

each contribution. In most cases, three manuscript pages will equal one page of type. For economy of space, the "Materials and Methods" section, unusually long "Literature Reviews," all footnotes, all table and figure legends, and "References," are set in small type. The following information will help in estimating the length of a typewritten article:

About four manuscript pages of elite typescript (12-pitch face) occupies one printed page. One elite typescript page should contain 25 lines 150 mm (6 inches) wide. If the manuscript is typed with pica

(10-pitch face) or some other size of type and another length of line, the proportion will vary accordingly.

Space required for figures can be estimated from the size of the originals and the amount of reduction that will be made in preparing negatives and photostats for printing. Space required for tables can be estimated from the number of lines of headings, subheadings, and numbers in the tables. Ten lines require about 25 mm (1 inch) of column space. If the lines contain more than about 60 numbers or letters, the table will be set two columns wide.

12 Dec. 1985

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Letter from the Editor

Beginning with this issue, the contents of *Crop Science* will be grouped by subject matter (division) categories, a procedure already in use with the *Soil Science Society of America Journal*. Authors should indicate the preferred division (C-1 through C-7) when they submit manuscripts, because some papers bridge two or more divisions. Using this procedure will insure assignment of each paper to the proper technical editor, as well as simplify grouping of papers in categories when preparing each issue for printing.

The *Crop Science* Editorial Board and the Society officers are aware that manuscripts sometimes move through the review process more slowly than the authors or we would like. To avoid delays, all parties—editorial board, reviewers, and authors—must place a high priority on prompt action. To facilitate action by the editorial board, we have requested the appointment of additional associate editors of *Crop Science* so that each associate editor will have to handle no more than 12 papers per year. Editors are being urged to act quickly in assigning papers to reviewers, following up when reviews are not returned on time, and promptly contacting authors about revisions. All members of the Society are urged to accept the responsibility to review papers promptly and constructively when requested to do so by a member of the editorial board. Finally, authors should submit revisions promptly when requested to do so by an associate or technical editor. If all parties work together, we can avoid unnecessary delays in publishing research results and other papers in *Crop Science*.

—E. S. Horner, Editor