

2024 Editorial Team Report
Journal of Agricultural Education

As of January 1, 2024, the journal transitioned from a single editor to a three-person editorial team model. The editorial team expresses our gratitude to Dr. Ryan Anderson, chair of the *JAE* Editing-Managing Board (EMB), and Dr. Don Edgar, past editor, for their assistance and guidance through this transition and onboarding new members to the editorial team. Each editorial team member is responsible for different phases of the manuscript process.

The assignments are as follows:

Editor-Elect: Submission process (Becki Lawver, Utah State University)

Editor: Review process and journal oversight (Brian Myers, University of Florida)

Past Editor: Publication process and subscriptions (Don Edgar, University of Idaho)

Journal Statistics

	2023	2024 <i>as of April 30</i>	Total Since use of PKP ¹
Submissions Received:	190	38	244
Submissions Accepted:	63	38	101
Submissions Declined:	23	20	43
Submissions Published:	56	19	75
Days to First Editorial Decision ² :	34	6	33
Days to Accept:	244	34	260
Days to Reject:	240	21	240
Acceptance Rate ³ :	73%	36%	41%
Rejection Rate ³ :	27%	64%	18%

Note: Published submissions within a date range only count the initial publication date and not subsequent versions.

Accomplishment Highlights:

- Manuscript workflow: A manuscript processing workflow has been developed to guide a submitted manuscript through the submission-to-publication process. This workflow allows clearer communication as a manuscript is handed off to each editorial team member.

¹ The first *JAE* manuscript was submitted into the PKP system on 12/13/2022.

² The number of days it takes for most submissions to receive the first editorial decision, such as desk rejection or send for review. These figures indicate that 80% of submissions reach the decision within the given number of days. This statistic attempts to describe when the majority of authors submitting to your journal can expect a decision.

³ The percentage for the selected date range is calculated for submissions submitted during this date range and received a final decision. A submission that was submitted before the date range but received an accept/reject decision within the date range will not be counted. The acceptance and decline rates only count submissions that have received an accept/decline decision, so they exclude submissions still in the queue.

- Each editorial team member is creating a Standard Operating Procedure (SOP) document that outlines their role. We hope this aids in the transition for future members of the team and assists in clarifying the duties of each team member.
- Clarification of "timely resubmission policy": The EMB more clearly operationalized our long-standing policy regarding timely resubmission. Manuscripts in the "Resubmit for Review" or "Revisions Required" statuses for longer than 12 months with no revised manuscript submitted may be moved to "Decline" status.
- Starting with [Issue 1 of Volume 64 \(2023\)](#), all manuscripts in the "accept for publication" status that have completed all post-acceptance procedures will be published in the journal's next issue. We are no longer concerned about "holding" manuscripts or limiting the number of published articles per issue.
- [Website](#) updates: A few new tools have been added to the journal website to allow our work to be more easily found by more scholars.
- Broken and misdirected links on the website: We found several broken or misdirected links on the journal website. We have begun a process to identify and correct those errors. We started with the most recent volumes and have been working backward. We believe we have corrected the links back to Volume 41 (2000). If you find broken or misdirected links, please let the past editor know. This work is ongoing.
- Email template revision: Many of the email templates in the PKP system have been revised to provide greater clarity.
- [Reviewer interest](#): A suggested structure for reviewers to use when entering reviewer interests in their profiles in PKP has been released. This structure will aid in assigning reviewers for both the journal and the research conferences, which use the same PKP reviewer database.
- Overdue reviews: There has been a substantial decrease in the number of overdue reviews and responses to requests for reviews. This has only occurred due to the dedication of our reviewers to the process. Our editorial team is dedicated to ensuring a quality process, which includes timely reviews.
- EMB policy management: The Editing-Managing Board is developing a more sustainable process for storing and recording EMP policies and meeting minutes.
- [Submission Process Instructions revisions](#): We revised the instructions for manuscript submission, resubmit for review resubmission, revisions required resubmission, and post-acceptance. This revision process aimed to clarify the instructions and better utilize the tools within the PKP system for a fully online journal.
- [Clarification of Reviewer Ratings](#): We created a document to define more clearly each of the reviewer publication recommendation ratings for a manuscript (Accept, Revisions Required, Resubmit for Review, Resubmit Elsewhere, and Decline Submission). The main focus of this effort was to provide better clarity between the "Revisions Required" and "Resubmit for Review" ratings.

Future Plans/Discussions:

- Website revision: We continue adding new tools to the journal website to make it easier to access, navigate, and have our work found by scholars within and beyond our discipline.
- [Continuous or "rolling" publication](#): The editorial team has received approval from the Editing-Managing Board to investigate moving to continuous or "rolling" publication of the journal starting with Volume 66 (2025). In this system, once an "accepted for publication" manuscript has met all the post-acceptance and publication requirements, it would be published immediately. Our plan is to continue having four issues per volume (year). Articles published from January 1 to March 31 would be considered as Issue 1, April 1 to June 30 would be Issue 2, July 1 to September 30 would be Issue 3, and October 1 to December 31 would be Issue 4. We are still working on how this process will operate. We fully expect to be able to implement this for Volume 66 (2025).
- Manuscript Preparation Guidelines revision: The editorial team is revising the current manuscript preparation guidelines to better utilize the tools of a fully online manuscript review and publication process. We hope to release these new guidelines before the fall semester.
- Call for Editor-elect: A call for the next Editor-Elect will be forthcoming. This individual would serve in this role in 2025, transition to Editor in 2026, and then to Past Editor in 2027.
- AI (Artificial Intelligence) statement: The EMB is working to develop a statement regarding the use of artificial intelligence in publications. Once developed, it will be shared with the profession and added to the journal website.

[JAE Editing-Managing Board](#)⁴

Board Officers

- Chair - Ryan Anderson, Texas State University
- Past Chair - Scott Smalley, Iowa State University

North Central Region Representatives:

- Aaron McKim, Michigan State University (2023)
- Anil Chaudhary, Pennsylvania State University (2024)
- Amanda Bowling, The Ohio State University (2025)
- Nathan Conner, University of Nebraska-Lincoln (2026)⁵

Southern Region Representatives:

- Jill Rucker, University of Arkansas (2023)
- J. C. Bunch, University of Florida (2024)
- Carla Jagger, University of Florida (2025)
- Chris Eck, Oklahoma State University (2026)⁵

⁴ JAE EMB board members will be elected during their respective regional meetings in the indicated year. Their term on the EMB will commence at the conclusion of the annual AAAE conference subsequent to their election. Newly elected members are encouraged to participate in the JAE EMB board meeting at the subsequent annual conference, though they will not possess voting privileges unless representing an absent current member.

⁵ EMB member-elect

Western Region Representatives:

- David Doerfert, Texas Tech University (2023)
- Ryan Anderson, Texas State University (2024)
- John Rayfield, Texas Tech University (2025)
- Tyson Sorenson, Utah State University (2026)⁵