

## Editorial

**Cite this article:** Vencill WK (2020) Editorial for *Weed Science*, Volume 68. *Weed Sci.* **68**: 1–5. doi: [10.1017/wsc.2019.58](https://doi.org/10.1017/wsc.2019.58)

Received: 2 October 2019

**Author for correspondence:**

William K. Vencill, Department of Crop and Soil Sciences, University of Georgia, Athens, GA 30602. (Email: [wvencill@uga.edu](mailto:wvencill@uga.edu))

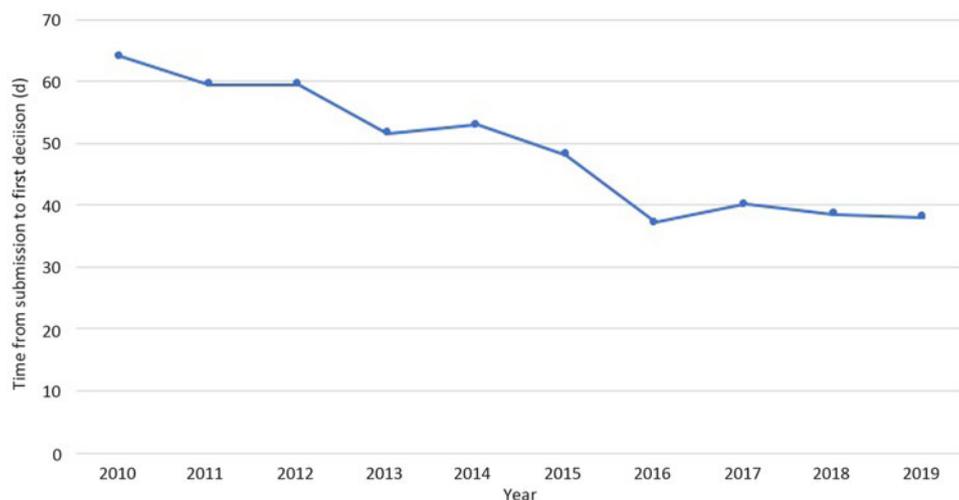
This is the first issue of 2020, the end of a decade or the beginning, depending on how one counts. Nonetheless, it is an appropriate time to reflect back on how the journal has changed over the past 10 years. The biggest change has been the switch from Allen Press to Cambridge University Press as our publisher in 2016. The editorial board has tried to keep up with publishing trends this past decade. Notable changes have included the move to a digital-only presence, the addition of more color to published articles, and the implementation of plant name notation reflecting the international nature of the journal. *Weed Science* continues to be one of the premier journals in the discipline and in the agronomic sciences. The editorial board and the staff strive to improve the efficiency of the publication process and improve the scope of the journal. *Weed Science* seeks to publish more reviews and symposium articles.

For the 12 months preceding September 1, 2019, 221 manuscripts were submitted to *Weed Science* compared with 231 in the previous 12-month period. Of the manuscripts submitted, 37% were accepted compared with 39% the previous year. The time from submission to first decision was 38.1 days this past year compared with 38.5 days for the previous year. The time from submission to first decision has been reduced by 40% since 2010 (Figure 1). To illustrate how the 38.1 days of the review process break out, I have included a flow diagram showing the time for each step in the editorial process (Figure 2). We continually strive to improve turn-around time during reviews as well as after manuscript acceptance.

