

MANAGING EDITOR'S REPORT

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Only two years have passed since the initial meeting in June of 1997 at which representatives of the research community decided to form a peer-reviewed scientific journal concerning all disciplines of cotton science. Since sending out the initial Call for Papers, forty manuscripts have been published online in seven issues of the *Journal of Cotton Science*.

The initial Call for Papers (July of 1997) for the inaugural issue of the *Journal of Cotton Science* resulted in 50 manuscripts being submitted for consideration by the 13 technical editors. Of those 50 papers, nine were published in the first issue (December 1997) of *JCS*. Some of the 1997 manuscripts were subsequently published in 1998 issues. Total acceptance rate for 1997 submissions was 50% (Table 1).

In 1998, we received 38 manuscripts steadily over the year and posted four issues of the *Journal of Cotton Science* online. All disciplines added at least one alternate technical editor. Insect Research and Control was renamed Arthropod Management. Total acceptance rate for 1998 submissions was 34% (Table 2).

As of the end of August of 1999, we have published two issues in Volume 3 (1999) of the *Journal of Cotton Science* and have received 45 manuscripts for consideration. Sixteen of these

manuscripts have been through peer review (Table 3). The rate of acceptance for processed manuscripts is currently 50%. Manuscripts still in peer review (pending) account for 64% of those received to date.

Additional alternate technical editors were added to several disciplines and some of the original technical editors rotated off the Editorial Board. Disciplines that changed names and/or reorganized included Cotton and Other Organic Dusts (now Organic Dusts), Cotton Improvement (split into two disciplines – Molecular Biology and Breeding & Genetics), Disease (now Plant Path & Nematology), Soils & Plant Nutrition (now Soils), and Quality Measurements and Textile Processing (merged into Textile Technology).

The *Journal of Cotton Science* is at a turning point in its growth as a recognized peer-reviewed publication. The letter to the *Journal of Cotton Science* Community from Dr. Andrew G. Jordan, Executive Director of The Cotton Foundation, explains the formation of an Interim Editorial Board to further guide the development of policy for *JCS*.

I thank the entire team -- all of the technical editors, reviewers, authors and NCC staff -- who have made the birth of a brand new journal a reality. A special thanks goes to Stuart Pocknee of Agri-Publications who handles the final PDF and

Table 1. Summary of action taken on new manuscripts submitted to the *Journal of Cotton Science* by discipline in 1997. Overall acceptance rate was 50%.

DISCIPLINE	Submitted	Accepted	Released	Withdrawn
Agronomy	6	1	5	
Cotton & Other Organic Dusts	1	1		
Cotton Improvement	5	4	1	
Disease	4	2	2	
Economics & Marketing	2	2		
Engineering	5	1	2	2
Ginning	1	1		
Insect Research & Control	12	4	8	
Physiology	3	3		
Quality Measurements	3	3		
Textile Processing	3	1	2	
Soils & Plant Nutrition	2	1	1	
Weed Science	3	1	2	
TOTAL	50	25	23	2

Table 2. Summary of action taken on new manuscripts submitted to the *Journal of Cotton Science* by discipline in 1998. Overall acceptance rate was 34%.

DISCIPLINE	Submitted	Accepted	Released	Withdrawn
Agronomy	3		2	1
Arthropod Management	9	2	7	
Cotton & Other Organic Dusts	0			
Cotton Improvement	7	2	5	
Disease	2		2	
Economics & Marketing	1		1	
Engineering	0			
Ginning	1		1	
Physiology	6	2	4	
Quality Measurements	2	2		
Soils & Plant Nutrition	0			
Textile Processing	2		2	
Weed Science	5	5		
TOTAL	38	13	24	1

Table 3. Summary of action taken on new manuscripts submitted to the *Journal of Cotton Science* by discipline in 1999. Of the 16 manuscripts that have been through review, 50% have been accepted.

DISCIPLINE	Submitted	Accepted	Released	Withdrawn	Pending
Agronomy	8	2	2		4
Arthropod Management	10	1	3		7
Breeding & Genetics	3				3
Economics & Marketing	4	2			2
Engineering	2				2
Ginning	0				0
Molecular Biology	1				1
Organic Dusts	2		1		1
Physiology	5	1			4
Plant Path & Nematology	1	1			0
Soils	2		1		1
Textile Technology	7	1	2		4
Weed Science	0				0
TOTALS to date	45	8	8	0	29

HTML layouts and posting to the Web. He has worked magic time and time again. Bill Luellen has also provided invaluable help.

The most rewarding aspect of this experience for me has been the continued efforts of all team members to improve the end product. Watching the *JCS* readership grow by leaps and bounds is another highlight which indicates our Cotton Industry does value your hard work.



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