Guidelines for Preparing Abstracts

General Instructions

Abstracts must report original research based on accepted scientific practices, including proper study design, data collection, and analysis. The abstract must highlight the significance and novelty of the research, and briefly summarize the objectives, major findings, and conclusions. Use clear, concise, and professional language. Avoid jargon and undefined abbreviations. Abstracts must not exceed 400 words, excluding the title, author list, and affiliations.

Specific Instructions

- All authors must approve the abstract before submission.
- The abstract submission must include a complete list of authors. One author should be designated as the **Presenting Author.** The Presenting Author will be required to register for the meeting and present at the required presentation time(s). Additional authors may be designated as a **Co-Author**. The Presenting Author will be responsible for relaying all Program Committee decisions and any logistical information from the Cereals & Grains Association to the Co-Authors.
- Authors should indicate their preferred presentation format (oral or poster) by selecting the appropriate option in the abstract submission system. However, the Program Committee reserves the right to assign the final presentation format based on session organization and topic relevance.
- Authors must choose the most relevant category for their abstract. Categories help the Program Committee effectively organize the poster and technical sessions. Please select the category that best aligns with the focus of your research to ensure accurate session assignment.
  - Abstract Categories:
    - Automation & Digital Innovations
    - Food Safety
    - Ingredient Quality and Functionality & Product Formulation
    - Pre-Production Innovation
    - Processing Technologies & Optimization
    - Protein Technology

Submission Title

- Use a short and concise title that indicates the content of the abstract. The title is limited to 25 words, 200 characters.
- Italicize scientific names of organisms.
- No trade names or trademarks are permitted in titles.

Abstract Structure

Abstracts must be structured using the five required sections below.

1) **Background and Objectives:** Provide a brief introduction to the research problem or knowledge gap being addressed. Clearly state the research objectives or purpose. Keep this section succinct while providing sufficient context for understanding the study.

2) **Methods:** Briefly describe the experimental design, materials, and methodologies used. Include key details on data collection and analysis techniques. Ensure the description is clear but concise, avoiding excessive detail.

3) **Findings:** Summarize the key results obtained from the research. Use quantitative data where applicable (e.g., percentages, statistical significance, key measurements). Ensure that reported findings are specific and directly support the study's objectives. Do not include tables, figures, or references in this section.

4) **Conclusions:** Interpret the significance of the findings in relation to the research question. Highlight any implications for scientific understanding, industry applications, or future research. Avoid overstating results or making unsupported claims.

5) **Significance and Novelty:** Explain how the research contributes to advancements in cereal science or related fields. Highlight any novel aspects of the study, such as unique methodologies, new insights, or innovative applications. Clearly articulate why the findings are valuable to the scientific community or industry.

In Order to Avoid Rejection of Your Submitted Abstract: Avoid the Following

- **Lack of Originality.** The abstract closely resembles or repeats content from previously submitted abstracts, either from the same author or from another source, without proper differentiation or novel content. The study does not contribute new knowledge or insights to the field. The abstract was **presented elsewhere** or published prior to CGA 2025 and <u>does not</u> represent further progression of the published research.
- **Failure to Meet Submission Guidelines.** Abstract exceeds the specified word limit (400 words). Abstract is not formatted according to the required structure (e.g., missing sections such as Methods or Conclusions).
- **Insufficient Detail or Clarity.** The abstract lacks adequate explanation of the background, objectives, methods, findings, or significance. The writing is unclear, disorganized, or difficult to follow, preventing proper understanding of the research. This includes spelling and grammatical errors or improper English language usage. The Methods section is too vague or lacks key information about experimental design, data collection, and analysis.

- **Inadequate Scientific Rigor.** The research lacks proper methodology or statistical analysis. The study design is weak or flawed, making results unreliable or invalid. The findings are not adequately supported by the data presented.
- **Overstated Conclusions or Unsupported Claims.** The conclusions are not supported by the data presented in the abstract. Speculative statements or unsupported claims are made regarding the significance or broader applications of the research.
- **Relevance to the Conference Theme/Scope.** The research is not relevant to the conference theme or areas of interest related to cereal science, grains, or related fields. The abstract focuses on a topic outside the scope of the conference.
- **Ethical Concerns.** The research involves questionable ethical practices or lacks proper ethical approval (e.g., no IRB or ethics committee approval when applicable). The study has not followed accepted research standards for the treatment of human or animal subjects.