



EDITORIAL

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Reflections

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Headlines

As ever in the first issue of the year, Reflections recognises the splendid group of peer reviewers who support and drive the publication of papers in the Journal. It's a hackneyed expression but these people really make a difference and deserve our fulsome thanks. It is also 'numbers' time looking back at the metrics for JIB in 2024. The publications came from six countries with nigh on 7500 visitors to the Journal website. They came from from 130 countries with 20% from the UK, 18% from the USA, 8% from China and 4% from Brazil. Of the two reviews, 14 papers and four editorials there were 23,500 views of abstracts and > 13,000 downloads of pdfs. Finally, there is an update on the KPIs that track the time for steps in the process with comparison with 2023/24.

Big thanks to all the reviewers of JIB in 2024

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Website metrics

16 papers (two reviews) and four editorials were published with 23.5k views and > 13k downloads of pdfs. The publications were from six countries – UK (7), USA (3), two from Belgium and one from Croatia and Australia.

The subjects included malting (innovation/efficiency, floor, crystal malt), hops (Brazil/USA), beer (dextrins, metabolomics, gushing, pasteurisation/aroma and sensory/staleness), microbiology (ascospores/heat inactivation, diastatic yeast, heat resistance/AFBs, pathogens/AFBs), gin (volatiles timeline), sake (isovaleraldehyde) and whiskey (2,4,6-trichloroanisole)

There were 7447 (up from 4918) different visitors to the site from 130 (111) countries. Visitors were more diverse with the 'top 10' countries declining from 75% in 2023 to 69.2% in 2024. Of these, the UK accounted for 19.9% with 17.9% from the USA, 8.4% from China and 4.3% from Brazil. Other visitors included those from Germany (4.0%), Australia (3.8%), India (3.0%), Canada (2.8%), Belgium (2.8%) and France (2.4%).

Downloads of papers increased from just over 6000 in 2023 to 13,000 in 2024. Of these, one publication - Michiels et al. 'effective strategies to maximise dextrin formation in brewing' - was downloaded > 1000 times with seven other papers over 500 times.

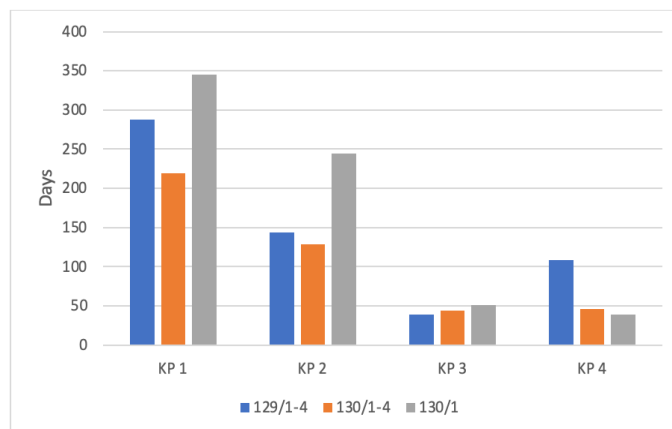
Publication KPIs

There are four 'key performance indicators' (KPIs) that track the key steps from submission of the manuscript to the publication of the paper.

KPI	Activity
1	Total process time (in days) from submission to publication
2	Time from submission to 'soft' accept (intention flagged to the authors)
3	Time for copy editing by the EiC. On completion, 'hard' accept
4	Time for pdf creation, review by authors, final proof edits by the EiC

The KPIs are reported for each issue together with consolidated metrics for the 16 publications in each volume of 2023 (129/1-4) and 2024 (130/1-4).

In this issue KPIs 1 and 2 have slipped compared with the average for 2023/24. This will doubtless even itself out of the year. The reasons for extended total process time are many and various. Some manuscripts simply take longer - for example - to identify reviewers, for the review to happen, for the authors to respond or, more often than not, for the EiC to join the dots.



To conclude

In this issue, there is the annual 'thank you' to the sterling band of reviewers who drive the publication process. There are four publications, a review of timely and premature flocculation of yeast and research papers on the distilled spirit cachaça (yeast recycling, PET packaging) and Brazilian hops. Three of the corresponding authors hail from Brazil and the review from Germany.

Cheers,

David Quain
Editor in Chief