List of High Impact Journals in Forestry & Allied Natural Resources

For the year 2024.

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Introduction

In pursuit of excellence in forestry research, selecting the right journal for publishing findings is critical to enhancing research visibility, credibility, and impact. The impact factor (IF) of a journal serves as a key indicator of its influence within the scientific community. A higher impact factor reflects a Journal's reputation, readership, and the frequency with which its published research is cited, making it a valuable metric when choosing a publication venue.

Ensuring that research outputs reach the right audience requires careful selection of journals. Publishing in high-impact journals enhances the visibility of the institute's contributions to global discussions on sustainable forest management, environmental conservation, agroforestry, and climate resilience. It also increases opportunities for collaboration, funding, and policy influence.

Guidelines for Choosing the Right Journal

To maximize impact and relevance, KEFRI scientists should follow these guidelines when selecting a journal for publication:

- 1. Assess the Journal's Scope and Relevance
 - a. Ensure the journal aligns with the specific research topic (e.g., forest ecology, climate change, water conservation).
 - b. Check past issues to confirm compatibility with the journal's publishing themes.
- 2. Evaluate the Impact Factor and Indexing
 - a. Prioritize journals with a high impact factor, as they have greater readership and citation potential.
 - b. Confirm if the journal is indexed in Scopus, Web of Science, or PubMed for credibility.
 - c. Consider both impact factor and audience reach
- 3. Consider Open Access vs. Subscription-Based Journals
 - a. Open access journals increase visibility and accessibility but may require Article Processing Charges (APC).
 - b. Subscription-based journals may have higher prestige and traditional readership.
- 4. Review the Publication Timeline and Acceptance Rate
 - a. Check average peer-review duration and publication turnaround time to meet deadlines.
 - b. Assess the acceptance rate to gauge submission competitiveness.
- 5. Examine the Journal's Editorial Board and Policies
 - a. A strong editorial board signals credibility and research integrity.
 - b. Ensure the journal follows ethical publishing standards (e.g., COPE guidelines).

Strategies to Increase Publication Acceptance

- Clarity and Precision: Ensure clear research objectives, methodology, and conclusions.
- Adherence to Journal Guidelines: Follow formatting, referencing, and word count requirements.
- Well-Structured Abstract: Summarize key findings concisely.

Lists of high impact journals

Impact factors are approximate and may vary based on the source and year of reporting. Open access status and publication costs are subject to change; it is advisable to consult the journal's official website for the most current information.

One can consider publishing in a journal having a lower impact factor if it appears in the current list of journals indexed by Scopus.

Scopus: lists over 7,000 journals in Agricultural and Biological Sciences, Biochemistry, Biochemistry, Genetics and Molecular Biology, Biotechnology, Bioengineering, Chemical Engineering, Analytical Chemistry, Fuel Technology, Renewable Energy, Sustainability and the Environment, Building and Construction, and Environmental Science. Access this list here: https://www.scopus.com/sources.uri

The following tables shows lists of journals with more than one Impact factor for both open access and subscription-based journals in forestry, environmental science, water science, soil science, and agriculture as of December 2024.

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Environmental Science Journals

Journal Title	Area(s) of Focus	Impact Factor	Open Access	Publication Cost
Environmental Science & Technology	Environmental Science, Technology, Policy	11.357	No	Subscription-based; open access option available with APC
Environmental Health Perspectives	Environmental Health	9.031	Yes	Fully open access; funded by U.S. government, no APC for authors
Journal of Environmental Management	Environmental Management, Sustainability	6.789	No	Subscription-based; open access option available with APC
Environmental Pollution	Environmental Science, Pollution	8.071	No	Subscription-based; open access option available with APC
Science of the Total Environment	Multidisciplinary Environmental Science	7.963	No	Subscription-based; open access option available with APC
Environmental Research Letters	Environmental Science	6.947	Yes	Fully open access; APC applicable
Journal of Environmental Sciences	Environmental Science	4.302	No	Subscription-based; open access option available with APC
Environmental Science: Processes & Impacts	Environmental Chemistry, Processes	3.776	No	Subscription-based; open access option available with APC
Environmental Science: Water Research & Technology	Water Science, Technology	3.915	No	Subscription-based; open access option available with APC
Journal of Environmental Chemical Engineering	Environmental Chemistry, Engineering	5.909	Yes	Fully open access; APC applicable
Environmental Science and Pollution Research	Environmental Science, Pollution	4.223	No	Subscription-based; open access option available with APC
Journal of Environmental Informatics	Environmental Informatics	4.000	No	Subscription-based; open access option available with APC

Environmental Science:	Nanomaterials,	7.683	No	Subscription-based; open
Nano	Environmental			access option available with
	Science			APC
Journal of Environmental	Environmental	1.834	No	Subscription-based; open
Engineering	Engineering			access option available with
				APC

Soil Science Journals

Journal Title	Area(s) of Focus	Impac t Factor	Open Acce ss	Publication Cost
Soil Biology &	Soil Science,	6.306	No	Subscription-based; open access
<u>Biochemistry</u>	Microbiology,			option available with APC
	Biochemistry			
Geoderma	Soil Science	5.651	No	Subscription-based; open access
				option available with APC
Soil & Tillage Research	Soil Science,	5.374	No	Subscription-based; open access
	Agriculture			option available with APC
European Journal of	Soil Science	3.941	No	Subscription-based; open access
Soil Science				option available with APC
Soil Science Society of	Soil Science	2.307	No	Subscription-based; open access
America Journal				option available with APC
Plant and Soil	Soil Science, Plant	3.799	No	Subscription-based; open access
	Science			option available with APC
Journal of Soil and	Soil Science, Water	2.254	No	Subscription-based; open access
Water Conservation	Conservation			option available with APC
Soil Use and	Soil Science, Land	2.000	No	Subscription-based; open access
Management	Management			option available with APC
Soil Research	Soil Science	1.884	No	Subscription-based; open access
				option available with APC
Journal of Plant	Soil Science, Plant	2.295	No	Subscription-based; open access
Nutrition and Soil	Nutrition			option available with APC
<u>Science</u>				
Soil Science	Soil Science	0.500	No	Subscription-based; open access
				option available with APC
Journal of Soil Science	Soil Science, Plant	1.494	Yes	Fully open access;
an d Plant Nutrition	Nutrition			

