and/or discuss future direction. Topic examples might include: "Animal Use Alternatives in Research and Testing" or "The History and Theory of Transgenic Animals."

Resource articles contain less formal, often anecdotal, but always novel and practical information reviewing a method, process, program, or solution with which the author has first-hand experience; e.g., "A Computerized Method for Taking Animal Census."

Technique articles should offer practical technical advice, primarily related to animal care, husbandry, or procedures; photographs and/or illustrations are particularly useful. Examples might include: "Endotracheal Intubation in the Rabbit: A Quick Reliable Method" or "A New Rabbit Handling and Restraint Technique."

Opinion articles are accepted on the basis of current relevance and interest to the *Lab Animal* readership. When possible, the Editors will commission an opposing viewpoint. Opinion pieces do not necessarily represent the viewpoints of the Editorial staff.

Research Notes are essentially case studies, and should provide anecdotal descriptions of specific findings; e.g., "Treating Chronic Regurgitation Behavior: A Case Study."

Product Focus articles review available technologies and commercial vendors of products relevant to the lab animal field. Product Focus articles, or any manuscript that describes the application of commercially available products, systems, or processes, should consider with equal editorial weight the products of all other relevant manufacturers.

If you are unsure of the suitability of your topic, please send a brief abstract to the Editor for preliminary consideration via email: labanimal@natureny.com or fax: 212-696-9638.

Departments

What's Your Diagnosis? case studies should be sent to the *Lab Animal* Editorial office, to the attention of the Column Editor. *Lab Animal* welcomes reader contributions in the signature case history/diagnosis format (please refer to a recent issue). Selections are made on the basis of relevance and interest to readers.

Protocol Review responses are solicited by the Column Coordinator. If you are interested in participating, please notify the *Lab Animal* Editorial office.

Peer Review

At least two members of the *Lab Animal* editorial board, or two qualified professionals, peer-review all Reviews, Techniques, and Research Notes. The Editors reserve the right to discriminate whether Resources and Opinions require full peer-review. (All peer-reviewed articles feature received/accepted dates.) Product Focus articles are submitted to featured companies for review. What's Your Diagnosis? case studies are handled by the Column Editor.

Reviewers may accept manuscripts contingent upon specified revisions, in which case comments will be returned to authors for consideration. Please submit revised manuscript electronically (see below), as well as in hard copy.

Submission

Please email the manuscript to labanimal@natureny.com or send a hard copy and an electronic copy on disk to Lab Animal, 345 Park Avenue South, New York, NY 10010-1707. We typically publish articles 4-12 months after receiving the accepted manuscript.

Artwork

Art may be submitted as line drawings or illustrations, and glossy black-and-white or color photographs. Slides may be accommodated at the Production Editor's discretion. Please include two copies of artwork.

Artwork may also be submitted **digitally**. When possible, we prefer to use original digital figures to ensure the highest quality reproduction. Always send two sets of high-quality printouts of your figures along with your manuscript in the event that we cannot use your digital files.

Format: TIFF, EPS, or postscript (ps) files in PC or Macintosh format. We *cannot* accept Canvas, Powerpoint, or MacDrawPro files; Photoshop, Illustrator, or Freehand files are preferred. We *cannot* use figures and images that were created in or inserted into a word processing program; please submit figures as separate electronic files.

Resolution:

- Color: 266 d.p.i. minimum; please convert all color files into CMYK mode;
- Grayscale: 600 d.p.i. minimum, such as blots and black & white photographs;
- Line art: 1200 d.p.i. minimum, such as graphs and illustrations.

How to send files: Email (labanimal@natureny.com), Zip disk, CD, or FTP (please contact Production Editor at 212-726-9274).

Tables: Tables do not translate electronically from word processing programs to QuarkXPress. If you create a table in Word, do not use the 'Insert Table' function. Separate columns with tabs, and rows with return carriages. Always include hard copies of tables with manuscripts.

**Lab Animal...indexed in MEDLINE, ISI's Focus on:
Veterinary Science & Medicine and Research Alert, and AGRICOLA.**