

WVPAC 2027 – Instructions for Authors

General Requirements

- Abstracts must be written in English and must not exceed **300 words**, including section headings. The word count excludes the title, author names, affiliations, keywords, acknowledgements, funding information, conflict of interest statements, and references.
- Abstracts must be submitted in Microsoft Word format (.docx) via the online submission system.
- Authors may be listed as **co-authors** on an **unlimited number of abstracts**. However, an individual may serve as **presenting author** for a **maximum of two accepted abstracts**. Additional accepted abstracts must be reassigned to a co-author before programme finalisation.
- Submitted abstracts should describe original scientific work, novel analyses, new field observations, clinical experience, educational content, or evidence-based reviews relevant to poultry health, welfare and production.
- WVPAC 2027 welcomes abstracts concerning **all avian species relevant to poultry production, health, welfare and food safety**, including commercial and backyard chickens, turkeys, ducks, geese, quail, game birds, waterfowl, pigeons, ratites and other domesticated avian species.
- Abstracts should contain substantial scientific content and should not primarily serve a promotional purpose. Significant duplication of previously presented or published material may result in rejection at the discretion of the Scientific Committee.
- Acceptance of an abstract does not guarantee an oral presentation. The Scientific Committee reserves the right to assign accepted abstracts to either **oral or poster** presentation formats.
- Authors are responsible for ensuring that all submitted work complies with applicable copyright requirements, ethical standards, and publication policies.
- Research involving live animals must have been conducted in accordance with applicable animal welfare legislation and ethical standards. By submitting an abstract, authors confirm that all required **ethical approvals** have been obtained and agree to provide supporting documentation upon request by the Scientific Committee.

Formatting Instructions

- Use **Arial font size 10**.
- Use single spacing and left-aligned (unjustified) text.
- Do not hyphenate words at line breaks.
- Use hard returns only to end paragraphs and not to rearrange lines.
- Type the title in sentence case, in bold, and without a full stop at the end.
- Insert one blank line below the title.
- List authors by **family name followed by initials** (e.g. Magritte R., Horta V., Brel J.).
- Type affiliations underneath the authors in italics using the format: *Department (optional), Institution, City, Country*. Do not include street addresses, postal codes, or post office boxes.
- Where multiple affiliations are used, number them consecutively and separate them using semicolons (e.g. ¹Institution A, City, Country; ²Institution B, City, Country).
- Include the corresponding author's e-mail address underneath the affiliations using the format: *Corresponding author E-mail: corresponding.author@institution.org*.
- Insert two blank lines after the e-mail address.

Abstract Structure

Abstracts should be structured using the following headings:

Introduction. Briefly describe the scientific background and rationale.

Aim. State the objective(s) of the study.

Materials and Methods. Summarise the study design, materials, animals, methods, and statistical analyses where applicable.

Results. Present the principal findings. Quantitative results should be included whenever possible.

Conclusion. Summarise the main conclusions and scientific relevance of the work.

Keywords. Five keywords should be provided below the abstract.

Funding, Acknowledgements and References

Funding sources, sponsoring organisations, acknowledgements, and conflicts of interest may be disclosed in separate paragraphs following the abstract.

References are optional and strongly discouraged. If essential, a **maximum of two references** may be included and should be listed in font size 8.

Example:

Magritte R., et al. *Hidden realities: advances in poultry disease surveillance*. *Avian Pathology*, 2025, 54(2): 101–108.

Abstract Categories

Authors must select one **Primary Category** and one **Secondary Category** that best reflect the scientific content of their abstract. The Scientific Committee reserves the right to reassign abstracts to a different category where appropriate.

Available categories are:

1. Avian influenza
2. Respiratory diseases of poultry (viral and bacterial)
3. Immunosuppressive and oncogenic viral diseases
4. Other viral diseases of poultry
5. Bacterial diseases of poultry (non-respiratory)
6. Foodborne pathogens and zoonoses (*Salmonella*, *Campylobacter*)
7. Parasitic diseases of poultry
8. Immunology, vaccines and vaccination strategies
9. Novel diagnostics, epidemiology and surveillance
10. Gut health, microbiome and alternatives to antibiotics
11. Antimicrobial use and resistance
12. Metabolic, non-infectious and production-related diseases
13. Animal welfare, stress and host–environment interactions
14. Management and biosecurity
15. Special case reports
16. Genetics of disease resistance and resilience
17. Other topics in poultry health, welfare and production

Scientific Content and Commercial Neutrality

All abstracts submitted to WVPAC 2027 must be educational, evidence-based, scientifically rigorous, and objective.

Titles and abstracts must **not contain** product brand names, registered trademarks, company slogans, marketing claims, promotional statements regarding product superiority, pricing information, sales-oriented language, or direct recommendations to purchase, prescribe, or use a specific product.

Whenever possible, generic descriptions should be used instead of commercial product names. For example, “Evaluation of a phytogenic feed additive in broiler chickens” or “Effects of a probiotic on intestinal health in laying hens” are acceptable, whereas “Evaluation of Product X® in broiler chickens” or “Why Product X® is the best solution for necrotic enteritis” are not acceptable.

The Scientific Committee may request modifications to abstracts before acceptance if these requirements are not met. The Scientific Committee reserves the right to edit titles and abstracts to ensure compliance with these guidelines. Failure to comply may result in rejection of the abstract.