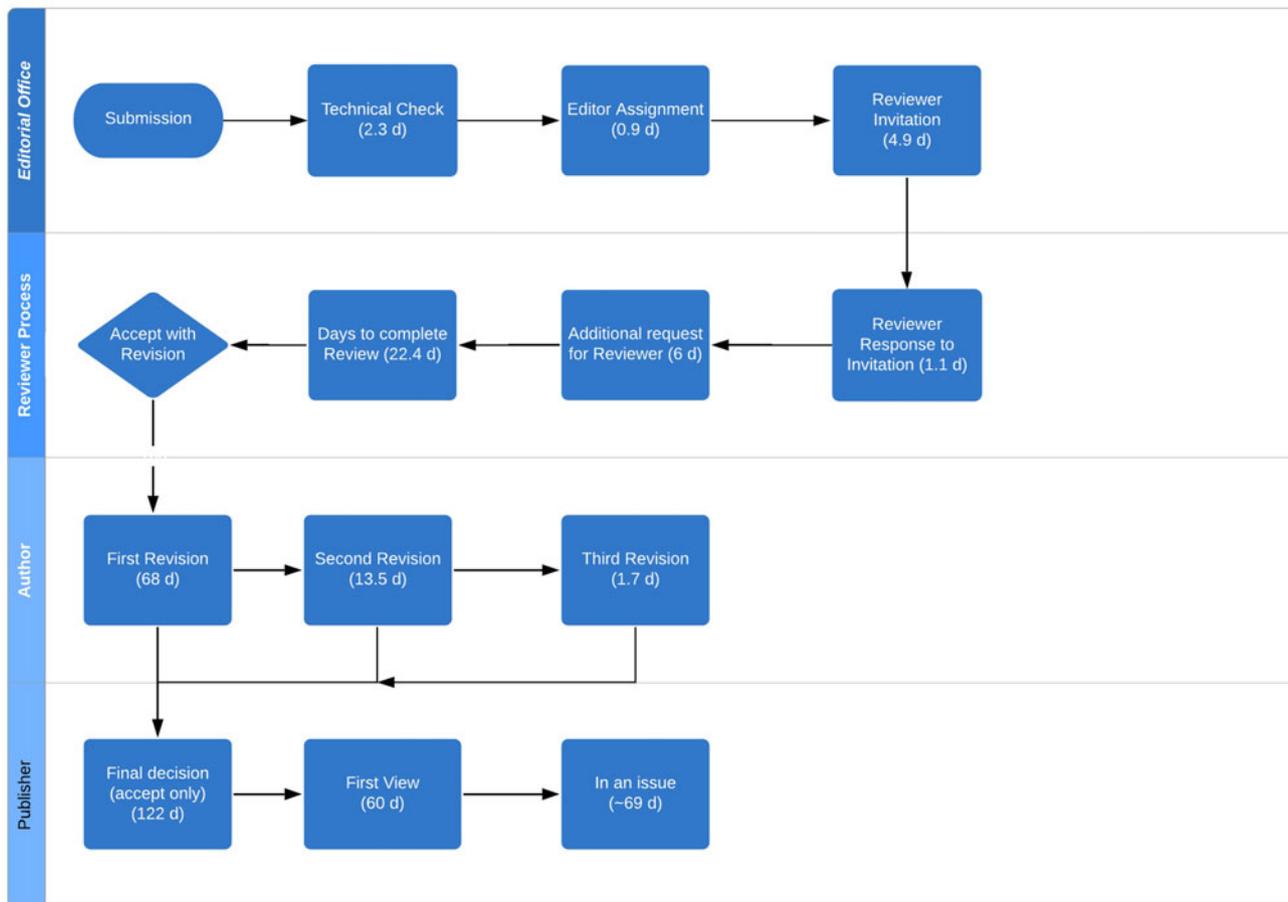
The impact factor for *Weed Science* was 2.00 in 2019, down slightly from the 2.004 mark this past year. The 5-year impact factor also declined from 2.351 to 2.301. Over the past 10 years, the single-year and 5-year impact factors have been positive (Figure 3).

It has been interesting to see how submissions have changed over the past 10 years (Figure 4). In 2010, 42% of submissions came from the United States and 53% were from North America. This past year, submissions from the United States and China were almost at parity (32% vs. 31%). Two-thirds of submissions to *Weed Science* are from international researchers.

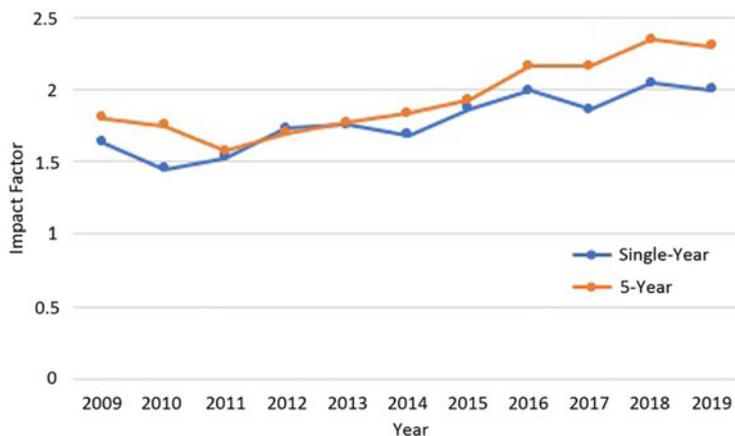
For the year preceding September 1, 2019, the journal depended on 267 unique reviewers. Each year, approximately 800 to 900 reviewers are invited to review manuscripts for *Weed Science*. Figure 5 shows values for the percentages who accept, decline, or are uninvited (no response within 4 days). The excellent reputation of the journal would not be possible without the cutting-edge research submitted by authors and the diligent work of the editorial board and the hundreds of referred reviews that are submitted annually. I wish to thank the members of the editorial board and reviewers for their efforts this past year.



