

EDITORIAL



A century of progress 1921–2021

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Poultry Science first published in October 1921. J. R. Beach from the Agricultural Experiment Station, University of California, holds the distinction as the author of the first article in the journal, *The differential diagnosis of diseases of the head of fowls* (Beach, 1921). The remainder of the first issue contained 2 additional research articles, 2 meeting or visit reports, minutes of the 1921 Annual Meeting of the American Association of Instructors and Investigators in Poultry Husbandry, report of the Secretary and Treasurer for 1920–1921, and changes to the journal format.

The journal described changes in the first issue. Six issues would be published annually with a \$3.00/yr subscription. Authors would be provided 50 reprints free of charge with additional copies available for a fee. A campaign to increase subscribers was proposed to permit, in turn, publication of more articles. The stated goal was to reach at least 64 pages/issue. To provide context, the inflation-adjusted subscription cost would be \$43.84 in 2021. The first issue of *Poultry Science* 2021 contained 396 pages, which represents a 6.5-fold increase over the original page target and a 3.98% page increase/yr.

Many changes have occurred over a century of publication. Table 1 shows the total number of issues, articles, and pages published in *Poultry Science*. The Poultry Science Association can be proud that our journal ranked among 1.89% of peer-reviewed journal that are at least 100 yr of age. Over that time, word processors replaced typewriters and carbon paper. Electronic review of manuscripts through Editorial Manager supplanted surface mail movement of manuscripts between reviewers and editors. These improvements are taken for granted. The old methods, remembered by only a fraction of our authors, are missed by even fewer individuals even in their most nostalgic moments.

Poultry Science is also now published exclusively online as an open access publication, which has opened the journal to a wider readership. In 2020, journal downloads exceeded 3.5 million. Online access has also changed readership styles and how information is gathered. Searching online for relevant articles by keywords has replaced browsing through journals' table of contents listings.

Traditionally, academic articles have been published in journals on an issue-by-issue basis. While this workflow ensured organized citation information, the procedure also created time boundaries for each final published article. Online publishing has the potential to change that by enabling publication of citable articles when they are ready—before an entire issue of the journal is finished.

ARTICLE-BASED PUBLISHING

To reflect these changes, we are introducing article-based publishing for *Poultry Science* in our centenary year, making final and citable articles available online even faster, while improving their discoverability. Article-based publishing will distribute an article into an “issue in progress” as soon as copyediting and proofing are finalized without having to wait for the entire issue to be completed. With article-based publishing, articles will be assigned an article number and each finished article follows the previous one, until the “issue in progress” is filled with fully citable articles. Our volume and issue numbering system will remain the same. This is the industry standard, and it also provides context to when the article was published—acting as an indicator of the year of publication.

ARTICLE NUMBERING

As a second part of this change, we are also introducing article numbering to the journal. Article numbering has recently emerged as an easy and efficient

Table 1. Publication data for *Poultry Science* 1921–2020.

Category	Number
Total issues	844
Total articles	28,165
Total pages	186,735
Peer-reviewed journals published ¹	79,218
Peer-reviewed journals published ≥ 100 yr	1498
% Peer-reviewed journals published ≥ 100 yr	1.9%
Current open access journals published ≥ 100 yr	92

¹Ulrich's Periodical Directory (<http://ulrichsweb.serialssolutions.com/>).

way to cite journal articles. A unique article number, which is an abbreviated form of an article's digital object identifier, is assigned to each article, rather than page numbers (shown below). Citing an article with an article number is very simple: the article number is used instead of the page range in the citation. While journal volumes and issue numbers will remain in place, article numbering will now play the key role in identifying specific articles. Article numbering has already been successfully rolled out to more than 200 other journals and has been well received by the academic community.

Article numbering example: Jacobs, L., D. V. Bourassa, R. S. Boyal, C. E. Harris, L. N. Bartenfeld Josselson, A. Campbell, G. Anderson, and R. J. Buhr. 2021.

Animal welfare assessment of on-farm euthanasia methods for individual, heavy turkeys. *Poult. Sci.* 100:100812.

To celebrate the journal centennial, special reviews will be published on a range of topics throughout the year. These articles will be designated Centennial Reviews in their title to denote this singular status. Multiple such reviews are already at various stages along the publication continuum. Sam Shafer, PSA Communications Specialist, designed a new logo for the Centennial Reviews and the 2021 journal cover. In addition, the 100 most cited *Poultry Science* articles will be highlighted in a future editorial as well as an upcoming virtual article collection.

Finally, authors, reviewers, editors, and publishers were essential contributors to the first century of *Poultry Science*, and these groups remain critical for the future. This publication achievement accentuates the journal's progress.

REFERENCE

Beach, J. R. 1921. The differential diagnosis of diseases of the head of fowls. *Poult. Sci.* 1:1–8.