

Editorial

Recently, in an editorial to No 1 of this volume, we announced two new developments: the broadened scope of the Netherlands Journal of Agricultural Science and the introduction of synopses. These developments inevitably provoked a new editorial approach.

Up to now, papers submitted to the Journal were reviewed by members of the Editorial Board, and occasionally by other specialists. Since this moderate reviewing practice is more and more felt to be hazardous to the prestige of the Journal and of the papers contained in it, the Editorial Board recently decided to change over to a stricter refereeing procedure.

Two Managing Editors have been appointed, one for the full papers and the other for the synoptic section. All papers – full papers as well as synopses – will be reviewed first by the Managing Editor in charge of the section involved. Then the paper will be subject to refereeing by both a member of the Editorial Board and a specialist who is not connected with the Journal. The paper will be accepted only if the refereeing team judges it fit for publication. If the judgements of the Board member and the other referee widely differ an arbiter (adjudicator) will be consulted.

Enlargement of the Editorial Board is a logical consequence of the broadening of the Journal's scope. Recently a chemist has been appointed, and new appointments will follow as soon as gaps are being felt for certain branches.

In implementing this refereeing procedure we feel that the Netherlands Journal of Agricultural Science will succeed in enhancing its prestige and its value for an international audience, thus contributing to the advancement of knowledge in the wide field of agriculture.

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Managing Editors