

LETTER FROM THE EDITOR  
**WORLD RABBIT SCIENCE AT THE 9<sup>th</sup> WORLD RABBIT CONGRESS AND  
THE JOURNAL CITATION REPORT**

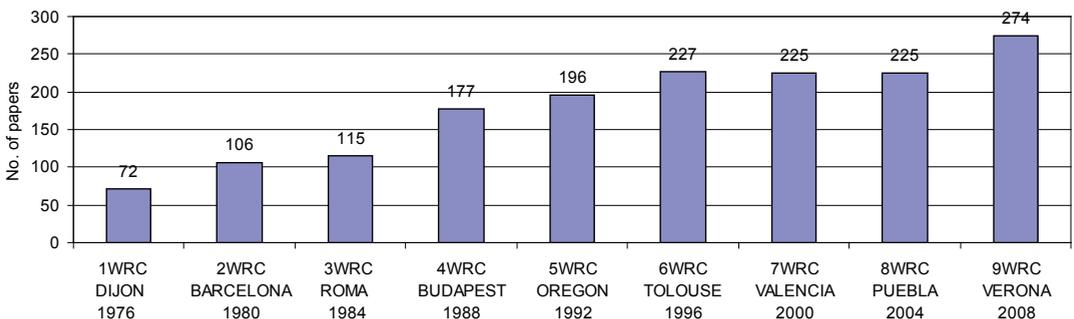
**Pascual J.J.**

Editor in chief

**WORLD RABBIT SCIENCE AT THE 9<sup>th</sup> WORLD RABBIT CONGRESS**

As you know, the 9<sup>th</sup> World Rabbit Congress (9WRC) was held last June in Verona (Italy) with the participation of around 600 people from 39 different countries. World Rabbit Science would like to congratulate the Italian Association of Rabbit Science (ASIC), the World Rabbit Science Association, the Department of Animal Science of the University of Padova and, especially, Professor Gerolamo Xiccato (President of the organizing committee) for the magnificent organization of this event and the warm welcome given to the participants in this beautiful city.

World Rabbit Science also wishes to acknowledge the excellent scientific quality of the main papers, communications and posters presented during the Congress, which reflects the “good health” of rabbit science production on a worldwide scale, the spirit that nourishes our journal. In fact, a total of 323 scientific papers were sent to the organizing committee, with 274 works finally being accepted (more than in previous World Rabbit Congresses; Figure). Eight main papers, 71 oral communications and 195 posters were presented in the fields of genetics, nutrition and digestive physiology, reproduction, pathology and hygiene, ethology and welfare, management and economy, meat quality and safety. All this knowledge will be soon available on our web, as the abstracts of the 9WRC will be published as a special issue of World Rabbit Science.



Evolution of the communications presented at the World Rabbit Congresses.

*World Rabbit Science Editorial Office Meeting*

During the congress, 6 round tables, an international meeting among different inter-professional organizations and different short scientific and technical meetings were held. Taking the opportunity provided by this type of congress, the Editorial Office of the World Rabbit Science organized a brief meeting with the participation of all the Associate Editors and the Editor in Chief. During the meeting, the following subjects were approached:

1. The recent inclusion of World Rabbit Science in the Journal Citation Report 2007.
2. The situation of the new World Rabbit Science website and probationary period of the new manuscript centre.
3. Possible strategies to be followed by the Editorial Staff to try to improve the quality of the papers published in World Rabbit Science and homogenise the criteria used in the evaluation of papers by the different sections of the journal.
4. Finally, different proposals for the future and other questions were discussed by the participants.

*World Rabbit Science in the World Rabbit Science Association Council*

As is traditional at the World Rabbit Congresses, the WRSA held a council where its members were renewed. Prof. Gerolamo Xiccato was elected new president of the WRSA for the next 4 years and will be take his place alongside vice-presidents Ignacio Badiola (Spain), Zsolt Szendro (Hungary), Eftychia Xylouri (Greece), treasurer Luc Maertens (Belgium), secretary Thierry Gidenne (France), and the secretary for developing countries Steven Lukefahr (USA). The Editor in Chief of World Rabbit Science was invited to this council, where the main conclusions of the issues dealt with in the meeting of our Editorial Office were presented, such as the financial and subscription balances of the journal, especially the subscriptions received via WRSA. The Council came to a close with the selection of the Egyptian branch of the WRSA for the organization of the 10<sup>th</sup> World Rabbit Congress, to be held in 2012 at Cairo.

**WORLD RABBIT SCIENCE IN THE JOURNAL CITATION REPORT**

On the other hand, it is a pleasure for the Editorial Office to announce that World Rabbit Science is included in the Journal Citation Report 2007 (JCR 2007), which was published in July 2008. So, the only international peer-reviewed journal dedicated to publishing original research in the rabbit field has finally been included in the main tool developed to assess the scientific relevance of papers and journals.

Journal Citation Reports® is a comprehensive and unique resource that allows scientists to evaluate and compare journals using citation data drawn from over 7,500 scholarly and technical journals from more than 3,300 publishers in over 60 countries. It is the only source of citation data on journals, and includes virtually all areas of science, technology, and social sciences. Citation and article counts are important indicators of how frequently current researchers are using individual journals. By tabulating and aggregating citation and article counts, JCR offers us a unique perspective for journal evaluation and comparison.

World Rabbit Science is included in the category “Agriculture, Dairy and Animal Science” with another 46 journals that also publish animal science knowledge. The JCR 2007 mainly provides information on the relevance of papers published in World Rabbit Science since its inclusion in the Science Citation Index at the beginning of 2005.

For example, one of the criteria most frequently used to assess the scientific quality of a paper is the “Impact Factor” of the journal where it was finally published. The Journal Impact Factor is the average number of times articles from the journal published in the past two years have been cited in the JCR year. The Impact Factor is calculated by dividing the number of citations in the JCR year by the total number of articles published in the two previous years. The calculation of the “Journal Impact Factor” of the World Rabbit Science for 2007 is shown in the Table.

World Rabbit Science has obtained an Impact Factor for 2007 of 0.574, placing the journal in the second third of the “Agriculture, Dairy and Animal Science” Category in position 31 of 47. The Editorial Office believes that this may be considered “a good result” if we compare it with other journals with a long track record in JCR that usually publish rabbit science papers [e.g. Livestock Science (IF: 0.610); Journal of Applied Poultry Research (IF: 0.588); Journal of Animal and Feed Sciences (IF: 0.305);...]. If we consider this impact factor value, the short average time required to publish in our journal (a mean of 8 months from the submission to the final publication) and the certainty that the papers are always reviewed by rabbit science specialists, World Rabbit Science must be considered an adequate alternative to bear in mind to disseminate your knowledge.

Calculation of World Rabbit Science Impact Factor for 2007.

Cites in 2007 to articles published in:	2006 = 7	Number of articles published in:	2006 = 26
	2005 = 20		2005 = 21
	Sum: $\frac{27}{}$		Sum: $\frac{47}{}$

Calculation:            Cites to recent articles:  $\frac{27}{47} = 0.574$   
                               Number of recent articles:  $\frac{47}{}$

For this reason, we would be very pleased if you were to continue to use our journal for the diffusion of your results. We are confident that our inclusion in the JCR will provide a stimulus for authors to submit papers.



Juan José Pascual

Editor-in-chief