**Figure 1.** This figure shows time from submission to first decision (d). Data from Editorial Manager.



**Figure 2.** Workflow showing average time (d) for each step of the editorial process from submission through review and revision to appearance in a released issue. Data from Editorial Manager.



**Figure 3.** The single-year and 5-year impact factors for *Weed Science* from 2010 to 2019. Data from Journal Citation Reports.

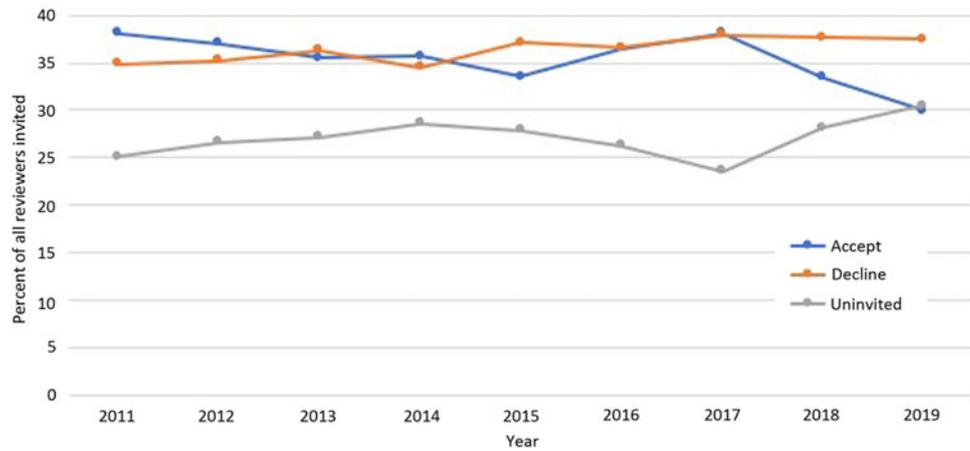


Figure 4. The percentage of invited reviewers who accept, decline, or are uninvited (no response within 4 days of invitation).

