The Plant Breeding and Biotechnology (PBB) is the official journal of the Korean Society of Breeding Science (KSBS) which started on March 2013. It is an international open access journal which publishes four issues of a yearly volume on March 1, June 1, September 1, and December 1 in a printed and an electronic version.

Submission of Manuscripts

Manuscripts should be submitted to the on-line submission system at http://www.plantbreedbio.org or http://www.plantbreedbiotech.org, following all screen prompts. Technical difficulties can be resolved by contacting the Korean Society of Breeding Science (Phone: +82-2-880-4557, Fax: +82-31-292-0804, E-mail: pbb@plantbreedbio.org, Address: The Korean Society of Breeding Science, National Institute of Crop Science, RDA, Suin-ro 126, Gwonseon-gu, Suwon 16429, Republic of Korea). Manuscripts are to be submitted in their final form and must be written in English. Authors are urged to aim for clarity, brevity, and accuracy of information and language.

Authors whose first language is not English should have their manuscripts checked for linguistic accuracy by a fluent English speaker or by an English editing company. A properly completed “Copyright Transfer Agreement” should also be supplied before the manuscript is published. The corresponding author is asked to sign it on behalf of all authors.

Editorial and Review Policy

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Publication type

PBB accepts the following types of manuscripts: research article, review article, short communication, and method and technology. A Research article represents an original, important contribution to crop breeding and biotechnology. The manuscript should clearly state the scope and purpose of the research work. The information presented must be objective and well organized, and the conclusions should be adequately supported. Review article should be a critical evaluation of the existing state of knowledge on a particular aspect of crop breeding and biotechnology. Simple literature surveys will not be accepted for publication. Rapid communication is for concise, but independent reports representing a significant contribution to crop breeding and biotechnology. Rapid communication is not intended to publish preliminary results. Rapid communication should be less than four pages with less than 1,600 words including Tables, Figures and References. It should follow the general format of research article except combining Results and Discussion. Method and Technology covers all new methods and technologies related to plant breeding and biotechnology.

Peer-review process

All manuscripts are subject to peer review for the validity of the experimental design and results, significance, and appropriateness for PBB.

When manuscripts are submitted successfully to the journal online system, they are initially subjected to a pre-screening step by the editor-in-chief. Manuscripts that are poorly written or fail to meet the required format will be rejected in the pre-screening step without further review. Manuscripts that pass this step will be assigned an editor for the selection of two anonymous reviewers. The corresponding author is notified as soon as possible regarding the decision to accept, reject, or request revision of a manuscript by the decision of the editor. The manuscripts evaluated as “accept” or “request minor revision” by all of the reviewers are considered to be accepted for publication, although some revisions may be required to address the concerns of the reviewers and editor. In cases where a manuscript is evaluated as “review again after major revisions” or “reject” by at least one of the reviewers, the editor will analyze the reviewers’ comments thoroughly and make a decision on acceptance or rejection. If there are major flaws in the results of the research or the methodology, the editor may ask the author to clarify and resubmit or may reject the manuscript. If a manuscript is classified as “accept with revisions,” the author is expected to respond within 3 months, addressing all the comments raised by the reviewers, making appropriate corrections or stating why the comments are unreasonable. The responsible editor or a reviewer will consider the revisions, and recommend that
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The page proof stage is not a time for extensive corrections, additions, or deletions. It is advised that editing be limited to the correction of typographical errors, incorrect data, and grammatical errors, and for updating information on references that had been in press. The corrections to page proofs should be sent immediately by e-mail or a fast mail service, preferably within 2 business days.

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Ethical Considerations

Research ethics
The purpose of the following guidelines is to present the basic ethical principles to be adhered to be authors, editors and peer reviewers for the publication of PBB by KSBS. If the work involves experimentation on living animals, the authors must provide evidence that it was performed in accordance with ethical guidelines. In the case of work involving human beings, the procedures should be in accordance with the ethical standards of the Institutional Review Board (IRB) of the author’s institution and with the 2000 revision of the Helsinki Declaration of 1975. For issues on research and publication ethics not stated in this guide, the “Responsible authorship quick guide (http://ori.hhs.gov/)” or “Guidelines on Good Publication Practice (http://publicationethics.org/resources/guidelines)” should be consulted and followed. The editorial committee is responsible for determining the plagiarism on articles that are already published or being reviewed. The council will consider and decide whether research ethics violations are committed or not, and appropriate disciplinary action will be taken.

