
Open Access of E - Journals in Agriculture and Food Sciences in DOAJ: A Scientometric Study

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Abstract

The DOAJ provides open access to scientific and scholarly journals, that meet high quality standard by exercising peer review and is free to all from time of publication based on the open access initiative. In this paper authors made an effort to study the total full text and abstract online journals were accessed through DOAJ and analyzed based on subject headings, publication countries, started year, and their accessibility of archives of online Journals in Agriculture and Food sciences.

Keywords

Open Journals, E-Journals, Agriculture, food Sciences, Doaj.

Electronic access

The journal is available at www.jalis.in



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INTRODUCTION

The propagation free access to online journals, the development of subject specific print and e-print archives and collections of learning objects provides a very valuable supplement of scientific knowledge to the existing types of published scientific information i.e., journals, books databases etc. Though these valuable collections are difficult to access is because of high cost in subscription and assimilate in the library and information services provided by libraries for their user community. Open access journals that use a funding model that does not charge readers or their institution for access. Open access journals are one of the two general methods for providing open access. The other one is self-archiving in a repository. The publisher of an open access journal is known as an "open access publisher".

OBJECTIVES

- To know the number free e-journals offered by DOAJ on sub categories of Agriculture and Food sciences.
- To know the number of sub - categories and number of journals under the main subject of Agriculture and Food sciences
- To know that country wise publication of e-journals
- To know the accessibility of archives of e-journals
- To know the usefulness and applicability of Agriculture and food Sciences e-journals to other disciplines

METHODOLOGY

Directory of Open Access Journals website (<http://www.doaj.org>) is browsed for the present paper. Agriculture and Food sciences e journals were searched out of 490 were found on DOAJ. These 490 journals were analyzed based on subject headings, country wise publishers and accessibility of archives of e journals.

DIRECTORY OF OPEN ACCESS JOURNALS (DOAJ): AN OVERVIEW

Open access journals as journals that use a funding model that does not charge readers or their institutions for access. From the DOAJ definition of "open access" we take the right of users to "read, download, copy, distribute, print, search, or link to

the full texts of these articles" as mandatory for a journal to be included in the directory.

The aim of the Directory of Open Access Journals is to increase the prominence and ease of use of open access scientific and scholarly journals thereby promoting their increased usage and impact. The Directory aims to be broad and cover all open access scientific and scholarly journals that use a quality control system to guarantee the content. In short a one stop shop for users to Open Access Journals. Journals can be browsed by title or by broad subject area from DOAJ. Articles are searchable by article author or title, ISSN, journal title, abstract, or key words. Full-text is not searchable but is fully accessible.



Home page of DOAJ: <http://www.doaj.org/>

ANALYSIS AND INTEPRETATIONS

Total 490 Agriculture and Food sciences e journals were analyzed and presented in the form of tables about histograms.

Subject wise

Table 1 indicates the subjectwise distribution of journals in Agriculture and Food sciences. The subject of Computer Sciences is the highest publications 358 (36.76) percent, General and Civil Engineering 176 (18.07) percent and Technology 109 (11.19) percent.

Table1: Subjectwise Distribution of Journals

S.No	Subject	No. of Journals	%
1	Agriculture – general	201	41.02
2	Animal Science	124	25.31
3	Aquaculture and fisheries	19	3.88
4	Forestry	47	9.59
5	Nutrition and Food sciences	46	9.39
6	Plant Sciences	53	10.82
	Grand Total	490	100

Country wise Distribution of Journals

Table 2 clearly depicts that the Brazil 75 (15.31) percent published more and more open access journals for the society benefits followed by Romania 29 and United states 29 (5.92) percent and Pakistan 25(5.10) percent in the field of Agriculture and Food sciences.

Table 2: Countrywise Distribution of Journals

S.No	Countries	No. of Journals	%	S.No	Countries	No. of Journals	%
1	Brazil	75	15.31	29	Switzerland	5	1.02
2	Romania	29	5.92	30	Australia	4	0.82
3	United States	29	5.92	31	Estonia	4	0.82
4	Pakistan	25	5.10	32	France	4	0.82
5	India	21	4.29	33	Hungary	4	0.82
6	Iran	20	4.08	34	Russia	4	0.82
7	Colombia	18	3.67	35	South Africa	4	0.82
8	Turkey	14	2.86	36	Finland	3	0.61
9	United Kingdom	14	2.86	37	New Zealand	3	0.61
10	Chile	13	2.65	38	Slovakia	3	0.61
11	Japan	13	2.65	39	Sri Lanka	3	0.61
12	Mexico	13	2.65	40	Bulgaria	2	0.41