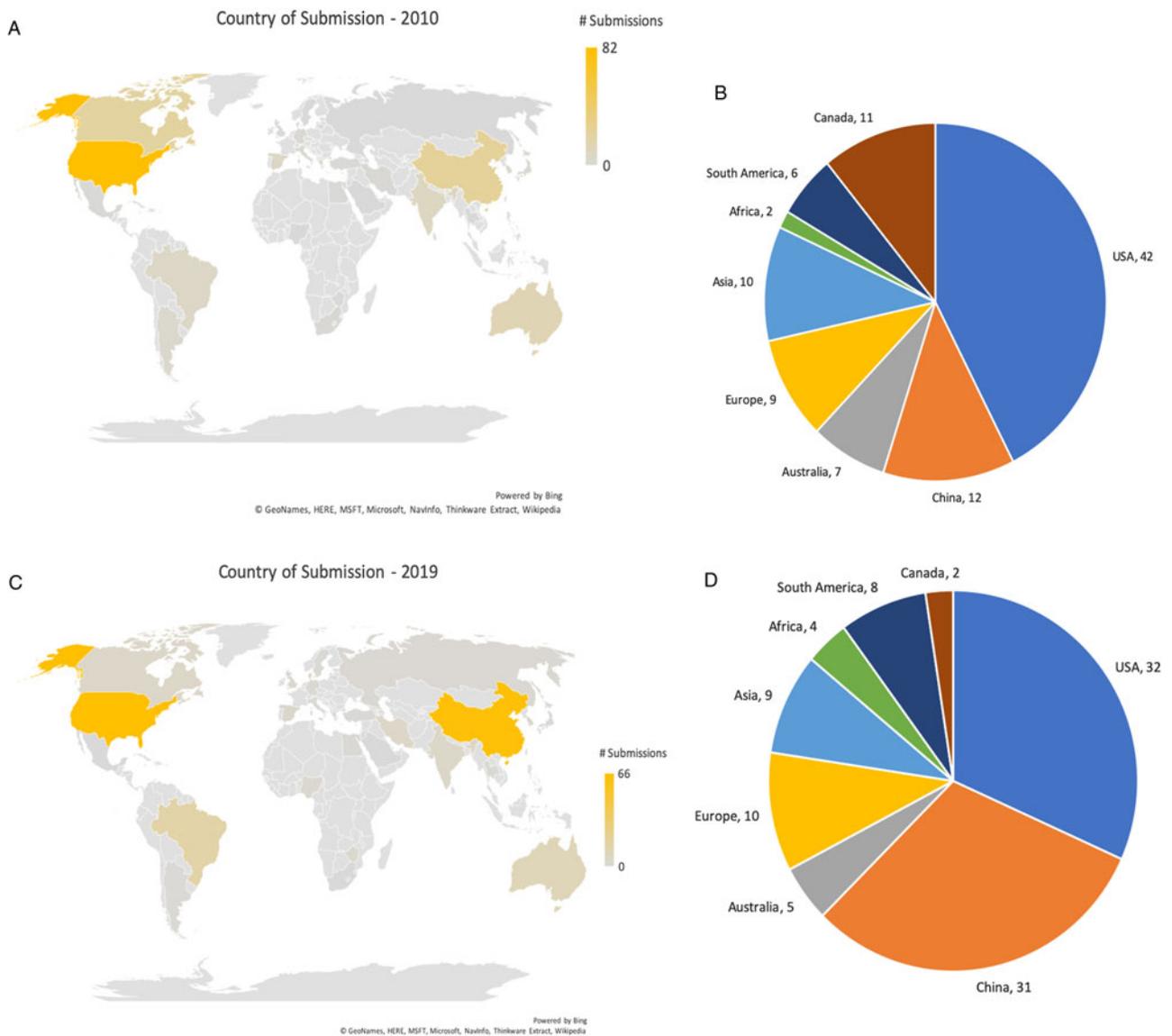


Figure 5. Maps of distribution of country of submission in (A) 2010 and (C) 2019 and pie charts showing distribution of submissions from regions of the world in (B) 2010 and (D) 2019 (values are percent).

*Editorial Board 2019*

Muthukumar V. Bagavathiannan  
 Ian Burke  
 Carlene Chase  
 Bhagirath Chauhan  
 Sharon Clay  
 Franck E. Dayan  
 Timothy L. Grey  
 Marie Jasieniuk  
 Prashant Jha  
 Mathila Jugulam  
 Ramon Leon  
 Sara Martin  
 Vijay Nandula  
 Chris Preston  
 Dean Riechers  
 Hilary Sandler  
 Steven Seefeldt  
 Patrick J. Tranel  
 Te-Ming Paul Tseng  
 Martin M. Williams II  
 Chenxi Wu

*Weed Science Reviewers October 1, 2018–September 30, 2019*

Albert Tetteh Adjesiwor  
 Markus Albert  
 James V. Anderson  
 Lars W. J. Anderson  
 Andre Andres  
 Jeffrey L. Atkinson  
 Albert O. Ayeni  
 Elham Badalzadeh  
 Lianyang Bai  
 Sanjeev K. Bangarwa  
 Barbara Baraibar  
 Suma Basak  
 Nicholas Tuschak Basinger  
 Carol Baskin  
 Travis Bean  
 Hugh J. Beckie  
 Roland Beffa  
 Kimberly D. Belfry  
 Chris Benedict  
 Lori K. Benoit  
 Thierry Eric Besancon  
 Christian Bohren  
 Raven Bough  
 Lynn P. Brandenberger  
 Whitney Brim-DeForest  
 John Broster  
 Caio Augusto Brunharo  
 Jessica R. Bugg  
 John Tyler Buol  
 Nilda R. Burgos  
 Charles W. Cahoon  
 Zhe Cao  
 Caio Antonio Carbonari  
 Federico Casale  
 Jesus M. Castillo  
 Andrea Cavalieri  
 Buddhika Sampath Chamara

