

Archivos de Zootecnia. Editorial Report 2017

Navas González, F.J.^{1,2}; Nogales Baena, S.^{1,2}; Arando Arbulu, A.²; Delgado Bermejo, J.V.^{1,2}; López de Bustamante, M.C.¹ and Gómez Castro, A.G.¹

¹Editorial Office of Archivos de Zootecnia. Animal Production Department. Faculty of Veterinary Sciences, University of Córdoba, Rabanales University Campus. Córdoba (Spain).

²Genetics Department, Faculty of Veterinary Sciences, University of Córdoba, Rabanales University Campus. Córdoba (Spain).

SUMMARY

ADDITIONAL KEYWORDS

Scientific journals.
Scientific manuscripts.
Editorial activity.
Zootechny.
Animal Production.

Archivos de Zootecnia reached its 256 issue during 2017. In the present editorial report, we address the facts and figures derived from the editorial process during the past yearly editorial cycle. *Archivos de Zootecnia* would like to express its sincere gratitude to the Section Editors involved in the editorial process as well as the Reviewers without whose work our labour, otherwise would not be possible. 534 new members have registered in the website. A total of 597 manuscripts have been submitted. Brazil was the most contributing country the percentage of submissions slightly decreased (61.17%) in favour of an increase of the submissions by authors from other countries. Therefore, the most frequently used language in the manuscripts was Portuguese, followed by Spanish and English. 85 works were published in 2017: 63 articles, 10 short notes and 12 reviews. Published papers came from 8 countries. The two main topics the articles published were about were "Feeding and food" (n=38, 45.78%) and "Breeding and genetics" (n=7, 8.43%); while the most frequent species the works dealt with was cattle (n=22, 30.99%) followed by sheep (n=11, 15.49%) and poultry (n=10, 14.08%). Editorial times between the reception and publication of the manuscripts have remained similar to the results showed in previous years' reports.

Archivos de Zootecnia. Informe Editorial 2017

RESUMEN

PALABRAS CLAVE ADICIONALES

Revistas científicas.
Trabajos científicos.
Actividad editorial.
Zootecnia.
Producción Animal.

Archivos de Zootecnia alcanzó su número 256 en 2017. En el presente Informe Editorial se recogen los hechos y cifras derivadas del proceso editorial durante el pasado ciclo editorial anual. *Archivos de Zootecnia* querría mostrar su más sincera gratitud hacia los Editores Sectoriales involucrados en el proceso editorial y los Revisores sin cuya labor nuestro trabajo no sería de otro modo posible. Se recibieron un total de 597 manuscritos. Aunque Brasil fue aún el país que contribuyó con el mayor número de manuscritos, los envíos ligeramente descendieron (61.17%) en favor de un aumento de los envíos por parte de autores de otros países. Por tanto, el idioma más frecuentemente utilizado fue el portugués, seguido del español y el inglés. 85 trabajos fueron publicados en 2017: 63 artículos, 10 notas cortas y 12 revisiones. Los trabajos publicados procedían de 8 países. Los dos temas principales objeto de publicación fueron "Alimentación y Alimentos" (n=38, 45.78%) y "Razas y Genética" (n=7, 8.43%); mientras que la principal especie sobre la que se publicó fue la especie bovina (n=22, 30.99%) seguida por la especie ovina (n=11, 15.49%). Los tiempos editoriales entre la recepción y publicación de los trabajos se han mantenido con respecto a los últimos años de acuerdo a los resultados mostrados en informes editoriales previos.

INFORMATION

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archivoszootecnia@uco.es

INTRODUCTION

We would like to acknowledge the work of our reviewers for their work in 2017. On the one hand, the adaptation to the new OJS platform required extra efforts to continue decreasing the current editorial

times or at least, not to suffer a remarkable increase in them as a result of the necessary changes to be implemented. Issues are regularly published each year in January, April, July and October. On the other hand, the editorial board would like to acknowledge the role of language editorial reviewers, which have been in

charge of the revision of the manuscripts before their publication, bolstering the best possible use of the different languages the works may be published in, and which are allowed to be used by the editorial board of the journal, providing the documents with a greater quality. 597 manuscripts were received since the platform was open to the authors. Several improvements have been performed over the materials appearing in the website in order to make the submission and review process easier what may result in a shortened publishing time needed in the future. The Editorial Board has been renewed due to the increase in the manuscript submissions which required the work of multiple section editors for certain areas.

