

AJAE Launches a New Electronic Manuscript Submission and Management System

In March 2004, the *American Journal of Agricultural Economics* (AJAE) launched a new electronic manuscript submission and management system. The new system offers a faster, *fully secure*, more accessible and lower cost editorial review process. This electronic editorial management system will also allow reviewers to upload their comments quickly and anonymously.

The new submission guidelines and formatting instructions are available at the journal's new web site at <http://ajae.aem.cornell.edu> or through AAEA On-line at <http://www.aaea.org/fund/pubs/ajae/>. It takes only a few minutes to format and submit manuscripts under this system. The refereeing process can then begin within a few hours.

To protect author anonymity in the review process, *authors should not identify themselves on the title page or in any headers. A separate title page should be added to the submission letter to the editors and uploaded as an attachment to the manuscript via the secure online submission site.* The title page should include: (a) title; (b) author(s) names; (c) name, address, phone and fax numbers, and email address of the author serving as the contact person; (d) date of submission of the manuscript.

In order to ensure author anonymity, the AJAE only accepts submissions in .pdf format. Our online system automatically and reliably scrubs .pdf files of all author identifiers in the internal document metadata. Electronic submissions are thus just as anonymous as if sent by hard copy, but they can be handled more quickly and at lower cost. The web site above includes instructions on how to create .pdf files. It is very quick and easy.

The electronic submission form allows submitting authors to upload a manuscript, cover letter, or other files or supporting documentation for your submission to *American Journal of Agricultural Economics*.

The editors welcome your feedback on this new system. Later this year, the AJAE will cease accepting hard copy manuscript submissions. So we encourage authors to begin using the faster, fully secure electronic submission system.

Please refer to the Web addresses mentioned above for more information.