

Editorial

As from 1984, the Netherlands Journal of Agricultural Science (NJAS) has offered the possibility to publish both full papers and synopses. Synopsis publishing was initiated as a way to present concise scientific information on essentials of materials and methods, results and conclusions of completed research projects. In most cases the synopsis was based on an extensive report that had not been published through regular channels. Any reader interested in more detailed information could then order the full report at the Netherlands Agricultural Report Depository (NARD). NARD was a joint project between the Royal Netherlands Society for Agricultural Science (KGVl, the publisher of NJAS) and the Centre for Agricultural Publication and Documentation (PUDOC).

In 1990, a committee consisting of Journal editors, a member of the board of KGVl, and the NARD project manager, has evaluated the synopsis project. The major outcome of the discussions was that it was not justified to continue the synopsis project. The main reasons underlying this conclusion were:

- the number of synopses submitted and published was much lower than originally projected;
- the number of requests for reports was small;
- the quality of synopses was quite variable and this caused many problems with refereeing;
- there were several cases of double publication;
- the scope of NJAS had not really been extended.

The board of KGVl has adopted the conclusions and recommendations of the evaluation committee and has terminated the contract with PUDOC with respect to NARD. PUDOC has fully agreed with this termination.

Therefore, from 1991 onwards only full papers on original research will be published in NJAS. Authors of grey report literature are encouraged to whiten such reports by submitting full papers. All papers submitted will be refereed according to standard procedures. The Journal editors feel obliged to maintain a short period of high-quality evaluation with respect to submitted manuscripts. In this way the Journal continues to offer potential authors a quick and attractive channel for scientific communication. As before, the international research community will be provided with up-to-date and high-standard information on agricultural and related sciences.

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Editor-in-Chief