SUBMISSIONS

A total of 597 manuscripts were received. The quantity of manuscripts submitted as original articles, short communications and reviews has increased contrasting the results from the previous year (Nogales Baena *et al.* 2016) and is still continuously increasing. The manuscripts were received in four different languages, i.e., Portuguese, Spanish, English and French in decreasing order of respective frequency importance, even though acceptance rates were not currently equivalent for all languages not even for their authors countries. The journal continues to make efforts so as to help improve papers proceeding from developing countries in which cultural and organizational difficulties may exist, with high scientific quality, allowing them to reach a standard that is more consistent, therefore matching the standards requested by the scientific nowadays. Submitted manuscripts have been classified according to their original language in **Figure 1**.

When assessing the author's origin, Brazilians were the most frequent senders, and their number slightly decreased again when compared to the results showed by the three previous reports (Nogales Baena *et al.* 2015; Nogales Baena *et al.* 2016; Navas González *et al.*

2017) as a consequence of the increase in the number of manuscript submitted from other countries. The authors' origin of the rest of the papers was unequally shared among the 7 countries related in Figure 2. Apart from Brazil a greater number of countries was able to surpass 5% submission, therefore highlighting the increasing proceeding heterogeneity, which may be very interesting for the journal, as may be able to supply valuable information for different worldwide contexts.

PUBLISHED DOCUMENTS

In 2017, a total of 83 research documents were published accounting for a total of 648 edited pages. The documents published were namely; 57 papers, 10 short communications and 10 reviews. This translates into an increase of 5% in the papers published, and of almost a 9% in the number of pages. When thoroughly assessing the details of the obtained data, it can be ensured that the number of articles, short notes and especially, reviews which are eventually published is slightly progressively recovering to reach the numbers or even surpass the figures of 2014 for short notes (Nogales Baena *et al.* 2015; Nogales Baena *et al.* 2016).

Published manuscripts were written in four different languages (**Figure 2**), being the Portuguese the most frequent one (42.17%). Contrasting the results from the previous year, the use of English increased until it reached the same level as Spanish was on (24 papers in each language, a 28.92% out of the total of paper published). These results confirm the advance of the use of English for the works in the journal, especially when compared to previous years.

The most frequent dealt with "Nutrition" (27/83), followed by those which were about "Pasture and forage" and "Breeding and Genetics", showing rates of 11/83 and a 7/83, respectively (**Figure 3**).

From a different point of view, a classification of the documents was carried out taking into account the species or the group of species on which the research focused (**Table I**). It is important to remark the bovine

