

## **Announcement for introduction of Creative Commons 4.0 and revision of Instructions for Authors for The Horticulture Journal**

The Horticulture Journal (Hort J), an English-language journal published by the Japanese Society for Horticultural Science (JSHS), has been consulting with a specialist for the further internationalization and development of the journal under the Journal Consulting Program provided by JST since 2021.

In response to this, Hort J has decided to revise the Instructions for Authors (ITA) from 15 April 2023 and to introduce a CC BY-NC license for articles accepted after this date.

The CC license is a new copyright rule appropriate for the internet era, a tool for authors who publish their works to grant the public permission to use their works under copyright law.

The license that Hort J will introduce is CC BY-NC (Attribution-NonCommercial). Secondary use is permitted under the main conditions that the original author is credited and that the use is limited to non-commercial. The copyright of the paper remains to be owned by the JSHS.

Note that some funding organizations currently only permit the publication of research results under CC BY (Attribution). In such cases, a CC BY license will be granted along upon a request to the Editorial Office in advance.

Hort J also aims to be included in the DOAJ (Database of Open Access Journals) and PMC (formerly PubMed Central), which are recognized as white lists of open access journals. The new Hort J ITA, including the introduction of the CC license, have been updated looking to accomplish this goal. Compared to the previous ITA, the new ITA specify a number of new policies and other matters, which are intended to clarify policies that was ambiguously mentioned in the old ITA and make the review and editing process more transparent. The procedures for preparation and submission of manuscripts remain unchanged.

**Please note that the publication and proofreading fees were previously waived for articles with all authors being non-Japanese researchers, but will no longer be waived after the new ITA comes into effect.**

The new ITA can be found in the URL below. The new ITA will be effective scheduled for 15 April and published in Hort J volume 92, issue 2.

[\[Link to the new Instructions to Authors\]](#)

We hope that you will consider submitting your manuscripts to Hort J.