

British & Irish
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Science

BISAS

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THESIS OF THE
YEAR AWARD 2026

ABSTRACT GUIDELINES



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ABSTRACT DETAILS

Do not include author information in the main body text of the abstract. Your submission should be structured and contain the following information.

Title

- The title should be descriptive, specific, and concise. It should also state the animal species concerned. It should replace information otherwise found in the main text. The title should be a maximum of 50 words, and not have a 'full stop' at the end. No abbreviations please.

Text

- Please use British – UK English spelling
- Different sections application, introduction, material, and methods, etc. should be separated by one clear line; section headings should be in bold, and text should begin on the same line as the heading (please refer to abstract example).

CONTENT

Application

- Explain the expected commercial, economic, environmental, and/or societal impact of the work, how will it be applied in practice or next project, using language easily understood by the non-expert, including a brief description of the steps that would be needed to ensure that this impact is achieved.

Introduction

- State the background and objectives of the work.

Material and Methods

- Describe the methods used, including numbers and types of animals. Statistical analyses conventions should be those used in 'animal'.
- Experimental design and statistical methods must be clear, vague statements, such as "the data were analysed using Minitab" are not acceptable.
- Experiments where treatments and pens (or groups) of animals are confounded are not acceptable.

Results

- Results obtained, together with relevant statistical analysis, should be presented in sufficient detail to support the conclusions drawn.
- Treatment means should be presented with appropriate standard errors of means or differences.
- The minimum number of decimal places required to demonstrate statistically significant differences should be used.
- Probability values must be presented to support conclusions. Probability levels of $P > 0.05$ are NOT statistically significant.
- The use of percentages should be avoided wherever possible; concentrations or compositions should be expressed as mass per unit mass or mass per unit volume; decimal proportions should be used for common ratios, such as, for example, diet digestibility coefficients.
- The results of surveys will be accepted if the work is original research, rigorously designed, executed and statistically analysed.

Conclusions

- The conclusions should reflect the original objective(s) of the work and clearly state the author's view of the implications of the results to scientific understanding and practical use. Vague sentences are not acceptable. A discussion is not required.

Acknowledgements

- The funders of the work should be acknowledged in this section.

References

- It is the author's responsibility to ensure that all references are cited and accurate and adhere to the detailed guidelines.
- Abstract with references that do not match the required format will be returned to the author for correction prior to the abstract being submitted for review.

Word Count

Your abstract must be uploaded as a PDF file. Author and Affiliations are not included in the word count.

Your abstract should be one page and in line with the maximum word count below. Abstracts that exceed the word count will be rejected.

Total word count per page, including acknowledgements and references:

- Abstract without figure or table : 1000 words maximum
- Abstract with one table or one figure (average size) : 900 words maximum
- Abstract with one table and one figure (average size) : 850 words maximum
- Author and affiliations are not included in the abstract total word count