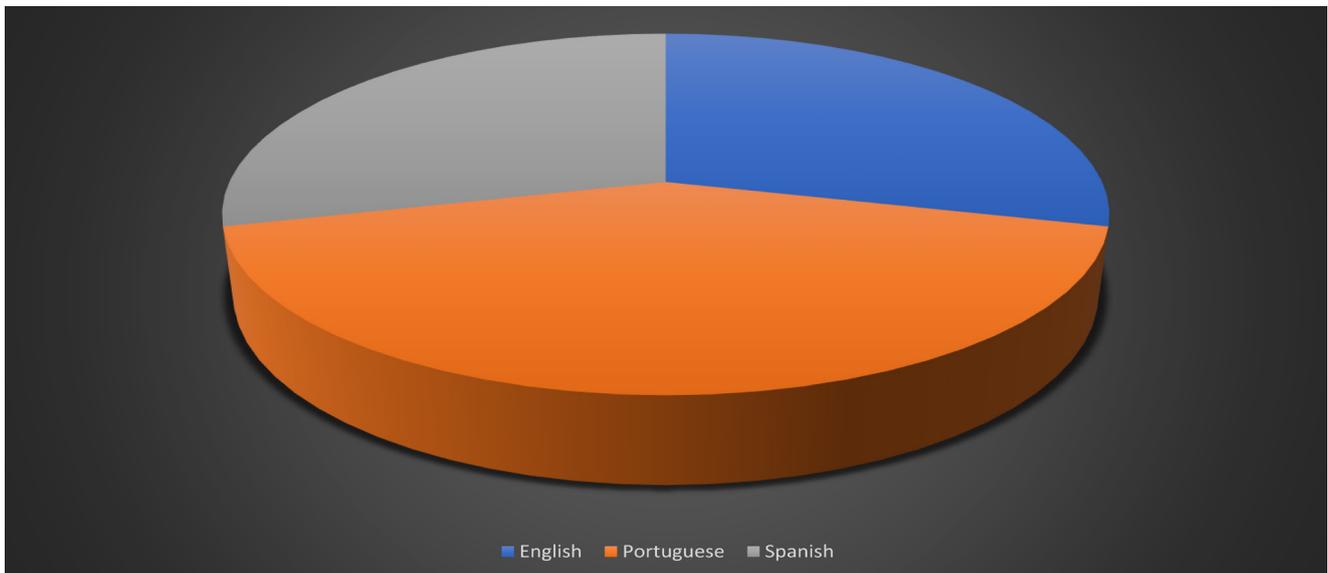


Figure 1. Language used in the manuscripts published during 2017 (Lenguaje empleado en los manuscritos publicados durante 2017).

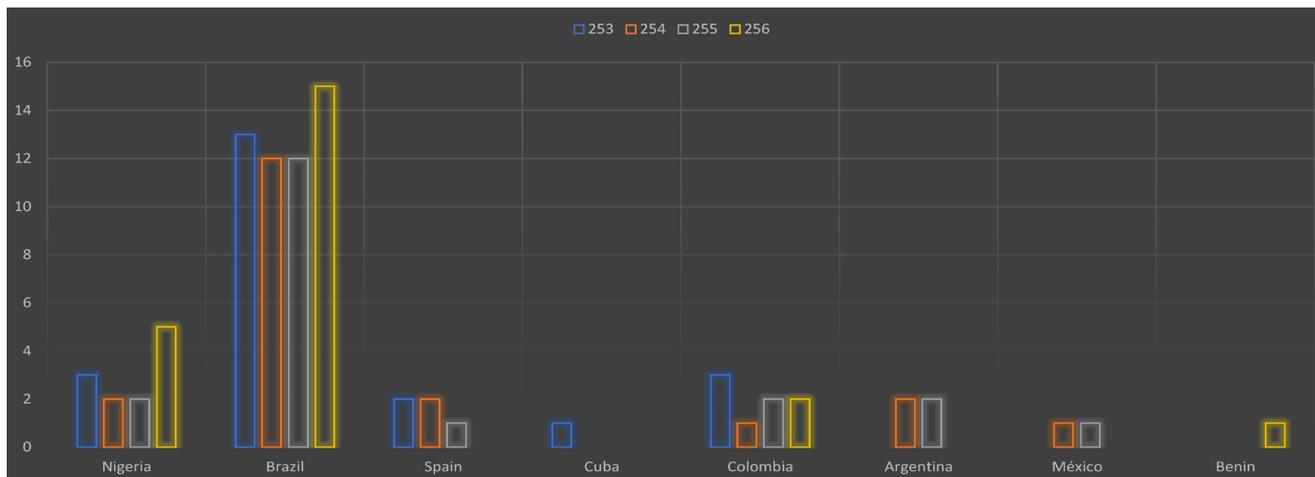


Figure 2. Countries of origin of the manuscript received through 2017 (Países de origen de los manuscritos recibidos en 2017).

species was specifically studied in 22 documents out of the total 83 works, as well as it was also the species with which the papers more frequently dealt as shown in the previous report (Nogales Baena *et al.* 2016). 12 documents were not specific, 11 focused on ovine, and 10 did it on poultry, which were both the most studied species after cattle in the journal respectively following the trend of previous years (Figures 4 y 5).

EDITORIAL TIMING

Each manuscript submitted to *Archivos de Zootecnia* is first reviewed by the members of the Editorial Board. Subsequently, the Editorial Board analyzes each submitted manuscript and decides which Section Editor it must be assigned to. Each Section Editor decides whether it must be reviewed in which case at least two, and up to four reviewers, are assigned or rejected.

The journal has added new Section Editors to the Editorial Board of *Archivos de Zootecnia* so as to balance the number of works assigned to each of them, because of the great number of manuscripts received as a way to reduce Editorial Timing.

Reviewers are chosen from a repertoire of 2091 renowned international experts. The mean editorial times during 2017 are reported in Table II.

The average time between reception and acceptance was 256 days, while the average time between accep-

Table I. Topics dealt with in manuscripts published during 2017 (Temas tratados en los manuscritos publicados durante 2017).

