Zeitschrift für Naturforschung C – A Journal of Biosciences

Table of Contents

Scope and general policies of the journal .......................................................... 3
  Scope ................................................................................................................ 3
  Article (manuscript) categories ...................................................................... 3
  Data based submissions .................................................................................. 3

Peer review, turnaround times and preprint policies ....................................... 4
  Peer review information ............................................................................... 4
  Turnaround time ......................................................................................... 4
  Issue based publication .............................................................................. 4
  Rejection of manuscripts ........................................................................... 4
  Appeals ....................................................................................................... 4
  Preprint policy ............................................................................................ 4
  Inclusive language policy ........................................................................... 4

Submission of manuscripts ............................................................................ 5
  ORCID ........................................................................................................ 5
  Submission declaration and verification ....................................................... 5
  Scientific misconduct .................................................................................. 5
  Research integrity ...................................................................................... 5

Post-acceptance .............................................................................................. 6
  Galley proofs ............................................................................................. 6
  Offprints .................................................................................................... 6
  Repository policy ....................................................................................... 6
    Subscription-based and hybrid journals .................................................. 6
    Note for authors of NIH-funded research ............................................... 6
    PMC and Research Funder Policies ......................................................... 6
  Copyright .................................................................................................. 7
    Open Access in hybrid journals ............................................................... 7
    Article Processing Charges (APCs) ......................................................... 7

Ethical conduct of research ........................................................................... 7
  Acknowledgments ...................................................................................... 7
  Authorization for the use of human subjects – Research ethics .................. 7
  Authorization for the use of experimental animals and wildlife in natural settings – Research ethics .......... 8
  Informed consent ...................................................................................... 8
  Author contributions ............................................................................... 8
  Competing interests ................................................................................. 8
  Research funding .................................................................................... 9
  Data availability ....................................................................................... 9

Preparation of manuscript ............................................................................ 9
  Title page information .............................................................................. 9
  Language .................................................................................................. 10
  General format and manuscript elements ............................................... 10
    Abstract .................................................................................................. 10
    Keywords ............................................................................................... 10
    Headings ............................................................................................... 10
    References .............................................................................................. 10
    Figures and figure captions .................................................................. 11
    Tables and table captions .................................................................... 11
    Abbreviations ....................................................................................... 11
# Instructions for Authors

**Zeitschrift für Naturforschung C – A Journal of Biosciences**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Section</th>
<th>Page</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Equations and symbols</td>
<td>11</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Chemical structures</td>
<td>12</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Scientific names and non-abbreviated Latin expressions</td>
<td>12</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Units</td>
<td>12</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Audio and Video</td>
<td>12</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Appendices</td>
<td>12</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Supplementary material</td>
<td>13</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
Scope and general policies of the journal

Scope

Zeitschrift für Naturforschung C – A Journal of Biosciences (ZNC): is an international scientific journal and a community resource for the emerging field of natural and natural-like products.

The journal publishes original research on the isolation (including structure elucidation), bio-chemical synthesis and bioactivities of natural products, their biochemistry, pharmacology, biotechnology, and their biological activity and innovative developed computational methods for predicting the structure and/or function of natural products.

Zeitschrift für Naturforschung C – A Journal of Biosciences (ZNC): welcomes research papers in fields on the chemistry-biology boundary which address scientific ideas and approaches to generate and understand natural compounds on a molecular level and/or use them to stimulate and manipulate biological processes.

Topics:

- Bio-chemical synthesis and bioactivities of natural products
- Isolation (including structure elucidation)
- Biochemistry
- Biotechnology
- Pharmacology
- Chemistry
- Biology

ZNC publishes 12 issues per year, mostly in double issues. Publication language is English. No processing or page charge is raised. Colour figures required for the comprehension of their contents are printed as such without charge. Supplementary material is published online. Targeted audience of the journal are academics and practitioners interested in the topic of ZNC.

Article (manuscript) categories

- Research Article – A Research Article usually is partitioned into individual sections. An introduction should explain the article's topic to a general readership, while a conclusion or discussion section should outline the significance of the new results obtained. There is no formal length limit to a Research Article, but authors should avoid elements of unnecessary length, and restrict figures and tables to what is decisive for efficient communication.

- Research Notes – A Research Note is a rapid communication of particular urgency which does not exceed two pages in print (max. 10,000 characters excl. spaces). Decision about the acceptance of a Research Note will be made especially fast.

- Letter to the Editor and Reply Letters – A Letter is a focused communication which does not exceed five pages in print (max. 25,000 characters excl. spaces). A letter does not need to be divided into individual sections, but should start with a summary and introduction accessible to a general readership and end with a concise conclusion. Letters will be given priority handling by the editors.

