

LETTER FROM THE EDITOR:
EDITORIAL BOARD CHANGES AND JOURNAL CITATION REPORT

Pascual J.J.

Editor in chief

Editorial Board changes

I would like to begin by expressing my deepest gratitude to the Associate Editors who have left the Editorial Board of **World Rabbit Science** in the last year: **Dr. Steven Lukefahr** and **Dr. Dominique Licois**. Their efficient and selfless dedication to the Editorial Office of our journal during recent years is beyond praise.

At the beginning of 2009, our immediate past President at the World Rabbit Science Association took on a new position within the organisation as General Secretary for Developing Countries. The Editorial Office of **World Rabbit Science** accepted his resignation as Associate Editor of the Genetics Section so he could devote more of his available time to this new role. For a completely different reason, our last Associate Editor of the Pathology Section retired in July, also resigning from his **World Rabbit Science** duties to enjoy a well-deserved rest.

Although it is not easy to replace these outstanding scientists, the Editorial Office of **World Rabbit Science**, in collaboration with the Editorial Board has tried to find two new young Editors for these Sections while respecting the opinions of both the outgoing Associate Editors and the members of the World Rabbit Science Association Board. We evaluated not only outstanding scientific prowess, but also the dedication of both individuals and their Institutions to rabbit science.

Thus, we are delighted to welcome the new Associate Editor of the Genetics Section, **Dr. Herve Garreau** from the Station d'Amelioration Genetique des Animaux of the INRA (Toulouse, France) and the new Associate Editor of the Pathology Section, **Dr. Didier Marlier** from the Clinique Aviaire, des Rongeurs et des Lagomorphes of the Université de Liège (Liège, Belgique), whose contribution will ensure that **World Rabbit Science** continues to be a point of reference in rabbit science.

World Rabbit Science in the Journal Citation Report

Journal Citation Reports® has also recently published the 2008 indexes for the journals included in this citation source data. As you will be aware, **World Rabbit Science** was included in the "Agriculture, Dairy and Animal Science" category of the Journal Citation Reports® in 2007, along with a further 45 journals publishing animal science research and providing information on the relevance of papers published in **World Rabbit Science** since its inclusion in the Science Citation Index at the beginning of 2005.

The Editorial Board are therefore delighted to announce that **World Rabbit Science** has improved its Impact Factor from 0.574 for 2007 to 0.863 for 2008, confirming its positioning in the second third of the

“Agriculture, Dairy and Animal Science” Category in position 25 of 45. The Editorial Office believes that this may be considered “a good result” as the average Impact Factor for this Category has increased by 32% (+0.22 points) in the last year but **World Rabbit Science** has observed even greater improvement of 50% (+0.28 points).

Calculation of World Rabbit Science Impact Factor for 2008.

Cites in 2008 to articles published in:	2007 = 17	Number of articles published in:	2007 = 25
	2005 = 27		2006 = 26
	Sum: 44		Sum: 51

Calculation: Cites to recent articles: $\frac{44}{51} = 0.863$
 Number of recent articles: 51

In addition, the Immediacy Index, that indicates how quickly articles in a journal are cited and calculated by dividing the number of citations to articles published in a given year by the number of articles published in that year, has also improved from 0.088 for 2007 to 0.179 for 2008, indicating that the availability and/or interest in the articles published in **World Rabbit Science** are also increasing.

To further enhance these positions, the Editorial Office of **World Rabbit Science** has planned a series of actions to promote the rapid accessibility of the papers published in our journal, including assigning DOIs to each article, including an “in the press” section that appears as “Volume 0” on the website, the introduction of the article metadata in RiuNET (Open Access Repository of the Universidad Polit cnica de Valencia) which promotes exceptional positioning on the major search engines (Google, Altavista, MSN...), and to try to eliminate the journal restrictions in the future to make it an Open Access Journal.

Finally, I would like to thank you for your loyalty in continuing to obtain and disseminate rabbit science knowledge.



Juan Jos  Pascual
 Editor-in-chief