

CLAY MINERALS – JOURNAL OF FINE-PARTICLE SCIENCE

INSTRUCTIONS TO AUTHORS

Main points

1. Online submission

Authors should submit their papers online at <http://www.edmgr.com/clayminerals/>

A template for writing papers for *Clay Minerals* is available at <http://www.minersoc.org/files/Clay-Minerals-Template.doc>

2. Citations

It is expected that the authors are aware of the current advances in their discipline. Therefore they should cite, as much as possible, recent literature in their manuscript. As for any academic journal, citations are vital to *Clay Minerals*. It is very important to the publisher of this journal, and, by extension, to all of its authors and readers, that we obtain a high impact factor. To achieve this, we encourage you to the greatest extent possible, to check for possible works published in the past two years in our journal that you can cite in your current paper. Two ‘countable’ citations in each paper published will give us a strong IF ranking and would place us in the first or second quartile in terms of mineralogy journals, vital for a successful future for our journal. We are glad to facilitate access to any item of content if you would like to check its relevance to your current study. Please contact the Production Editor, Kevin Murphy (kevin@minersoc.org).

3. Manuscript submission

It is best for us, and easiest for you, if you submit a single .pdf file, with figures and tables embedded in the text where they are first cited. Remember though, that if/when your paper is accepted, we will need high-quality figures. It is best to prepare and retain high-quality versions of your figures at the start. See guidelines below. Also, include line numbers – this makes it easier for our editorial team.

4. Manuscript revision

We realise the importance of quick submission–acceptance times. We work closely with our Associate Editors and our reviewers to ensure the quickest turn-around times possible. You can help by making sure that the time taken for revision is as short as possible. We allow eight weeks for you to revise your paper. Extensions can be made in special cases, but will not be granted universally. Revised manuscripts submitted after this time will be considered as a new submission and the review ‘clock’ will be reset.

5. References

Please ensure that you follow our guidelines below in terms of references. This will save a significant amount of time at revision and production stage.

Scope of the Journal

Clay Minerals – Journal of Fine Particle Science publishes electronically, research papers about clays, clay minerals and related materials, natural or synthetic. Aspects covered include: Earth Processes (interactions in ‘system earth’ ± soil science, and geology/mineralogy) including genesis/synthesis, phase transformations, stability, weathering, soil-organic interactions, ion-exchange, basin analysis, clay petrology; Solid State Chemistry/Materials Science ± synthesis, structure and dynamics, reactivity, crystal chemistry, mechanical, thermal, electrical properties, micro and nanophase materials; Environmental Science ± analytical methods, elemental distribution, waste containment, health issues, environmental impact assessment, conservation of cultural heritage; Colloid/Surface Science ± adsorption, colloid stability, surface chemistry, reactivity; and Applied Science and Technology ± industrial uses and technical applications, including mining and processing of clay, zeolite (and other) deposits and application in ceramics, paper, paint, polymer, ion-exchange, sorption, catalysis *etc.*

Languages

Papers must be written in English. The Editors will only seek reviews for your paper if the language is of sufficient standard that the science can be understood clearly. If you need help with the English language, we can advise about third-party, professional services. The author will be expected to pay any costs themselves.

Guidelines re: paper type and length

Research papers of two types are allowed. ‘Full’ papers should normally be no more than about 6000 words of text (approx 24 pages) plus tables and figures. Short papers, where the text is not divided into sections, of up to 1500 words of text plus tables and figures are encouraged when the subject matter is novel or urgent. In both cases, an abstract (full papers – 150 words; short papers – 100 words) is required. If you wish to submit a research paper or review significantly longer than indicated above, please contact the appropriate Editor (see below).

Submission of manuscripts

In a letter accompanying the manuscript, the submitting author must state that **all** authors agree with the final version of the manuscript. The letter must also state that the manuscript has not previously been published elsewhere, either in full or in part, and that, while under review for *Clay Minerals*, it will not be submitted to any other publication. Authors are encouraged to suggest up to three possible reviewers for their papers and are also offered the opportunity to note the names of possible reviewers who they would prefer were not invited.

Preparation of manuscripts

Each manuscript (including text, references, tables, figures, captions) **must be** submitted as a single pdf file and as an identical MS-Word file. Double spacing should be used.

Figures and Tables

Figures and tables should be kept to a minimum. Authors should use footnotes to the tables to provide ancillary information rather than adding such text to the title. Figures: (i) Authors may use colour freely, but should avoid pale colours. Lettering should be in Times New Roman or Helvetica and of appropriate size to be legible after size reduction for publication. Italic or bold characters should be

avoided. Adjacent grey scales should differ by at least 20% to ensure sufficient contrast. (ii) The standard of all figures must be equivalent to that of a professional draughtsman or photographer. Unsatisfactory diagrams will be returned for redrafting and this will result in a delay in publication. For an example of carefully produced artwork, please see the paper by Morata *et al.* (2001) *Clay Minerals*, **36**, 345–354. **Submission of final manuscripts**

MS-Word is the preferred format for the text and tables. Acceptable formats for figures are Adobe Illustrator, .tif, .bmp or .eps. When exporting to .eps, all objects should be selected and then exported using 'selected only'. Do not submit digital figures embedded in text files.

Data repository

In some cases, it is better to submit supplementary information (including tables and or figures) for publication on the Mineralogical Society's website (http://www.minersoc.org/pages/e_journals/dep_mat_cm.html) than to include them in a published paper. Please discuss with the Principal Editor.

References

References in the text should be in the form (Brindley & Sempels, 1977) or Brindley & Sempels (1977) whichever is applicable and should be listed alphabetically at the end of the article in the form:

Brindley G.W. & Sempels R.E. (1977) Preparation and properties of some hydroxy-aluminium beidellites. *Clay Minerals*, **12**, 229–237.

Authors must use the full titles and not abbreviations for all journals. References to papers in symposia should be given under the name of the author (together with the date) and in the bibliography, the reference should appear as, e.g.

Mering J. & Oberlin A. (1977) The smectites. Pp. 193–229 in: *The Electron Optical Investigation of Clays* (J.A. Gard, editor). Mineralogical Society, London.

References to books should be given similarly, preferably with a note of the relevant pages, e.g.

Yariv S. & Cross H. (1979) *Geochemistry of Colloidal Systems*, pp. 313–318. Springer-Verlag, Berlin.

Theses and restricted-access reports may be cited but full details are necessary, e.g.

Whittle C.K. (1985) *Analytical transmission electron microscopy of authigenic chlorites*. PhD thesis, University of Sheffield, UK.

Bullock P. & Loveland P.J. (1974) Mineralogical analyses. Pp. 57–69 in: *Soil Survey Laboratory Methods* (B.W. Avery & C.L. Bascomb, editors). Soil Survey Technical Monograph, 6, Harpenden, UK.

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