Type of the Paper (Original Research Paper, Review, Brief Research Report)

Title (it should be concise and informative)

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Received: date; Accepted: date; Published: date

**Abstract:** it should clearly state the objective of the research, the main findings and conclusions. It should be a single paragraph not exceeding 250 words. It should stand alone, thus references and abbreviations should be avoided.

**Keywords:** keyword 1; keyword 2; keyword 3 (List three to six keywords, not present in the title)

1. Introduction

This section should clearly explain the scientific relevance of the topic, providing an adequate background and introducing the objectives of the study.

For in-text citation, Italus Hortus uses the author-date Harvard system. Briefly:

* In case of one or two authors, the surnames of all authors should be given, for example:
	+ Ford (2014) proposed that...
	+ Aniston and Cruz (2018) found that...
	+ The flowers were reported to be pink (Reeves, 2019) and…
	+ Plants need light (Lawrence and Redford, 2014)…
* If there are more than two authors use et al. in the text, for example:
	+ Damon et al. (2008) conclude that..
* When an author has published more than one cited document in the same year, these are distinguished by adding lower case letters (a, b, c, etc.) to the year, for example:
	+ Johansson (2010a) discussed the subject...
	+ Plant water relations are important (Carrey et al., 2105a).
* When more than one citation is reported between brackets, they should be listed in alphabetical order and separated by semicolon (if they are from the same author/s they should be separated by a comma), for example:
	+ Fertigation is an important management practice (Carrey et al., 2105b; Cruise and Redford, 2017),…
	+ Irrigation is an important management practice (Johansson, 2010a, 2010b; Monroe et al., 2006),…

2. Materials and Methods

Materials and Methods this section should describe precisely how the experiments were carried out and how data were collected and analyzed. If the used methods were previously described, the authors may refer to published papers, but any modification of these methods should be described. This section may be divided in subsections with following heading formats:

2.1. Subsection

2.1.1. Subsubsection

Bulleted lists look like this:

* First bullet
* Second bullet
* Third bullet

The text continues here.

Numbered lists can be added as follows:

1. First item
2. Second item
3. Third item

The text continues here.

3. Results

In this section, the most relevant results should be described clearly and concisely. When a result is presented, a reference to table(s) and/or to figure(s) should be done in the text as follows: Figure 1, Table 1, etc.. This section may also be divided in subsections following the indications given above in the Material and Methods.

3.1. Tables

Tables should be editable and not submitted as images. They should be numbered consecutively in Arabic numbers in accordance with their appearance in the text. As the Figures, Tables should be able to stand alone. For this reason, tables title should be brief but explanatory and table notes should be placed directly below the table body. Avoid shading the cells. The text in the table should be formatted as regular roman text (avoid the use of Bold, Italics or Underlined fonts). Tables and Figures should not report the same information twice. The Tables should be included inside the manuscript text near to where they are cited the first time. For example:

The treatment affected significantly photosynthesis only when the compound was applied late in the growing season (Table 1),,..

**Table 1.** This is the caption of the table.

|  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- |
| Treatment | Parameter 1 | Parameter 2 |
| Treatment 1 | 23.2b | 56.25b |
| Treatment 2 | 25.6a | 43.52a1 |

1Tables may have notes.

3.1. Figures

All illustrations are classified as figures (graphs, photographs, drawings, schematic diagrams, flow charts, etc.). They should be numbered consecutively in Arabic numbers in accordance with their appearance in the text. They can be in grayscale or in color. The use of colors is encouraged if this will help the readability of the figure.

Figures should be able to stand alone. For this reason, figure captions should be brief but explanatory and symbols and abbreviations used in figures can be defined in the figure caption or within the figure itself. In case of figures with two- or multi-panels, they should be labeled with uppercase letters in brackets and they should be singularly explained in the figure caption. The figures should be included inside the manuscript text near to where they are cited the first time. Figures are provided with TIFF or JPG files (with a minimum of 300 dpi digital resolution, but, after manuscript acceptance, it may be required to submit figures with a higher resolution). An example of figure insertion in the manuscript text is the following:

The results of the first experiment carried out at the second experimental station suggested that nitrogen application stimulated significantly fruit (Figure 1A) and vegetative (Figure 1B) growth,..



