

IFMA NEWSLETTER – JULY 2011 (2) – THE INTERNATIONAL JOURNAL OF AGRICULTURAL MANAGEMENT

Dear IFMA Newsletter Subscriber,

This Newsletter is to inform you about the new “**International Journal of Agricultural Management (IJAM)**” which will be launching shortly. This new journal sees the merger of two farm management journals replacing the “Journal of International Farm Management (JIFM)” of IFMA and the “Farm Management Journal (FMJ)” published by the Institute of Agricultural Management (IAgrM) of the UK.

The new journal will be a joint publication by both organisations.

BACKGROUND & RATIONAL

For over two years IFMA had been in discussion with the Institute of Agricultural Management (previously the Farm Management Association of the UK – who hosted the first ever and the 10th IFMA Congresses) who have produced the Journal of Farm Management as a hardcopy journal for its members and subscribers for many years (since 1967). IAgrM were keen to modernise their Journal including taking it online whilst maintaining a print copy. We had many differences to overcome – not least the different publishing methods and the fact that JIFM was a “free to all comers” journal. Both of us were keen to secure the future succession of our Journals – both journals drew on similar and sometimes the same authors - and both of us were very keen to improve the general standing (professionalism) of our journals within the agricultural industry. Both Journals needed more authors and papers and a wider readership to continue successfully. The real break through came with an agreement that **each Edition of the new Journal would be for members only – but only for a limited period of one year from the date of publication (an IFMA preference)**. Whilst the IAGRM will be providing the bulk of the funds needed to establish and publish the Journal on a professional Journal Website (their current expenditure on producing a hardcopy that is posted to all members and subscribers is high), IFMA will be making some financial contribution and will assist in promoting the Journal to a much wider audience. The Journal has a joint management board with senior representatives from both organisations.

Up to now the JIFM was published twice a year online only, and the FMJ was published quarterly as hard copy only. JIFM only published peer reviewed papers whilst the JFM carried peer review papers, conference papers, articles of interest including book reviews, and opinion pieces.

IJAM – THE DETAILS

It will be an “online” Journal published quarterly (4x p.a.) with a print version published once a year (which will be available free to IAgrM Members only as part of their membership - and by payment to anyone else).

It will be prepared by professional publishers Charlesworth, and published on a specialist journal website by Publishing Technology on the Ingenta Connect website. You can use this link to view the [General Agriculture list of Journals](#) to which IJAM will be added.

Available online to all Members of IFMA and IAgrM as part of their membership – also to paying subscriber organisations and individuals.

Each Edition of the Journal will be exclusively for Members and Subscribers for one year only from publication – and then be available free on open access to all who are interested.

The Journal contents are expected to be:

Papers based on original research, submitted for peer review (up to 6000 words)

Reviews of 'state of the art' research in relevant arenas, again subject to peer review (up to 6000 words)

Reviews of 'state of the art' in agricultural or related practice (up to 5000 words)

'Viewpoint' articles taking a particular standpoint on current issues, and encouraging response from readers (up to 1500 words)

Professional updating pieces (e.g. in rural policy, market trends, managerial practice) (up to 3000 words)

Book reviews (up to 1000 words)

In addition it is planned to have recent back copies of both Journals on the website.

The Journal objectives are:

To survey and report agricultural business management in its widest sense, including the application of existing and innovative methodologies to the analysis of production, marketing and agricultural merchandising throughout the whole supply chain, and the diverse use of agricultural resources to support and supplement rural household income and the rural economy.

To encourage the transfer of agricultural management principles across geographical, cultural, social and national boundaries, to the benefit of rural populations in both poor and rich economies.

To report developing pressures on agricultural and rural resources around the world; the challenges arising from those pressures; and the consequent opportunities for managers of land-based industries.

For academic writers the Journal will offer:

a fast turn-round from submission to publication;

guarantee an influential audience (combining the readerships of JIFM and JFM, as well as attracting new subscribers), with a particular interest to applied researchers;

provide an attractive vehicle to early-career researchers who are daunted by the competition to publish in high-impact journals.

give an excellent opportunity for publication in an English-language publication, in a field that is under-represented in many parts of the world.

For professionals such as consultants, farmers and advisors:

A major incentive will be the opportunity to reach a wide audience and to highlight (indirectly) their own services or that of their employer.

Those involved in research and rural development projects will find the Journal valuable in meeting their dissemination requirements. In some cases, it will be possible to reprint articles originally written for house magazines or conferences.

EDITORIAL APPOINTMENTS:

In the first instance IJAM will be run by an Editorial Team comprising Martyn Warren (University of Plymouth, UK; current Editor of the Journal of Farm Management) as Editor, with John Gardner (Massey University, NZ; current Editor of the Journal of International Farm Management) and Carl Atkin (an independent FM consultant (UK); current member of IAgRM Council and JFM Journal Committee) as Deputy Editors.

An Editorial Board has been set up from a wide range of volunteers from around the world – listed on the IJAM website (see below for link).

IFMA MEMBERS' ROLE – What part can members play in developing and promoting the new Journal?

The arrival of the new Journal is undoubtedly a great opportunity for IFMA and its Members - we need to insure its success by getting involved.

First and foremost – please publicise the existence of the new journal

Tell fellow colleagues and associates and

Submit articles yourself and encourage others to do so – and remember the IJAM Journal is not just for academic members!!

Persuade your University Library or Organisation to take out a subscription to the Journal as soon as this becomes available.

IJAM WEBSITE – Current.

There is a lot more information available about the Journal on the new IJAM start-up website including **“Guidance notes for contributors”** – so please visit:

<https://sites.google.com/site/intjournalofagmanagement/home>

I will also attach the current call for papers – and you will see that there are plans to have themed Editions with guest editors for which there is a call.

THANK YOU

It is appropriate to thank the IJAM Project Leader and current Editor of IJAM Martyn Warren who has committed a great deal of time and determination to get the Journal established. He is a member of both IAgRM and IFMA. The first Edition is now at the publisher, and soon we hope to have the website position on IngentaConnect established. Hopefully the site will be launched in August. We also thank John Gardner for the considerable help he has given in co-operating with Martyn and agreeing to be a Deputy Editor.

THIS IS YOUR JOURNAL – PLEASE GET INVOLVED TO MAKE IT THE JOURNAL OF CHOICE FOR FARM & AGRICULTURAL MANAGEMENT.

Best Regards,
Tony.

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IFMA Website - www.ifmaonline.org

The 19th IFMA Congress will be held in Warsaw, Poland, 21-26 July, 2013