

A letter from the new Editor,

It is with great pleasure that I write this first letter as editor-in-chief of the Turkish Journal of Botany. For years, I have benefited from this journal in many ways as a reader, author, referee, and member of the advisory board. I consider my selection as editor of the Turkish Journal of Botany, a prestigious journal in Turkey and the region, a great honour. I hereby acknowledge the efforts of the previous editors, Prof. Dr. Hayri Duman, Prof. Dr. Adil Güner, and Prof. Dr. Ekrem Sezik, whose valuable contributions have brought the journal to its current level. I thank the publisher (TÜBİTAK) for giving me the opportunity to take up this important job. I also wish to thank the management and staff of the Academic Publications Department for their hard work in preparing, typesetting, and publishing this journal.

Since January 1, 2009, the Turkish Journal of Botany has been indexed in the Science Citation Index (SCI) Expanded. Hereafter, I will work to raise the impact factor of the journal and the number of highly publishable papers that are submitted by authors from Turkey and other countries.

It takes too long to process the manuscripts submitted by mail to the Turkish Journal of Botany. This type of submission might make authors impatient and result in their searching for alternative journals to submit their papers to. In the near future, the journal will use a full electronic submission system, and the manuscripts will be processed and reviewed in a very short time.

Publishing manuscripts written by the editor-in-chief in this journal is not appropriate in terms of scientific ethics and the rules of TÜBİTAK. However, before my assignment to this post, my two manuscripts written with my colleagues were accepted by the previous editor (Prof. Dr. Hayri Duman) and they will be published in this issue.

I am confident that authors will continue to submit their manuscripts to the Turkish Journal of Botany related to different areas of botany that are high in quality at both national level and international level. As the new editor of the journal, I have no doubt that the scientific quality of the manuscripts that will be published in the journal will increase even further through the contributions of loyal readers, authors, devoted referees, and the journal's management.

Prof. Dr. Ahmet DURAN
Editor-in-Chief