**Figure 1.** If there are multiple panels, they should be listed as: **(A)** Description of what is contained in the first panel; **(B)** Description of what is contained in the second panel.

3.2. Formatting of Mathematical Components

This is an example of an equation:

Y = a × (b/c) (eq. 1)

where Y is ……, a is …..., b is …… and c is …….

4. Discussion

In this section, the main results should be interpreted and their significance clearly explained. The results should be discussed according to the relevant available literature on the subject and any repetition with the Results sections must be avoided.

5. Conclusions

The main conclusions directly deriving from the obtained results can be drawn in this section. Speculative hypotheses should be avoided here.

**Author Contributions:** For papers with several authors, their individual contributions must be provided. The following statements can be used “Conceptualization, X.X. and Y.Y.; experimental set up, X.X.; data collection, X.X.; data analysis, X.X.; statistical analysis, X.X, Y.Y; ; writing-original draft preparation, X.X.; writing-review and editing, X.X.; supervision, X.X. All authors have read and agreed to the published version of the manuscript.”.

**Funding:** Please add: “This research received no external funding” or “This research was funded by NAME OF FUNDER, grant number XXX”.

**Acknowledgments:** In this section, list the people who helped in the research (language editing, technical support, critical review, etc.), avoiding personal thanks.

**Conflicts of Interest:** state here any potential conflicts of interest regarding one or more authors. In case of no conflicts of interest, state “The authors declare no conflict of interest.”

References

For bibliography, Italus Hortus also uses the author-date Harvard system. The bibliography at the end of a document should be listed in alphabetical order according to author's surname. If you have cited more than one item by the same author they should be listed chronologically (earliest first), and by letter (1996a 1996b) if more than one item has been published in the same year. There is no need to divide the bibliography into types of resources; books, articles, web sites etc. are intermingled in the same list. Include the digital object identifier (DOI) for all references where available.

Titles of books, journals, etc., should be in Italics and all journal titles should be written in full. Below are reported the rules for citing different kinds of resources in a bibliography.

**JOURNAL ARTICLES**

Monroe, I. (2043) ‘How do we grow plants on Mars? Thirty years of work’, *Italus Hortus*, 22(5), pp. 417-431.

Ford, I.J. and Reeves, K. (2067) ‘Agriculture on Saturn’, *Italus Hortus*, 14(6), pp. 43-53.

Redford, R.S., Johansson, I. and Long, E. (2033) ‘Can we grown plants on the moon?’, *Italus Hortus*, 16(2), pp. 197-210.

**BOOKS AND MONOGRAPHS**

With personal author(s):

Cruise, T. (2012) *Extraterrestrial agriculture*. London: University Press.

With editor/s as author/s:

Rossi, M.L. and Jackson, M.N. (eds.) (2000) *Principles of physiology*. 4th edn. London: University Press.

A chapter in a book:

Lee, E.R. (2010) ‘Horticulture on the moon’, in Johnson, N. J. and Jackson, J. (eds.) *Space Agriculture*. London: University Press, pp. 63-88.

**CONFERENCES**

Conference Paper:

Reed, L.M., Lee, I. and Rossi, P. (2010) ‘The Use of Fertigation in Space farming’, *Fourth Congress on Space Agriculture*. Rome, Italy, 10-12 February. London: University Press, pp. 531-542.

Full conference proceedings:

Lee, U., Lang, R. and Reeves, M. (eds.), (2010) *Fourth Congress on Space Agriculture*. Rome, Italy, 10-12 February. London: University Press.

**THESES**

Johnson, H. (2012) *Growing potatoes on Mars*. PhD thesis. University of Florence.

**WEB SITES**

Italus Hortus (2019) Manuscript submission. Available at: https://www.soihs.it/italushortus/manuscript\_submission.aspx (Accessed: 3 January 2019).