

Suggested Format for Taxonomic Papers Published in the Journal of Nematology

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Taxonomic papers often show a wide diversity in style and format when published. This is due in part to the nature of the organisms, but more so to the absence of specific guidelines for preparation and publication of such papers. Presently many problems and frustrations are faced by authors, reviewers, and editors because of the lack of a taxonomic guide or format. Consequently, the Systematics Resources Committee of the Society of Nematologists was asked to develop a format to serve as a guide in preparing and publishing taxonomic papers. This presentation should be useful to that end.

The Rank 1 subheading SYSTEMATICS (Table 1) is required for revisions and taxonomic papers containing other studies of equal rank, e.g., phylogeny, morphology, cytogenetics.

Rank 4 subheadings, which identify the specimens described, generally are followed by measurements (or table reference to measurements) which lead into a paragraph or paragraphs of description. The subheading *Measurements* is not used in this format.

It is strongly recommended that measurements include range, mean and standard deviation (SD). Measurement abbreviations (μm , mm) may or may not be included in the description; but if omitted, the following statement *must* be added at the end of MATERIALS AND METHODS: "All measurements are in micrometers (μm) unless otherwise specified." In addition, when data is presented in tabular form, measurement abbreviations should be specified in or at the end of the title of each table

or shown in an appropriate manner within each table. Abbreviations for new species are n. sp. or sp. n. and for new genus are n. gen. or gen. n., as the author prefers. Also, a new rank for a taxon should be indicated by the abbreviated Latin words, *nov. grad.* Names of authors of a taxon should be linked preferably by the symbol "&" such as Jones & Smith, or by the Latin word, "et." Specifying the mounting medium used for measured specimens and giving the number of paratype specimens of different stages deposited in various collections are optional, but the names and locations of collections in which the types are deposited are required. (See Nematology Newsletter 34:8-13, 1988, for the latest list of collections.)

The description should be written in a telegraphic (condensed) style, i.e., without articles and with minimal use of verbs.

Included here are examples of subheadings recommended for the description of a new species.

SYSTEMATICS

Meloidogyne ____ n. sp.
(Figs. 1-9)

Description (Optional as a subhead)

Holotype (female in glycerine): Body length 720, without neck 530; body width 350;

...
Female: Measurements of 35 females in Table 1. Body white, pear shaped, variable in size, (Note: Use this format with tabular data.)

Allotype (male in glycerine): Body length 1,200; stylet 22.

Male (n = 30): Length 995-1,450 (1,215; SD 95); ratios—a 28-45 (35; SD 4.7), b 5.8-7.6 (6.4; SD 0.5), c 65-140 (100; SD 32.3); stylet 21-24 (22.4; SD 1.2).

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¹ Systematic Resources Committee, A. M. Golden, Chairman, E. M. Noffsinger, Vice-Chairman.

TABLE I. Subheadings, rank, and requirement.

Subheading rank	Subheading	Requirement
1) Centered, all caps	MATERIALS AND METHODS	Required
	SYSTEMATICS	Required
2) Centered	Taxon (italics [underscore in manuscript] for genus and species only)	Required
2) Centered	(Figure references)	Required
3) Not Indented	Description	Optional (as a subhead)
4) Indented	Holotype (e.g., female); Paratypes ($n +$ sex); or Female ($n =$); Allotype (male); Paratypes ($n +$ sex); or Male ($n =$); Juvenile ($n +$ stage); Egg ($n =$); Type host and locality	Required Required Optional Required Required Required for some species† Required for some species†
3) Not Indented	Type specimens	Required
	Diagnosis	Required
	Relationships	Required
	Remarks or by subject, e.g., Biology	Optional
1) Centered, all caps	DISCUSSION	Optional
	LITERATURE CITED	Required

† Root-knot and cyst nematodes and most related forms.

Body vermiform, tapering at both ends, more so posteriorly. Head slightly set off, with two or three annules. . . . (Note: Use this format for nontabular data.)

Second-stage juvenile: Measurements of 30 specimens in Table 2. Head region slightly set off, with two or three annules, cephalic framework weak. . . .

Egg ($n = 30$): Length 95–124 (112; SD 7.9); width 34–56 (48; SD 4.7); L/W ratio 2.0–2.6 (2.3; SD 0.16). Egg shell hyaline, without visible markings.

Type host and locality (Required)

Roots of *Zea mays* L., Tifton, Georgia, USA.

Type specimens (Required)

Holotype (female): Isolated from greenhouse culture, propagated on tomato (*Lycopersicon esculentum* Mill. cv. Rutgers), derived from original population from Georgia. Slide no. ___, deposited in the United States Department of Agriculture Nematode Collection (USDANC), Beltsville, Maryland. *Allotype (male)*: Same data as holotype. Slide no. ___, deposited in

USDANC, Beltsville, Maryland. *Paratypes (females, males, and second-stage juveniles)*: Same data as holotype. USDANC, Beltsville, Maryland; University of California Davis Nematode Collection, Davis, California;

Diagnosis (Required)

This should be a statement of the characters or combination of characters which differentiate the taxon and make it unique from other taxa.

Relationships (Required)

This should be a comparison between the new taxon and other named, related taxa of the same rank as the new taxon.

Remarks (Optional)

DISCUSSION (Optional)

LITERATURE CITED (Required) (on separate page)