Forestry Journals

Journal Title	Area of Focus	Impa	Ope	Publication Cost
		ct	n	
		Facto	Acce	
		r	SS	
Current Forestry	Forestry	~9	No	Subscription-based; open access option
Reports				available with Article Processing Charge (APC)
Urban Forestry &	Urban Forestry	~6	No	Subscription-based; open access option
Urban Greening				available with APC
Agricultural and	Forestry,	~5.6	No	Subscription-based; open access option
<u>Forest</u>	Meteorology			available with APC
Meteorology				
Forest Policy and	Forestry Policy	~4	No	Subscription-based; open access option
Economics	and Economics			available with APC
Forest Ecology and	Forest Ecology	~3.7	No	Subscription-based; open access option
<u>Management</u>	and			available with APC
	Management			
Fire Ecology	Fire Ecology	~3.6	Yes	Fully open access; APC applicable
Journal of Forestry	Forestry	~3.4	No	Subscription-based; open access option
Research	Research			available with APC
Wood Science and	Wood Science	~3.1	No	Subscription-based; open access option
Technology	and			available with APC
	Technology			
Journal of Plant	Plant Ecology	~3	No	Subscription-based; open access option
<u>Ecology</u>				available with APC
<u>Forestry</u>	Forestry	~2.5	No	Subscription-based; open access option
				available with APC
Annals of Forest	Forest Science	~2.3	No	Subscription-based; open access option
Science				available with APC
Canadian Journal	Forest	~2.2	No	Subscription-based; open access option
of Forest Research	Research			available with APC
International	Wildland Fire	~2.1	No	Subscription-based; open access option
Journal of Wildland				available with APC
<u>Fire</u>				
Scandinavian	Forest	~1.9	No	Subscription-based; open access option
Journal of Forest	Research			available with APC
Research				
Journal of Forest	Forest	~1.8	No	Subscription-based; open access option
Research	Research			available with APC

Water Science Journals

Journal Title	Area of Focus	Impact Factor	Open Access	Publication Cost
Water Research	Water Science and Technology	13.4	No	Subscription-based; open access option available with APC
Journal of Hydrology	Hydrology	6.5	No	Subscription-based; open access option available with APC
Water Resources Research	Water Resources	5.2	No	Subscription-based; open access option available with APC
Hydrology and Earth System Sciences	Hydrology and Earth System Sciences	5.1	Yes	Fully open access; APC applicable
Journal of Water Resources Planning and Management	Water Resources Planning and Management	3.2	No	Subscription-based; open access option available with APC
Water	Water Science	3.1	Yes	Fully open access; APC applicable
Journal of Hydrologic Engineering	Hydrologic Engineering	2.9	No	Subscription-based; open access option available with APC
Hydrological Processes	Hydrology	2.8	No	Subscription-based; open access option available with APC
Journal of Water Supply: Research and Technology – AQUA	Water Supply	2.5	No	Subscription-based; open access option available with APC
Journal of Hydroinformatics	Hydroinformatics	2.3	No	Subscription-based; open access option available with APC
Journal of Water and Climate Change	Water and Climate Change	2.1	No	Subscription-based; open access option available with APC
Journal of Water Process Engineering	Water Process Engineering	2.0	Yes	Fully open access; APC applicable
Water Science and Technology	Water Science and Technology	1.9	No	Subscription-based; open access option available with APC

Journal of Water Reuse	Water Reuse and	1.8	No	Subscription-based; open
and Desalination	Desalination			access option available
				with APC

Agriculture Journals

Journal Title	Area of Focus	Impa ct Facto r	Ope n Acce ss	Publication Cost
Plant Biotechnology Journal	Plant Biotechnology	9.8	No	Subscription-based; open access option available with Article Processing Charge (APC)
Agricultural Systems	Agricultural Systems	5.9	No	Subscription-based; open access option available with APC
Field Crops Research	Crop Science	4.9	No	Subscription-based; open access option available with APC
Journal of Agricultural and Food Chemistry	Agricultural and Food Chemistry	4.5	No	Subscription-based; open access option available with APC
Agronomy Journal	Agronomy	2.5	No	Subscription-based; open access option available with APC
Crop Science	Crop Science	2.3	No	Subscription-based; open access option available with APC
Journal of Agricultural and Food Research	Agricultural and Food Research	2.1	Yes	Fully open access; APC applicable
<u>Agriculture</u>	General Agriculture	1.6	Yes	Fully open access; APC applicable
Journal of Agricultural Science	Agricultural Science	1.4	No	Subscription-based; open access option available with APC
Journal of Agronomy and Crop Science	Agronomy and Crop Science	1.2	No	Subscription-based; open access option available with APC

Conclusion

While considering publishing in the listed journals – in the lists provided or on Scopus – one should note that the impact factor is not constant and changes with the year of reference, the Scopus list also changes such that some journals may be included in consecutive years while others are dropped. Always depend on the most current list to ensure that research is published in reputable and high impact journals.