

Journal of the Fluorescent Mineral Society

Guidelines for Authors

December 10, 2022

The *Journal of the Fluorescent Mineral Society* (hereafter “the Journal”) strives to provide members of the Fluorescent Mineral Society (FMS) with access to timely and relevant research into topics related to luminescent phenomena (particularly ultraviolet-induced fluorescence and related behaviors such as afterglow, tenebrescence, and triboluminescence) in minerals, the geologic occurrence of luminescent minerals, technological aspects of the generation and filtering of ultraviolet radiation, and related topics.

Content

The Journal is an annual publication of the Fluorescent Mineral Society, which features content including articles of interest to the membership, as described in the Bylaws Article 3, and at the discretion of the Managing Editor.

- Articles should consider the audience: members of FMS come from various backgrounds, scientific and otherwise. The articles should be educational and informative, and perhaps even challenging for some members in terms of scientific rigor and concepts. However, the presentation of information should be such that critical information is explained and terminology defined so that non-specialists can access the key concepts of the article.
- Authors are encouraged to introduce ideas of mineral luminescence beyond conventional viewpoints (e.g. the impact of biological processes.)
- Since observation is a key step toward understanding fluorescent minerals and the science of luminescence for our members, describing how minerals react to ultraviolet light should be a central feature of the Journal, consistent with other editorial priorities.
- Articles should strive for high quality presentation of images, and accurate descriptions of colors, mineral assemblages, or other factual information
- Articles may contribute to the knowledge of mineral luminescence by investigating and documenting results from new and unconventional sources of ultraviolet radiation as they become available (e.g. unconventional UV units with unique wavelengths, such as excimer lasers; new LED-based UV sources including flashlights; photographic flash units.) Such articles can encourage

collectors to reevaluate the specimens in their collections. and provides additional insights into how luminescent processes work.

- Articles should feature images of the best possible quality, appropriate to illustrate the topic being written about.

Article Format

- Article length will vary depending on content (particularly the number of figures) though authors should strive for articles that are 10-20 Journal pages in length. Excessively long articles may be shortened at the Editor's discretion to control publication costs.
- Articles should be submitted in Microsoft Word document format.
- Photographs and illustrations should be in .jpg format, of the highest possible resolution and least possible compression.
- Figures should be accompanied by appropriate captions that clearly explain details not apparent from the figure. For photographs of samples (rocks or otherwise), a clear scale should be either part of the image itself or explained in the caption (for scales using units of measure, please maintain internal consistency in either English or metric units). Captions should clearly explain the lighting/illumination used (e.g., white light, type and wavelength of UV source, etc.). It is up to the author's discretion in most cases whether to describe wavelengths of radiation employed in terms of wavelength (nm) or description of the type of radiation (e.g. UVA or longwave UV). However, internal consistency of usage of wavelengths or radiation names should be maintained within an article (for instance, only use UVA or longwave UV or LW UV, but do not interchange the terms within an article). If applicable, appropriate credit given to photographer or other source if not the author.
- For figures showing instrument data (e.g., spectroscopic data or XRD patterns), screenshots or plots from the instrument software are generally **unacceptable**. Realize that these figures will likely be laid out in a reduced size format, and the axis labels and scale numbers will need to be readable. Replotting the data with graphing software (Excel is ok, but often leads to problematic formatting) is usually required.
- All articles must include a short, descriptive title along with author's name, membership number (if the author is a current FMS member), credentials, and address.
- Articles in the Journal do not have abstracts.
- Methods for experimental studies should be described with sufficient detail that a knowledgeable reader could duplicate the results given appropriate equipment and samples. An explanation of the technique is not required (and will likely be edited out) unless that is the point of the paper.
- There is no set format for the internal structure of articles as the nature of content in the Journal varies significantly. It is suggested that some form of brief

introduction and conclusion is supplied. Distinct sections of the article should be broken out with section headers that appear on their own line in boldface.

- Articles should feature appropriate citations and a list of references as required. At this time, there is no prescribed format for reference citations within the text of the article or for the list of references, other than to remain consistent within an article and to provide sufficient detail in the list of references so that a reader can accurately identify each individual reference. Authors are encouraged to consult prior issues of the Journal or relevant mineralogical journal such as the American Mineralogist (older back issues are open source) for suggested formats.

Editorial and Review Process

- The Journal seeks to provide a venue for all members and non-members who wish to contribute, within the stated goals and mission. The Editor will evaluate submissions for quality and accuracy. They may seek the advice of the Editor on potential content.
- The Journal Editor will actively seek and solicit quality content for publication, developing content that is coherent and consistent across an issue, and across issues.
- The Journal Editor actively assists authors of quality content in order to make that content publication-worthy. Every effort will be made to accommodate reasonable author requests in the service of maintaining respectful and productive relationships with contributors.
- Authors should make every effort to fully proof-read submissions before sending them to the Editor. Third party proofing is encouraged.
- The Editor will work with authors to edit submitted articles for style, factual accuracy, and suitability. This includes format and resolution of figures. Authors should include all figures, including photos, as separate files in a high resolution format with the initial submission.
- Articles will be submitted to independent reviewers for evaluation of scientific accuracy and style. Authors submitting articles are encouraged to suggest up to two potential reviewers.
- Reviewer comments will be shared with authors to facilitate manuscript improvement where necessary.