13	Poland	13	2.65	41	Costa Rica	2	0.41
14	Czech	12	2.45	42	Iraq	2	0.41
15	Egypt	12	2.45	43	Montenegro	2	0.41
16	Argentina	10	2.04	44	Portugal	2	0.41
17	Italy	10	2.04	45	South Korea	2	0.41
18	Spain	10	2.04	46	China	1	0.20
19	Venezuela	10	2.04	47	Israel	1	0.20
20	Croatia	9	1.84	48	Kenya	1	0.20
21	Indonesia	9	1.84	49	Libya	1	0.20
22	Germany	8	1.63	50	Lithuania	1	0.20
23	Nigeria	8	1.63	51	Macedonia	1	0.20
24	Cuba	7	1.43	52	Malaysia	1	0.20
25	Serbia	7	1.43	53	Peru	1	0.20
26	Bangladesh	6	1.22	54	Albania	1	0.20
27	Canada	6	1.22	55	Sweden	1	0.20
28	Slovenia	5	1.02	56	United Arab Emirates	1	0.20
						490	100.00

Status of Indian Journals

Table 3 gives the information about the status of 21 Indian journals in the field of Agriculture and Food sciences. The subject of Agriculture- general is the highest publications 11 (52.38) percent, followed by Animal Science journal 3(12.98) percent.

Table 3: Status of Indian Journals

S.No	Start year	No. of Journals	%
1.	1995	1	4.76
2.	1998	1	4.76
3.	1999	1	4.76
4.	2000	2	9.52
5.	2001	4	19.05
6.	2002	2	9.52
7.	2005	1	4.76
8.	2008	3	14.29
9.	2010	1	4.76
10.	2011	1	4.76
11.	2012	4	19.05
Total		21	100

Year wise distribution of Indian Journals

Table 4 indicates the year 2001 and 2012, highest publications 4 (19.05) percent of Indian journals published in the field of Agriculture and Food sciences. The lowest publications are in the year of 1995, 1998,1999,2005,2010 and 2011, 1 (4.76) percent.

Table 4: Year wise distribution of Indian Journals

S.No	Journal Subject	No. of journals
1.	Agriculture – general	11
2.	Animal Science	3
3.	Aquaculture and fisheries	1
4.	Forestry	-
5.	Nutrition and Food sciences	2
6.	Plant Sciences	4
	Total	21

Publisher wise Distribution of Indian Journals

Table5 depicts that the publisher wise distribution of open access e-journals in the field of Agriculture and Food sciences. Science domain International 3(14.29) percent. Followed by Indian Society of Plant Breeders and International Crops Research Institute for the Semi-Arid Tropics 2 (9.52) percent dominating the highest publication in India.

Table 5: Publisher wise distribution of Indian journals

S. No	Publisher	No. of Journals	%
1.	Bio info	1	4.76
2.	Crop Protection Research Centre	1	4.76
3.	Indian Phytopathological Society	1	4.76
4.	Indian Society of Plant Breeders	2	9.52

5.	International Crops Research Institute for the Semi-Arid Tropics	2	9.52
6.	Kashvet Society, Kashmir	1	4.76
7.	Kerala Agricultural University, Thrissur, Kerala	1	4.76
8.	Madras Agricultural Students Union	1	4.76
9.	Medknow Publications	1	4.76
10.	NISCAIR	1	4.76
11.	Rural Research Institute of Physiology & Applied Nutrition	1	4.76
12.	Science for All	1	4.76
13.	Science domain International	3	14.29
14.	Shastri Education Trust®	1	4.76
15.	Society of Fisheries Technologists	1	4.76
16.	Veterinary World	1	4.76
17.	West Bengal Veterinary Alumni Association	1	4.76
		21	100.00

Recently Started (2012) Journals in Agriculture

Journal	Publisher	Subject
The Agriculturists	Indian Phytopathological Society	Plant Sciences
Archives of Polish Fisheries	Indian Society of Plant Breeders	Plant Sciences --- Agriculture (General)
Ciência Animal Brasileira	International Crops Research Institute for the Semi-Arid Tropics	Agriculture (General)
South African Journal of Clinical Nutrition	Science domain International	Plant Sciences

and Food sciences

The above tables show the recently started open access e-journals in the year of 2012 in the subject of Agriculture and Food sciences.

FINDINGS OF THE STUDY

It is observed that the subject of Computer Science was dominating the highest publications. It is observed that Brazil was highest publishing with 75 e-journals followed by Romania and United States 29 journals. It is observed that the highest publication of

the year 2001 and 2012, four open access e-journals in India published. It is observed that publisher wise distribution of open access e-journals in India, Science domain International in India dominating the highest publication in the field of Agriculture and Food sciences.

CONCLUSION

DOAJ is a wide and covers open access scientific and scholarly journals that use an appropriate quantity control system, and it will not be limited to particular language or subject areas. DOAJ is increase the reflectivity and scholarly journals there by encouraging their increased usage and impact. Research scholars, Agriculture and Food sciences scientists, professionals should browse the DOAJ site and access the free online journals on their subject areas. It is also suggested that Agriculture and Food sciences scientists and Research scholars should publish their research work in online open access journals for wider visibility of their research work and for greater impact factor (IF) and citation index.

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