

EDITORIAL

Editorial of First Issue

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With this first issue, we are very pleased to announce the launch of the Plant Science Today (PST) under the aegis of Horizon e-Publishing Group (HePG). The area of plant science has become more and more attractive for research since the time of Carl Linnaeus, the father of modern botany who established the ethics of modern taxonomy in plants. One could argue whether another journal is required for researchers in the plant science community, but an open access journal will definitely serve as a medium for rapid publication of the research outputs and remove subscription barriers.

PST aims to address this need and to be the main international forum for publishing research outcomes of various fields of plant science. The journal intends to primarily publish research papers, reviews, book reviews, conference reports, letters to the editors, conference announcements, etc.

Through the exemption of author charges for low income countries, we hope to help and support young researchers and PhD students who do not have the means to publish their original and very interesting results. We are sure that the above policy will greatly benefit the authors from many of the countries especially from African continent which is otherwise very rich in biodiversity, characterized by its

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endemism and has not yet been explored adequately.

The PST will be published quarterly. However, to avoid delay in publishing, the accepted papers will be published online as soon as they are ready by adding to the 'current' issue's Table of Contents. The full papers of the published papers will be freely available on-line on the journal web site: <http://horizonepublishing.com/journals/index.php/PST/>.

It is also important to mention that we are committed to speedy and rational refereeing process for every manuscript submitted to us. Each paper will be reviewed by 3 independent reviewers. We endeavour to reply to all papers submitted within a month with an answer about acceptance or rejection. We also do not require formatting in our style until the paper has been accepted by us for publication.

Thanks are due to many people who have helped in starting up this new journal. We are particularly grateful to the honourable Advisors and Editors who provided us a lot of support and advice, and who will continue to represent the journal in their geographical areas. We are sure that their international reputation and great expertise in the field will have a significant contribution in shaping up the journal and making PST a prestigious first-class international journal.

It is also our great pleasure to welcome the members of the extensive Editorial Board of PST. We rely on their expertise for reviewing and accepting papers to the journal. Therefore, their contribution to the journal is invaluable and we are grateful to them for giving freely of their time to review papers for the journal. We hope they will continue to help us in the future.

We are convinced that with this unreserved support from such a prominent and large team of researchers, the PST will become one of the most prestigious journals in plant science in future. We are fortunate to work with this team.

Finally, the Managing Editor wishes to thank the authors who have submitted papers to the first issue of PST. We are grateful that they responded to our invitation. Many thanks are due to the members of the Editorial Board who reviewed these initial set of papers submitted to the journal.

We hope that PST will provide novelty to the scientific community and will serve as a main vehicle of presenting ideas and research advances in the area. Any suggestion on how to improve our activity in order to deliver a better journal to the authors and readers will always be greatly appreciated.