- Review Articles – A Review Article gives an overview over an emerging or particularly active field of current research. Authors wishing to prepare a Review Article should contact one of the editors prior to submission, providing an abstract, tentative section headings, and a length estimate.

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Zeitschrift für Naturforschung C holds a high standard for compound characterization. For new compounds, evidence for identity and purity must be provided. Evidence for documenting the identity of new compounds should include proton and carbon NMR data and MS accurate mass (HRMS) or elemental analysis data. A copy of a spectrum with a signal-to-noise ratio sufficient to permit seeing peaks with 5% of the intensity of the strongest peak should be included in the supporting information.
When new or known compounds are used for bioassays, a purity level of at least 95% needs to be documented. Evidence for documenting compound purity should include proton and carbon NMR spectra and be included in the supporting information.

**Peer review, turnaround times and preprint policies**

**Peer review information**

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The editors reserve the right to reject submitted manuscripts without peer review if the studies are not novel or important enough to merit publication in the journal. Manuscripts deemed unsuitable (insufficient originality or limited interest to the target audience) will be also rejected without review.

**Turnaround time**

*Zeitschrift für Naturforschung C* aspires to inform authors of the peer review decision within 4–6 weeks from submission date. Revised manuscripts should be returned within 1–12 weeks (depending on the decision). Accepted articles will be published online within 2–4 weeks of acceptance.

**Issue based publication**

Articles are first published online as DOI citable articles and are later assigned to an issue with final page numbers.

**Rejection of manuscripts**

The principal criteria for publication of scientific articles are that the main results and conclusions must not have been published or submitted elsewhere and that they are of scientific importance. Manuscripts dealing with subjects that have been well studied in the literature, and that do not resolve questions raised by previous studies, or manuscripts that are statistically underpowered, are likely to be rejected without peer review. Manuscripts are also returned to authors if they do not comply with the Instructions for Authors (e.g., if the number of words allowed for a certain article type will be exceeded).

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Acknowledgments

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The Protection of Privacy is a legal right that must not be infringed without individual informed consent. In cases where the identification of personal information is necessary for scientific reasons, authors should obtain full documentation of informed consent, including written permission from the patient or their legal guardians prior to inclusion in the study. The following (or similar) statement should be given in the Methods section: Informed consent was obtained from all individuals included in this study.

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The style sheet provides examples for different types of citations in the text as well as for different bibliographic items in the reference list. Please note: All references mentioned in the reference list must be mentioned in the text, and vice versa.

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Abbreviations
The use of abbreviations and acronyms is permitted given that they are expanded in full when used the first time with the abbreviation in parentheses (applies to abstract and main text). Please use them consistently thereafter. Avoid using non-standard abbreviations unless they appear more than three times in the text. We recommend providing a list with an overview of all abbreviations.

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Equations should be well-aligned and not crowded. Use only Latin and Greek alphabets. Avoid complicated superscripts and subscripts by introducing new symbols. Avoid repetition of a complicated expression by representing
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**Chemical structures**

Chemical structures should be produced with the use of a drawing program such as ChemDraw. Structure drawing preferences (preset in ChemDraw from the “File” menu, choose “Apply document settings from ACS Docu-
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   bold width 2.0 pt (0.071 cm, 0.0278 in.); line width 0.6 pt (0.021 cm, 0.0084 in.); margin width 1.6 pt (0.056 cm,
   0.022 in.); hash spacing 2.5 pt (0.088 cm, 0.0347 in.)

2. As text settings select: font Arial/Helvetica; size 10 pt.

3. Under the preferences choose: units points tolerances 5 pixels.

4. Under page setup choose: Paper US Letter; scale 100%.

**Scientific names and non-abbreviated Latin expressions**

**Biochemical:** As far as possible authors should follow the recommendations of the Nomenclature Committee
of IUBMB and the IUPAC–IUBMB Joint Commission on Biochemical Nomenclature (see http://www.chem.qmul.
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**Chemical:** The IUPAC recommendations on chemical nomenclature (see http://www.chem.qmul.ac.uk/iupac/in-
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iubmb/enzyme, 1992) should be followed as far as possible. This includes the quoting of EC numbers.

**Scientific names of organisms** should be cited in their complete form when first mentioned in the order genus –
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be typed in italics. Subsequently, the genera should generally be abbreviated by their first letter, but avoid con-
fusion: e.g., use *A. comosus* if the only genus with the first letter A in your manuscript is *Ananas*; but use unam-
biguous abbreviations if there is more than one genus with the same first letter, e.g., *Ananas comosus, Aechmea
nudicaulis* = *A. comosus, Ae. nudicaulis*, etc. Common names of organisms must be accompanied by the correct
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