

Invasive Plant Science and Management: Progress in the first 2.5 years

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Editor's Note

Invasive Plant Science and Management: Progress in the first 2.5 years

Joseph M. DiTomaso, Editor

The first 2.5 years since the launch of *Invasive Plant Science and Management* have been very successful and have exceeded our expectations. The number of submissions has increased dramatically over the years and is on a pace in 2010 to exceed 2009. The average number of papers per issue was a bit over 11 for the first two volumes, but will increase in 2010. The average rate of manuscript acceptance for publication is 55%, which is lower than the five year average of both *Weed Science* (63%) and *Weed Technology* (71%). Of great importance to authors is the average time required from submission of a manuscript to first decision, acceptance, and publication. For *Invasive Plant Science and Management*, this is a bit over two months from submission to first decision, less than four months to acceptance, and just over four months from the time of submission to

publication. In addition, the journal posts articles as "Ahead of Print" on the Weed Science Society of America (WSSA) website (<http://www.wssa.net/WSSA/Pubs/IPSM.htm>) as soon as papers are accepted. These numbers are outstanding and far better than many other peer-reviewed journals. While *Invasive Plant Science and Management* is not currently listed on the ISI Web of Knowledge, Allen Press submitted an application for inclusion earlier this year. If accepted, which is fully expected, it should be listed later this year. Once the journal is included on ISI Web of Knowledge, it will require three additional years to obtain an impact factor. All indications suggest that the journal has and will continue to be successful. Many thanks to the authors, reviewers, Associate Editors, and the many WSSA members that supported the new journal.

Table 1. Data on the number of papers, acceptance rate, and average days to publish for the first 2.5 years since the launch of *Invasive Plant Science and Management*.

	2007 (only 6 months)	2008	2009	Average
Total submissions	56	72	114	93
Total paper accepted	22	38	52	45
Acceptance rate*	59%	63%	50%	55%
Average days to first decision	50	74	84	67
Average days from submission to acceptance	76	123	100	111
	Volume 1	Volume 2	Average	
Average days from acceptance to publication	125	135	129	
Paper per issue	11.8	10.8	11.3	

* Acceptance rate based on those papers with decision. Papers withdrawn not used in calculation.