

WOOD AND FIBER SCIENCE

JOURNAL OF THE SOCIETY OF WOOD SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY

VOLUME 15

APRIL 1983

NUMBER 2

NOW FOR THE REALITIES OF LIVING TOGETHER

Well, the wedding has taken place and the honeymoon is over. It is now time for the happy couple to settle down and face the realities of living together in the most harmonious and efficacious way. In these days of economic stringency, it is essential that the two newlyweds make the most prudent use of their limited financial resources and you, as members of the family, can help. As "mother-in-law" to the happy couple, I feel enjoined to point out ways in which this can and should be done.

Some of us, I fear, have had a tendency in the past to waste money—albeit unwittingly. We have also wasted a certain amount of time, and after all, time *is* money, whether our own or someone else's. In order to save time and to keep the costs of *Wood and Fiber Science* as much under control as possible, it would be helpful to consider the following comments the next time you are preparing a manuscript for submission to this journal.

First of all, please read the suggestions for authors carefully, as printed on the inside back cover of each issue. Even if you are not a subscriber to *Wood and Fiber Science* (and you should be!), you can still find a recent copy at your university or company library to consult. These suggestions are made not only for the purpose of making the magazine as consistent as is reasonably possible but also to save time and money. If you fail to follow instructions, I, as editorial assistant, have three choices:

- a) make any changes in the manuscript that I myself can make;
- b) return the manuscript to you for revision and retyping if the changes required are substantial (thus delaying the time it takes to get your article into print);
- c) forward the manuscript to Allen Press, instructing them to query you on the galley about any ambiguous points (thus running up the cost of your article). If you do find a query on a galley, please do not ignore it.

My job as editorial assistant is, of course, to make necessary changes in manuscripts before sending them on to the Press, and I am happy to do so when possible. But sometimes I am unable to do so, mostly because of some error on your part, such as giving incomplete or ambiguous information, sending in unusable figures, and so on. Outlined below are some pointers that, if followed, will help to expedite the process of converting manuscripts into printed articles.

1. *References.* *Wood and Fiber Science* does *not* use a number reference system, so please do not submit articles using such a system. Instead, cite references in the text by last names of authors and year of publication. Also be sure that all references in the text are cited in the reference section at the end of the paper and vice versa. Also be sure that the years agree and that authors' names are spelled consistently.

2. *Abbreviations.* Please be sure that any abbreviations you use are explained

Continued on page 101

- GHELMEZIU, N. 1937/38. Untersuchungen über die Schlagfestigkeit von Bauhölzern. Holz Roh-Werkst. 1:585–601 as cited in Kollmann, F. F. P., and W. A. Côté. 1968. Principles of wood science and technology. Vol. 1. Solid wood. Springer-Verlag, New York.
- HANKINSON, R. L. 1921. Investigation of the crushing strength of spruce at varying angles of grain. U.S. Air Serv. Inf. Cir. No. 259.
- KEITH, C. T. 1966. Effect of orientation of annual layers on the resistance of wood to impact loading. J. Materials 1(4):759.
- PANSHIN, A. J., AND C. DE ZEEUW. 1970. Textbook of wood technology, 3rd ed. McGraw-Hill, New York.
- SINCLAIR, S. A., T. E. MCLAIN, AND G. IFJU. 1979. Toughness of sap-stained southern pine salvaged after beetle attack. Wood Fiber 11(1):66–72.
- USDA. 1974. Wood handbook: Wood as an engineering material. U.S. Dept. of Agriculture. Agriculture Handbook No. 72 (rev.), Gov. Printing Office, Washington, DC.
- WENGERT, E. M. 1979. Relationship between toughness of hardwoods and specific gravity. Wood Sci. 11(4):233.

Continued from page 93

in full the first time they appear in the text and that you use the same abbreviation each time. (I may occasionally change some of them to conform to *Wood and Fiber Science* practice. For example, I may change DBH to dbh or drop the degree sign from temperatures given.)

3. *Title Page*. Always submit a separate title page and include on it a running head. For each author, give the appropriate title and affiliation, together with address and zip code. Indicate to whom galley and page charges should be sent.

4. *Keywords*. Some of you are still failing to provide keywords. We will add them if you forget, but your choices may not correspond with ours.

5. *Figures and Tables*. Allen Press says, “There is no single factor which does more to increase the cost of scientific publications than messy, poorly prepared copy. While editors and authors generally recognize that illegible or heavily edited text matter can double the cost of an article, the quality of illustration copy is often overlooked.” If the original you submit is poor, the reproduction in the journal will be poor also. According to the Press, the ideal illustration is drawn on drafting paper or illustration board in India ink for a reduction of $\frac{2}{3}$ of actual size. Do not use typewritten copy on illustrations; it does not reproduce well. Although press-on letters may be used, they sometimes come off in handling. *For all figures, identify with the name of the journal, author’s name, figure number, and top of figure*. Do not submit illustrations that exceed $8\frac{1}{2} \times 11$ inches. For additional information, you may wish to ask Allen Press for their useful booklet *Steps Toward Better Scientific Illustrations*.

There’s an old saying that goes, “When in doubt, ask,” and I am very happy to confer with any of you when you have questions about your manuscripts. If I do not readily know the answer, I will contact the Press or some other appropriate source. After all, mothers-in-law are supposed to be full of advice, which they readily share with newlyweds!

Carol B. Ovens
Editorial Assistant