

# ICAR Guidelines for Author Information and Mandatory Declarations in Scientific Publications

*Applicable to all ICAR Scientists and Staff publishing research articles in scientific journals based on research conducted at, or emanating from, ICAR Institutes, Krishi Vigyan Kendras (KVKs), All India Coordinated Research Projects (AICRPs), and All India Coordinated Research Networks (AICRNs).*

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## Purpose

To promote transparency, research integrity, accountability and compliance with international publishing standards, all manuscripts submitted by ICAR scientists should include the following declarations, irrespective of the journal. These guidelines are aligned with internationally accepted practices.

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## 1. Author Information

### Guidelines

Provide for each author:

- Full name (without titles)
- Institutional affiliation(s)
- Complete postal address
- Official email address
- ORCID ID (recommended)
- Corresponding author (clearly identified)

Authors should satisfy accepted authorship criteria by making substantial intellectual contributions to the research and manuscript.

### Example

#### Authors

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## 2. Acknowledgements

### Guidelines

Acknowledge only persons or organizations who contributed to the work but do not qualify for authorship, such as:

- Technical assistance
- Laboratory support
- Statistical advice
- Language editing
- Field staff
- Farmers and collaborating institutions
- Permission to use facilities

Obtain consent before acknowledging individuals.

Do not acknowledge authors themselves.

### Example

#### Acknowledgements

The authors thank the ICAR–Indian Agricultural Research Institute, for providing research facilities. We acknowledge the technical assistance of Mr XYZ during field experimentation. We thank the participating farmers for their cooperation.

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### 3. Statement of Declarations

#### Guidelines

A separate section titled **Declarations** should appear before the References. It should include, wherever applicable:

- Funding
- Competing Interests
- Author Contributions
- Data Availability
- Ethics Approval
- Consent (where applicable)

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#### 3.1 Funding

##### Guidelines

All publications must include the following statement:

“Research was supported by the Indian Council of Agricultural Research, Department of Agricultural Research and Education, Government of India”

Clearly state:

- Funding agency
- Project title (if applicable)
- Grant/Project number
- Role of the funding agency (if any)

If there was no external funding, explicitly state so.

##### Examples

###### Funded

This work was supported by the Indian Council of Agricultural Research (ICAR) under the National Agricultural Science Fund (Grant No. NASF/ABC/2026/001).

or

This work was supported by the Indian Council of Agricultural Research (ICAR) under the institutional project no. \_\_\_\_\_ entitled \_\_\_\_\_

or

This work was supported by the Indian Council of Agricultural Research (ICAR) and externally funded DBT/DST/ANRF/CGIAR/RKVY (or any other agency) project no.

\_\_\_\_\_ dated \_\_\_\_\_ entitled \_\_\_\_\_

#### 3.2. Competing Interests

##### Guidelines

Authors must disclose any financial or non-financial interests that could influence the work, including:

- Employment
- Consultancy
- Patents
- Shareholding
- Advisory positions

- Personal relationships

If none exist, state this explicitly.

### **Examples**

#### **No competing interests**

The authors declare that they have no known competing financial or personal interests that could have influenced the work reported in this paper.

#### **With competing interest**

Author A is a consultant to XYZ Agri Pvt. Ltd. The remaining authors declare no competing interests.

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### *3.3. Author Contributions*

#### **Guidelines**

Clearly describe the contribution of each author.

Recommended contribution categories include:

- Conceptualization
- Methodology
- Investigation
- Data collection
- Data analysis
- Writing - original draft
- Writing - review and editing
- Supervision
- Funding acquisition

#### **Example**

##### **Author Contributions**

Rajesh Kumar: Conceptualization, methodology and field experimentation.

Meena Sharma: Data analysis, manuscript preparation and correspondence.

S. K. Singh: Supervision, review and editing.

All authors read and approved the final manuscript.

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### *3.4. Data Availability*

#### **Guidelines**

Specify where supporting data can be accessed.

Possible statements include:

- Public repository
- Supplementary material
- Available upon reasonable request
- No datasets generated

#### **Examples**

##### **Repository**

The datasets generated during this study are available in the ICAR Data Repository/Krishikosh/Institute website (etc.) at: <https://doi.org/xxxxx>

##### **Available on request**

The datasets generated during the current study are available from the corresponding author upon reasonable request.

##### **Others**

All data are included within the manuscript submitted.

or

No datasets were generated or analysed during the current study.

or

This review is based solely on previously published literature. No new data were generated or analysed. All relevant information is contained within the referenced publications.

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### *3.5. Ethical Approval*

#### **Guidelines**

Include an ethics statement whenever research involves:

- Human participants
- Human data
- Surveys or interviews
- Animal experimentation
- Institutional Ethics Committee approval
- Institutional Animal Ethics Committee approval
- Biosafety approval (where applicable)

For purely laboratory, agronomic or modelling studies not involving humans or regulated animals, indicate that ethical approval was not required.

#### **Examples**

##### **Human participants**

The study protocol was approved by the Institutional Ethics Committee of ICAR—\_\_\_\_\_ (Approval No. IEC/2025/018). Written informed consent was obtained from all participants.

##### **Animal experiment**

All experimental procedures involving animals were approved by the Institutional Animal Ethics Committee (Approval No. IAEC/2025/041) and complied with CPCSEA guidelines.

##### **Not applicable**

This study did not involve human participants or experimental animals requiring ethical approval.

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#### **Good Practices**

Before submission, every manuscript should ensure:

- ✓ All authors have approved the final manuscript.
  - ✓ The manuscript has not been submitted elsewhere.
  - ✓ All funding has been disclosed.
  - ✓ All competing interests have been declared.
  - ✓ Appropriate ethical approvals have been obtained.
  - ✓ Data availability has been stated.
  - ✓ Author contributions have been described.
  - ✓ Acknowledgements include only eligible contributors.
  - ✓ Institutional affiliations and corresponding author details are complete.
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#### **Recommended Standard Order**

1. Author Information
2. Acknowledgements
3. Funding
4. Author Contributions

5. Competing Interests
  6. Data Availability
  7. Ethical Approval
  8. References
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### **Model Declaration (Complete Example)**

**Funding:** This work was supported by the Indian Council of Agricultural Research (ICAR), Department of Agricultural Research and Education, Government of India under Project No. XX-XXXX.

**Competing Interests:** The authors declare no competing interests.

**Author Contributions:** RK conceived the study; MS conducted experiments; SKS analysed the data; all authors prepared and approved the manuscript.

**Data Availability:** The datasets generated during the current study are available from the corresponding author upon reasonable request.

**Ethical Approval:** This study did not involve human participants or experimental animals requiring ethical approval.

**Acknowledgements:** The authors acknowledge the support of the Director, ICAR—\_\_\_\_\_, and the technical staff for assistance during field experimentation.

**Disclaimer:** Artificial intelligence (AI) tools, including ChatGPT (Model 5.5, OpenAI), were used to assist in language editing and improving the clarity of the manuscript. No material was *de novo* generated by AI tools. The authors reviewed and verified all generated content to ensure accuracy and integrity.