Topics/Areas	Manuscripts
Nutrition	27
Forrages	11
Breeding and Genetics	7
Behaviour and Welfare	6
Meat	6
Reproduction	5
Milk	5
Husbandry systems	4
Ethnology	3
Wool	2
Health	2
Products	1
Silk	1
Climate change	1
Apiculture	1
Economy	1
Total	83

tance and publication was 56 days. The total days from reception to publication were 466. These results can be considered to be quite positive, in contrast with the ones deduced from previous year’s editorial reports (Gómez Castro *et al.* 2009, 2010, 2011, 2012, 2013; Nogales Baena *et al.* 2015) and follow the improving trend of last year’s report (Nogales Baena *et al.* 2016).

The editorial timing has experimented a moderate increase which may be attributed to the changes in the Editorial Office and platform implemented. The existing time between the reception and acceptance of the papers has suffered a slight decrease of 16 days, which also decreased to an average of 110 days in the case of the time between the acceptance and publishing of such papers. The total day count, considering both periods; i.e., the time between the reception of a work and its publishing experimented an increase of around

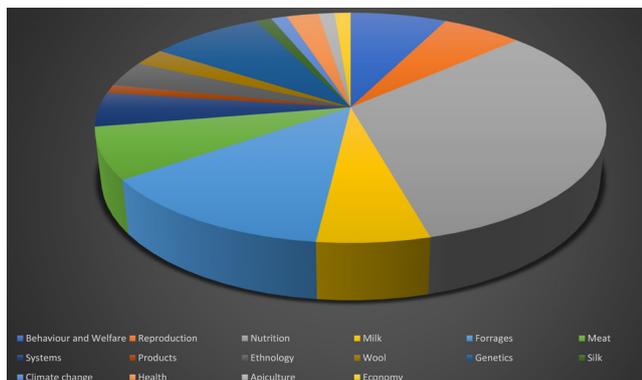


Figure 3. Areas of the manuscripts published during 2017 (Áreas de los manuscritos publicados durante 2017).

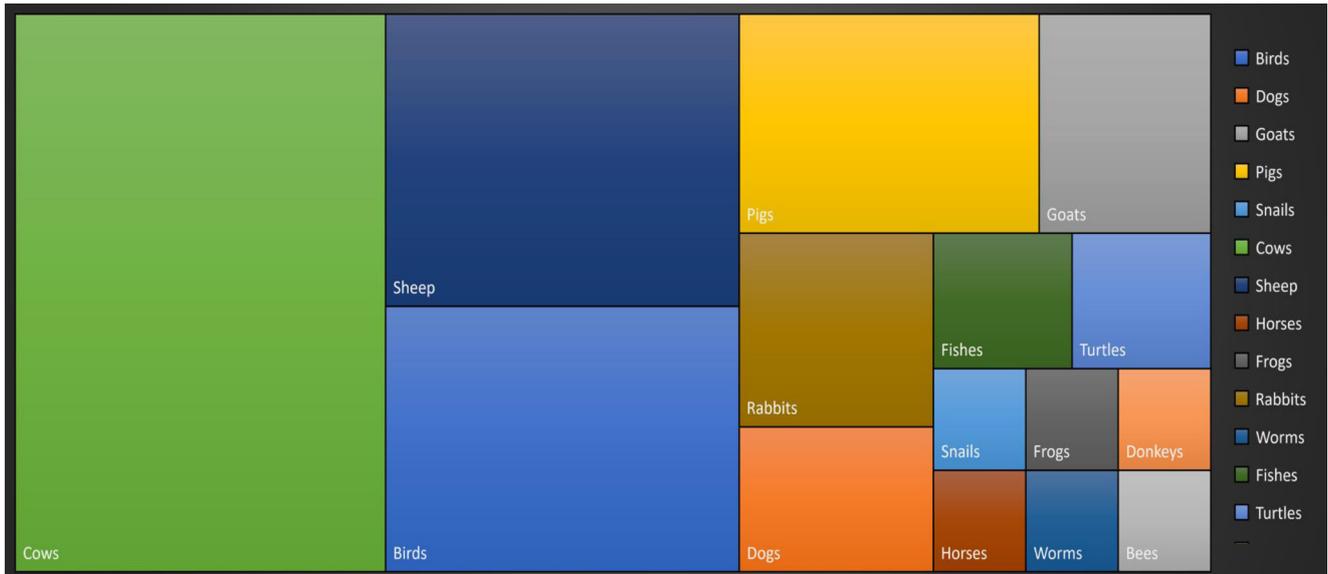


Figure 4. Species with which the manuscripts published during 2017 dealt (Especies de las que los manuscritos publicados durante 2017 trataban).

