



Automation of Journal management - Experience of SAT Journal

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ABSTRACT

Academic journals first initiated in the 17th Century. Importance of journals as a means of disseminating knowledge has grown considerably after 150 years in the form of sharing the spotlight with letters and scholarly treatises and by the early 1800s, academic journals had become the fastest and most effective means of disseminating research findings.

Introduction

Academic journals first initiated in the 17th Century. Importance of journals as a means of disseminating knowledge has grown considerably after 150 years in the form of sharing the spotlight with letters and scholarly treatises and by the early 1800s, academic journals had become the fastest and most effective means of disseminating research findings. The better part of the 20th century was devoted to consolidating their position by aggressive way of knowledge dissemination by adopting online web based platforms for publication purposes.

The management and editorial board of any journal has to do many activities like publicizing research journal across groups, receiving research articles in required formats, assigning each article for different reviewers, assigning further it to chief editor for taking final call, publicizing in current journal and moving the article to archives as the time progresses. These activities require a lot of time and efforts in editorial team and requires considerable amount human and financial resources. To minimize utilization of these resources and at the same time to improve the efficiency of journal, an appropriate online web based journal management system very essential for any research society who publishes research journal.

The Journal of Semi-Arid Tropical Agricultural Research is published annually by the International Crops Research Institute for the Semi-Arid Tropics (ICRISAT) before it was discontinued effective 2012. It was started with a intention as a worldwide communication link for all those interested in the research and development of semi-arid tropical agricultural research. There was a thought process to re-start the journal in 2016 for which an appropriate



web based online platform which automates all the processes of research journal management is required.

Discussion:

We adopted Open Journal Systems (OJS) which is a journal management and publishing system that has been developed by the Public Knowledge Project through its federally funded efforts to expand and improve access to research. OJS assists with every stage of the refereed publishing process, from submissions through to online publication and indexing. Through its management systems, its finely grained indexing of research, and the context it provides for research, OJS seeks to improve both the scholarly and public quality of refereed research.

Open Journal Systems (OJS) is released under the GNU GENERAL PUBLIC LICENSE. We downloaded OJS version 2 and configured & customized as per our requirement. A customized open journal system home page appears as below.

The screenshot shows the homepage of the Journal of SAT Agricultural Research. At the top, there is a search bar with the text 'sat-journal.in'. Below it is a banner with the journal's title 'Journal of SAT Agricultural Research' and the ICRISAT logo. The banner also includes the text 'Published by ICRISAT' and 'ISSN 0973 - 3094'. A navigation menu is located below the banner, with links for HOME, ABOUT, LOGIN, REGISTER, SEARCH, CURRENT, ARCHIVES, EDITORIAL BOARD, and CONTACT. The main content area features a 'Publishing Objectives' section, which states that the journal is published electronically at least annually by the International Crops Research Institute for the Semi-Arid Tropics (ICRISAT). It also mentions that the journal is intended as a worldwide communication link for all those interested in the research and development of semi-arid tropical agricultural research. The right sidebar contains a 'USER' section with fields for Username and Password, a 'Remember me' checkbox, and a 'Login' button. Below this is a 'NOTIFICATIONS' section with 'View' and 'Subscribe' links. The 'JOURNAL CONTENT' section includes a search bar, a 'Search Scope' dropdown menu set to 'All', and a 'Search' button. At the bottom of the sidebar, there are 'Browse' links for 'By Issue', 'By Author', and 'By Title', and a 'FONT SIZE' section with 'A', 'A', and 'A' buttons.



The basic features of OJS are, OJS is installed locally and locally controlled; Editors configure requirements, sections, review process, etc.; Online submission and management of all content; Subscription module with delayed open access options; Comprehensive indexing of content part of global system; Reading Tools for content, based on field and editors' choice; Email notification and commenting ability for readers; Complete context-sensitive online Help support.

OJS is written in PHP and uses MySQL as database server and can be hosted in Unix/Linux/Windows Web Server. As of mid-2015 OJS is implemented and used by at least 8,000 journals worldwide and half of them implemented in developing countries. All the stakeholder of Journal like instance administrator, members of editorial board, reviewers, researchers who wanted to publish paper with journal etc, has to register with the system using below screen.

Any user can search for a specific research article using its meta data like author, publisher and year of publishing etc using below screen.



Published by ICRISAT
ISSN 0973 - 3094

HOME ABOUT LOGIN REGISTER SEARCH CURRENT ARCHIVES EDITORIAL BOARD CONTACT

Home > Search

Search

Search for

Additional Search Options (click to show)

ISSUE	TITLE
No Results	

Search tips:

- Search terms are case-insensitive
- Common words are ignored
- By default only articles containing all terms in the query are returned (i.e., AND is implied)
- Combine multiple words with OR to find articles containing either term; e.g., education OR research
- Use parentheses to create more complex queries; e.g., archive ((journal OR conference) NOT theses)
- Search for an exact phrase by putting it in quotes; e.g., "open access publishing"
- Exclude a word by prefixing it with - or NOT; e.g. online -politics or online NOT politics
- Use * in a term as a wildcard to match any sequence of characters; e.g., soc* morality would match documents containing "sociological" or "societal"

USER
Username
Password
 Remember me

NOTIFICATIONS
• [View](#)
• [Subscribe](#)

JOURNAL CONTENT
Search
Search Scope
Browse
• [By Issue](#)
• [By Author](#)
• [By Title](#)

FONT SIZE

INFORMATION

User can see the research papers published in the current issue as per the below screen.

Published by ICRISAT
ISSN 0973 - 3094

HOME ABOUT LOGIN REGISTER SEARCH CURRENT ARCHIVES EDITORIAL BOARD CONTACT

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Vol 3, No 1 (2016)

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Crops/Livestock Agroecosystems

[New Tools, Methods, and Approaches in Natural Resource Management](#) EDE
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[Yerra Chandanani](#)
Sumanth VV

Institutions, Markets, Policy & Impacts

USER
Username
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NOTIFICATIONS
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JOURNAL CONTENT
Search
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System Modules: The application is a cloud based application and users shall access using role based access. Many modules are built which are integral components of the application which enables smooth flow of information across different modules for successful automation of various activities of journal management.

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The Journal Management section which does have various modules with management pages, Files Browser, Journal Sections, Review Forms, Languages, Masthead, Prepared Emails, Reading Tools, Setup, Stats & Reports, Payments, System Plugins and Import/Export Data.

The following platform interfaces allows the administrator to setup the various journal parameters.



Journal of SAT Agricultural Research

HOME ABOUT USER HOME SEARCH

Home > **User Home**

User Home

[Site Administrator](#)

My Journals

[Journal of SAT Agricultural Research](#)

[Journal Manager](#)

[Setup]

My Account

- [Edit My Profile](#)
- [Change My Password](#)
- [Logout](#)

The end user can browse all the research articles by Issue, Author and Title, which allows the user to browse and move across the articles seamlessly.



The modules allows to manage “Prepared E.Mails”i.e e.mail templates. This allows chief editor and other roles to send automatic e.mails to the stakeholders which allows easy communication.



<p>“Prepared E.mails” Module</p>	<p>Editing of Prepared E.mail</p>
<p>Web Platform Settings</p>	<p>System Information for Journal of SAT</p>

Conclusion:

The applications like Open Journal Systems (OJS) are very useful for automating various processes of journal management. A single installation of OJS can support the operation of many journals. Huge impact can be observed with the implementation of one single installation of OJS kind of applications, as they save the time and resources. This kind of application need to be implemented for all the research journals together at a single stroke to see the greater impact.



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