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When the journal faces suspected cases of research and publication misconduct such as redundant (duplicate) publication, plagiarism, fraudulent or fabricated data, changes in authorship, an undisclosed conflict of interest, ethical problems with a submitted manuscript, a reviewer who has appropriated an author’s idea or data, complaints against editors, and so on, the resolution process will follow the flowchart provided by the Committee on Publication Ethics (http://publicationethics.org/resources/flowcharts). The discussion and decision on the suspected cases are carried out by the Editorial Board.

Definition of research misconduct
Research misconduct (refers to as the “Misconduct”) as presented in the Regulation refers to fabrication, falsification, plagiarism, duplicate publication, and improper authorship.

① Fabrication refers to the act of creating false information about non-existent data or findings.
② Falsification refers to the act of distorting research information or results by artificially manipulating research materials, equipment, process, or by randomly transforming or deleting data.
③ Plagiarism refers to the act of fraudulent use of other people’ ideas, research content, and results without appropriate approval or quotation.
④ Duplicate publication refers to the act of showing the same or substantially similar academic work as the researcher’ own previous findings in another journal or literary work, without permission of the copyright holders or journal editors who first published it, or without displaying appropriate sources.
⑤ Improper authorship refers to when the person who has contributed to research contents or research results is scientifically and technically unqualified as an author or when the person who has not contributed to research contents or research results scientifically and technically is qualified as an author merely to express gratitude or courtesy.
⑥ Intentional acts to disturb a fraud investigation about themselves or others or the acts which can be harmful to informants.
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The research integrity committee of PBB can commence an investigation to examine the veracity of research for the following situations.
① When an investigation is judged to be necessary after the items in “Definition of Research Misconduct” are reported.
② When the possibility of misconduct is recognized by an editorial board or an academic board.
③ When the need for re-investigation is recognized due to the significant defect in the verdict of an investigation.
④ When there is a request for an investigation from other organizations.

Investigation report of misconduct
Upon receipt of research ethics issues in relation to the academic activities, the Committee of PBB should investigate the Misconduct and report the results within six months in principle. However, the Committee can extend the investigation period, if there are any difficulties to investigate within this period. Each of the following paragraphs should be included:
① Contents of information
② The Misconduct subject to investigation
③ Names of Committee members and meeting minutes
④ Judgment of the investigation scope and whether it is true or not
⑤ Relevant evidence and witnesses

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The Research Ethics Committee of PBB should be responsible for verifying whether the Misconduct is true or not. The Committee should ensure that both the informant and the examinee’s equal rights and opportunities for statements of opinion, appeals of objection and pleading are respected, and notify them of related procedures in advance.

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If no research Misconduct is confirmed, the Committee of PBB should conduct appropriate follow-up action in order to restore the honor and reputation of related researchers. If on the contrary research Misconduct is confirmed, this should be published and each of the following actions should be taken:
① Demand for cancellation or modification of research results
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③ Disqualification of membership for a reasonable period
④ Removal of the name of relevant persons
⑤ Names of persons involved should be provided to law enforcement authorities

The record of an investigation and its disclosure
① All written records made during the whole process of investigation must be kept for more than 5 years.
② The report on the outcomes of an investigation can be opened to public after the verdict.
③ The lists of witnesses, testifiers, and consultants may not be disclosed if they are requested.

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The manuscript should be organized in the following sequence:

- Title and Authorship
- Abstract and Keywords
- Introduction
- Materials and Methods
- Results
- Discussion
- Acknowledgements (optional)
- References
- Appendix or Nomenclature (optional)
- Figures

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The manuscript should be typed double spaced on 210 mm by 280 mm (A4 size) paper. A manuscript produced by MS word is acceptable. Margins on top, bottom, and sides should be at least 2.5 cm.

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The manuscript should be arranged in the following order: cover page, with TITLE, BYLINE of author’s name(s) and address(es); ABSTRACT with key words; INTRODUCTION; MATERIALS AND METHODS; RESULTS; DISCUSSION; ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS (optional); REFERENCES; table and figures.

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