Table II. Editorial timing during 2016 (mean ± standard deviation) (Tiempos editoriales durante 2016; media ± desviación típica)

	Reception - Acceptance	Acceptance - Publication	Reception - Publication
Articles	341.70	54.51	467.06
Short notes	311.30	64.54	481.47
Reviews	124.59	75.33	449.91
Total	256.04	59.15	466.37

66 days. This data proves the implemented changes on the working methodology were effective as it had been predicted in advance. However, there is still much work to do.

Editorial times have significantly improved. Since 2012 *Archivos de Zootecnia* has only been available in electronic format. In addition, in 2014, a new team was engaged in the composition of the journal. Both changes have helped to overcome some of the problems which had increased the time for publication in previous periods. The moderate increase occurred in the last period still did not reach alarming levels, and maybe attributed to the great changes on the Journal structure that have recently taken place.

IMPACT FACTOR

Archivos de Zootecnia achieved an impact factor of 0.20 in the report of Research Gate (RG) in the period from 2015 to 2017, what means the journal is still located in the third quartile for the fifth year in a row and has doubled the value obtained for 2014 (Figure 7).

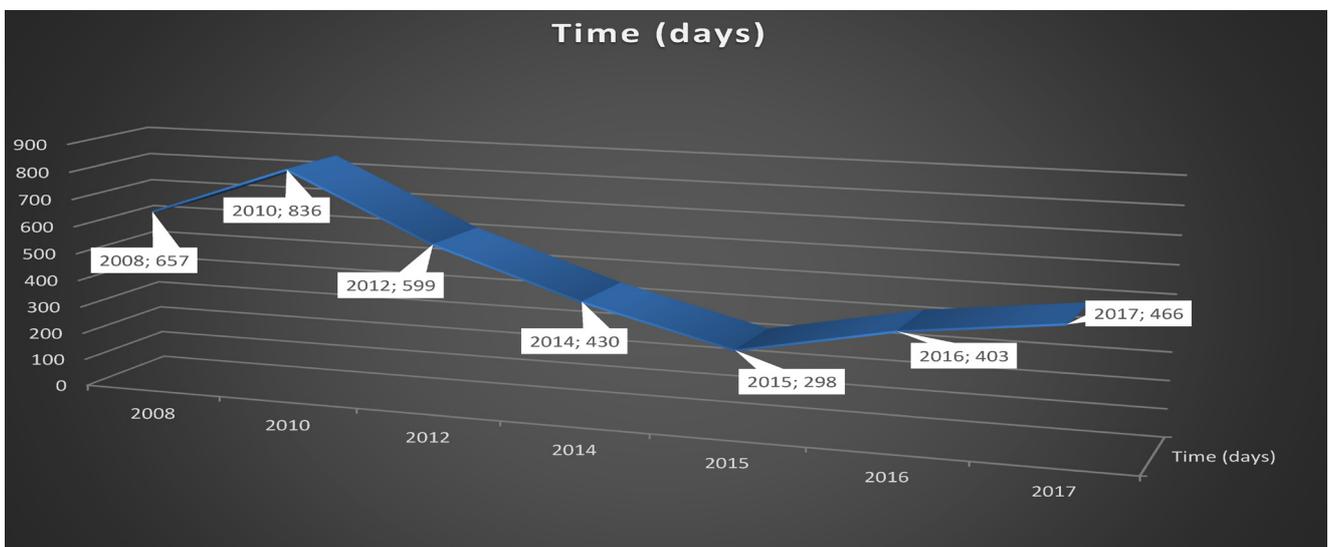