Rakesh S. Chandran  
 Guillermo Ruben Chantre  
 Sushila Chaudhari  
 Michael J. Christoffers  
 Zhang Chuanjie  
 Mark Andrew Czarnota  
 Caleb D. Dalley  
 Henri Darmency  
 Malay Das  
 Antonio DiTommaso  
 Peter J. Dittmar  
 Jonathan Castel Djietror  
 Liyao Dong  
 Stephen Duke  
 Robert Edwards  
 Ryan James Edwards  
 Yan-ming Fang  
 Brandon Fast  
 Rodrigo Figueroa  
 Michael L. Flessner  
 Nicholas Fradgley  
 Todd A. Gaines  
 Zahoor A. Ganie  
 Travis W. Gannon  
 John F. Gaskin  
 Charles M. Geddes  
 Hossein Ghanizadeh  
 Javid Gherekhloo  
 Sambuddha Ghosal  
 Darci Giacomini  
 Gurjeet S. Gill  
 Rakesh Kumar Godara  
 Danica Goggin  
 Robin Gomez  
 Jared J. Goplen  
 Greta Gramig  
 Michael Gribskov  
 Jose Guerrero Casado  
 Dustin Haines  
 Devin Hammer  
 Stuart Patrick Hardegree  
 Nick T. Harre  
 Timothy Brian Harrington  
 Robert G. Hartzler  
 Gerald Matthew Henry  
 Jerri Lynn Henry  
 Erin C. Hill  
 David P. Horvath  
 Jordi Izquierdo  
 Randa Jabbour  
 David H. Johnson  
 Christopher Johnston  
 Mithila Jugulam  
 Do-Soon Kim  
 Jennifer Kimball  
 Kirsten Kirsten Tørresen  
 Nicholas E. Korres  
 Hansjoerg Kraehmer  
 Robert J. Kremer  
 Greg Kruger  
 Vipam Kumar

Martin Laforest  
 Sarah Lancaster  
 Dandan Li  
 Steve Li  
 Matt Liebman  
 Inigo Loureiro  
 Carolyn J. Lowry  
 Drew J. Lyon  
 Rong Ma  
 Mayank S. Malik  
 Carol A. Mallory-Smith  
 Buddhi Marambe  
 Joseph H. Massey  
 Glenn Matlack  
 Lambert B. McCarty  
 Joseph Scott McElroy  
 Alexander Menegat  
 Mohsen B. Mesgaran  
 Stephen L. Meyers  
 Lindsey Milbrath  
 M. Ryan Miller  
 Marcelo L. Moretti  
 Brent Murphy  
 Paul Neve  
 Scott Jay Nissen  
 Dennis Calvin Odera  
 Rubem S. Oliveira Jr.  
 Emmanuel Omondi  
 O. Adewale Osipitan  
 Aaron Patton  
 William Louis Patzoldt  
 Ronald Edward Peachey  
 Thomas Peters  
 Andrew Jennings Price  
 Rita Pupaliené  
 Sheng Qiang  
 Sandeep Singh Rana  
 Dawn Refsell  
 Emilie E. Regnier  
 Karen A. Renner  
 Daniel B. Reynolds  
 Dilpreet Singh Riar  
 Patrick Rich  
 Sonia Rios  
 Christopher Rouse  
 Joyful Tatenda Rugare  
 Steven Maina Runo  
 Elvira Sahuquillo  
 Laura Scarabel  
 Brian J. Schutte  
 Lauren M. Schwartz-Lazaro  
 Scott A. Senseman

Rose Sepesy  
 Shaun Michael Sharpe  
 Anil Shrestha  
 Marie-Josée Simard  
 Vijay Singh  
 Reid J. Smeda  
 Nader Soltani  
 Gayle J. Somerville  
 B. K. Song  
 Yao-Bin Song  
 Lynn Sosnoskie  
 Josef Soukup  
 Douglas J. Spaunhorst  
 Shandrea Stallworth  
 Patrick Steel  
 Tracy M. Sterling  
 David E. Stoltenberg  
 Harry John Strek  
 Nithya Subramanian  
 Hudson Kagueyama Takano  
 François J. Tardif  
 John Teasdale  
 N. Teimouri  
 Nishanth Tharayil  
 Breanne Tidemann  
 Joel Torra Farré  
 Gray Turnage  
 John M. Wallace  
 Michael Walsh  
 Jin Xin Wang  
 Minmin Wang  
 Sarah Ward  
 Shouhui Wei  
 Sheryl Wells  
 Rodrigo Werle  
 James H. Westwood  
 Scott Neil White  
 Christian J. Willenborg  
 Margaret Worthington  
 Hanwen Wu  
 Hao Wu  
 R. Joseph Wuerffel  
 Marcos Ezequiel Yannicari  
 Melinda Yerka  
 Bryan G. Young  
 Stephen L. Young

## Reference

2018 Journal Citation Reports Science Edition (2019) New York: Thomson Reuters.