



# ***THE FESTIVUS***

## **INSTRUCTIONS FOR AUTHORS**

**Focus and Scope:** *The Festivus* publishes original articles on all aspects of the Phylum Mollusca that are of high quality and broad interest. Manuscripts describing new taxa, unpublished research, review articles, faunal surveys, and smaller papers of local geographical coverage will be considered. Articles of a lengthy nature or containing large amounts of raw data are not appropriate in scope for *The Festivus* though may be of interest as a Supplement to *The Festivus*. Whether or not an Article is appropriate for a Supplement is at the discretion of the Editor. Brief articles of general interest to either professional or amateur malacologists and shell collectors, not exceeding 3,000 words, may be published in the non-peer reviewed section. Color pictures and plates are encouraged for all articles.

**Publication Frequency:** *The Festivus* is now published quarterly in February, May, August, and November.

**Manuscripts:** Each original manuscript and all accompanying illustrations, tables, graphs, images, and figures should be submitted to the Editor preferably via email. The text of the manuscript should be in Times New Roman 12 point font, single spaced, one space between paragraphs, left justified, right unjustified without any other formatting features selected, and saved in a Microsoft Word file or compatible format.

Manuscripts of a technical or scientific nature submitted for publication will be considered with the tacit understanding that they have not been published elsewhere in whole or in part.

Manuscripts must be in English, but may include an expanded abstract in a foreign language if appropriate, such as in describing a new taxon endemic to a country where English is not spoken.

Peer-reviewed articles should be clear and concise. Authors should provide a brief (under 250 words), concise and informative abstract summarizing the manuscript. The length of the article should be the minimum required to describe and interpret the work clearly. Images and illustrations, which enhance the article, are highly encouraged.

The first mention of the scientific name of a species in the text should be accompanied by the taxonomic authority, including the year. Latin names and other words to be printed in italics should be so formatted.

Use the metric system throughout the manuscript in discussing sizes, distances and weights.

Authors' names, addresses and emails should follow the title.

Use section headings where appropriate. Typical organization and section headings include title, author information, abstract, introduction, methods and materials, results, discussion, acknowledgments, references, tables, figures and accompanying captions. The Editor reserves

the right to suggest changes to the names of an author's section headings to conform to the journal's style.

Articles introducing new taxa should conform to the International Commission on Zoological Nomenclature (ICZN) and must contain at a minimum a description section that describes the new taxon and a diagnosis, discussion, or differential diagnosis section wherein the author clearly and unambiguously differentiates the new taxon from related or similar taxa. Authors seeking to publish new taxa should read, review and follow the journal's "New Taxa Description Guidelines" which discuss in greater detail these issues and the treatment of holotypes and paratypes.

Contributions should follow the recommendations in the Council of Science Editors (CSE) Scientific Style and Format Manual, available at [www.councilscienceeditors.org](http://www.councilscienceeditors.org) for citing references.

Manuscripts should be submitted via email to the Editor at the e-mail address provided on the San Diego Shell Club website.

**Images/Illustrations:** The text must be submitted in a file separate from illustrations, tables, graphs, images and figures. Images and/or illustrations must be filed separately and saved in high quality .jpg format of at least 600 dpi (dots per inch). Tables should be used sparingly. Ideally images should span the entire width of the printed page (maximum width 15 cm). Images that will be only one column width should be a maximum 8 cm in width. Please take these dimensions into consideration when preparing images. If more than one figure is included in a figure, plate or illustration they should be consecutively lettered.

**Peer Review Process:** The editorial staff reserves the right to return manuscripts that either do not meet the standards or are not appropriate in scope for *The Festivus*. Manuscripts deemed appropriate for the journal will be sent for critical review if they are technical or scientific in nature. Articles of general interest will not be subject to peer review. *The Festivus* uses a blind peer review system, with the reviewers remaining anonymous unless they want their identities known, and the identities of the authors known to the reviewers. All scientific or technical articles will be sent to one or more reviewers. The reviewer's recommendations will serve as a basis for editorial rejection or continuation of the editorial process. Reviewed manuscripts will be sent back to authors for consideration of the reviewers' comments, and for incorporation of those recommendations into the manuscript or discussed with the Editor where appropriate. The revised version of the manuscript may be considered at this point as accepted for publication by the journal. Authors of peer reviewed articles will receive a .pdf file of their published paper for use to produce reprints. When a manuscript is accepted for publication the authors agree to transfer the copyright to the San Diego Shell Club.