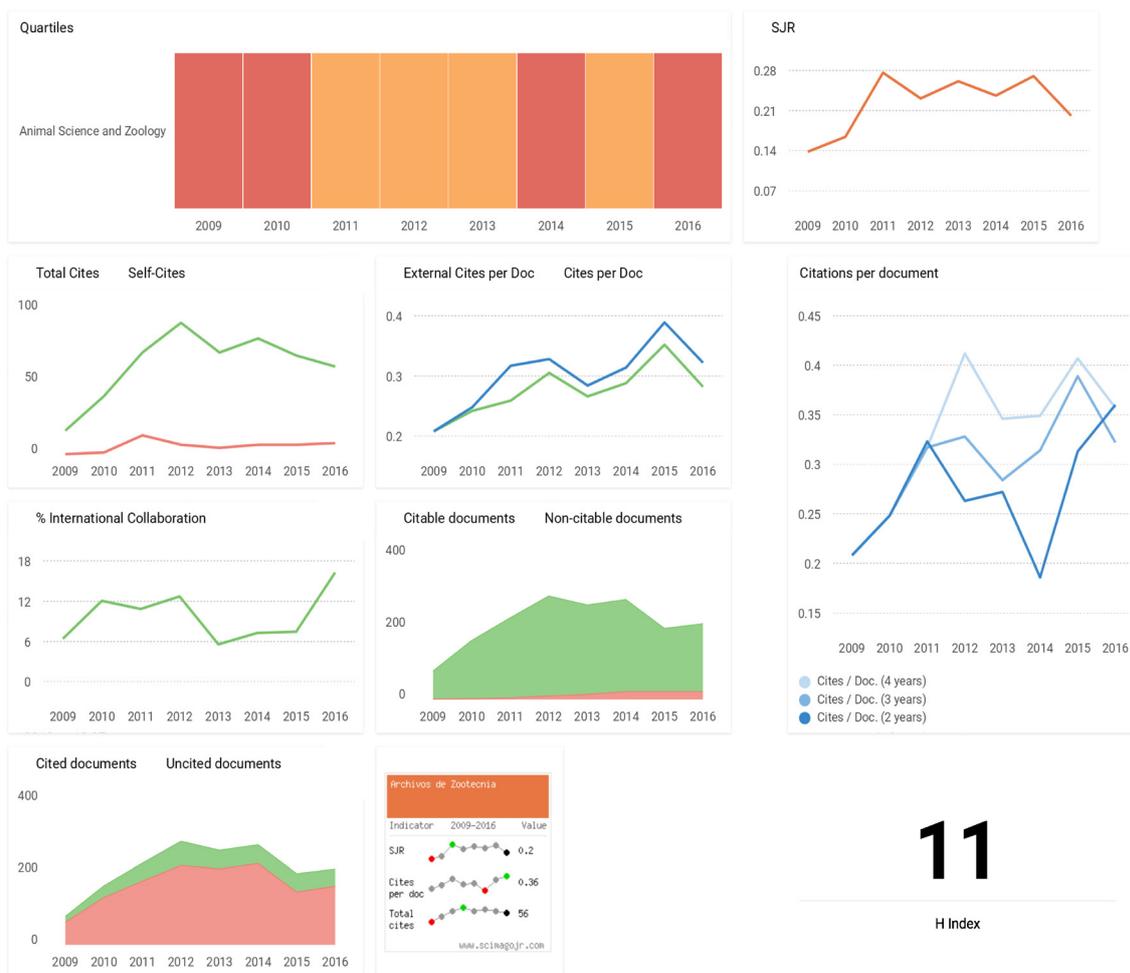


Figure 5. Editorial timing (reception-publishing) over the last years (Tiempos editoriales, recepción-publicación, durante los últimos años)



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H Index

Figure 7. Impact factor evolution from 2009 until the previous Editorial period 2017 (ScimagoLab 2018) (Evolución del índice de impacto de 2009 hasta el pasado periodo editorial en 2017 (ScimagoLab 2018)).

One of the most remarkable achievements was the inclusion in the Web of Science of Thompson Reuters through the inclusion of the SCIELO citation index.

NEW CHANGES

From the 1st of January, 2018, *Archivos de Zootecnia* no longer accepts articles written neither in French nor Italian, due to the scarce availability of reviewers available.

CONCLUSIONS

The main objective of *Archivos de Zootecnia* is to reflect the academic activities of the world of animal production and zootechny, as well as to attract the best publications, both articles and short notes, and reviews within the fields it deals with. It also aims to attract attention to emerging fields or questions based on the focus provided by themed sections, with an international scope in order to increase the existing worldwide knowledge, as it has continued doing it since it was founded in 1952.

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