

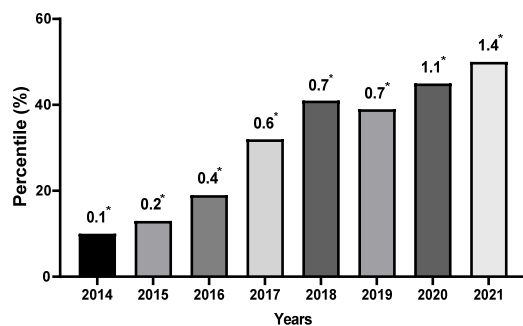
## Commemorating the 14th Anniversary of the *Jordan Journal of Biological Sciences*

Laith Al-Eitan\*

*Department of Biotechnology and Genetic Engineering, Jordan University of Science and Technology, 22110 Irbid, Jordan*

This year we commemorate the 14th anniversary of the *Jordan Journal of Biological Sciences (JJBS)*. The journal was launched by The Hashemite University with the support of the Ministry of Higher Education & Scientific Research and the Scientific Research Support Fund. The first volume (Volume 1) was published and edited in 2008 by the Editor-in-Chief then, Professor Khaled Abu-Elteen, and consisted of four issues and twenty-eight articles. The journal continued to be published yearly by the Deanship of Research and Graduate Studies, The Hashemite University. The 2021 volume (Volume 14) consisted of five issues and 129 articles with a noticeable increase in the number of articles. This occasion offers us the opportunity to gratefully look back and consider what the *JJBS* has achieved as well as to move forward and strengthen the approaches that will bring about more success. The Editorial Board of the *JJBS* is fully devoted to making the journal one of the top international publications in biological sciences. In order to build the journal's reputation on a global scale, it is anticipated that significant resources will be invested in with governmental and local support. Moreover, the journal carefully selects the submitted manuscripts to meet standards of academic excellence and general criteria of significance.

The *JJBS* was accredited as a globally rated and refereed journal in the Scopus Indexed Journal list in 2014. In the period from 2014 - 2021, the journal has witnessed an improvement in quality and scientific standing, as it moved from a Q4-rated journal to a Q2-rated journal (Figure 1). Furthermore, the impact factor and the cite scores were 1.07 and 1.4, respectively, in 2021. When compared to 2020, there has been an increase by a factor of 0.21 and an estimated percentage change of 24.42%, indicating an upward trend.



**Figure 1.** Increasing growth in the quality of *Jordan Journal of Biological Sciences* based on Scopus Indexed standards. \* Cite score.

Despite the obvious increase in the quality and international scientific standing of the *JJBS*, more effort and organization should be performed to enhance the international prestige of the journal. Herein, I offer some suggestions to increase the standards adopted for the journal. Attracting as many articles as possible depends on several criteria, most notably providing a variety of formatting options and expanding the journal's scope. Informative and obvious scope and titles and enabling authors to submit their work within diverse formatting options can attract more submissions and result in more reads. Commitment to firm and clear ethical principles and policies and processes are required in selecting manuscripts. This will certainly improve the credibility of the journal, locally and globally, and will also increase its value. An effective and clear review system that shortens turnaround times leads to attracting more submissions. Moreover, publishing several types of articles including review papers, meta-analysis articles, systematic articles, case studies, and others could expand the journal's scope, draw readers, and increase citations. Finally, launching an international conference annually in the field of biological sciences under the title "New Trends in Biological Sciences" supported by the *JJBS* will enhance the journal's feasibility and reputation, locally and internationally.

Finally, I would like to express my appreciation to the former editors, reviewers, authors and readers who have assisted the journal throughout the years. Working in the journal is considered as a team effort, and I have the privilege as a member of the Editorial Board to collaborate with committed, enthusiastic and motivated colleagues from different Jordanian Universities. I want, on behalf of the journal, to express my gratitude to the current Associate Editor, Dr. Muhannad Massadeh, the Associate Editorial Board and the International Advisory Board for their dedication to science and serious work. Special thanks go to the current Editor-in-Chief Professor Manar Atoum for her dedicated and significant work to organize and develop the journal. Thanks are also extended to The Hashemite University and the supporting entities represented by the Ministry of Higher Education & Scientific Research and the Scientific Research Support Fund for this outstanding national achievement.

\* Corresponding author. e-mail: lneitan@just.edu.jo.