Choices References Guidelines

The “For More Information:” section of your article is used to list any articles you cited in the text. You may also list any works you did not cite specifically but that might provide more information for an interested reader.

The reference section must be easy to access and manipulate or edit by subsequent editors who will review your article before publication. Therefore, do not “insert text box” or use other software that impacts how the reference section can be formatted or edited. Each inclusion in the reference section should be created in the same manner in which you wrote your article (i.e., in Times New Roman, 12 point font, flush left, ragged right.) Before your article is published, the second and subsequent lines of each reference will be indented. Authors do not have to do this formatting of the reference section before submitting the article.

In general, references should follow the American Journal of Agricultural Economics (AJAE) style, including parenthetical references (author, date) in the text as needed, with the following exceptions or reminders:

In-text website citations are allowed. However, the full citations for the website must also be included in the For More Information section so that people printing a hard-copy of the article can also reference the site. See below for an example.

- Do not use ampersands (&) in a list of authors. Instead, please use the word “and”.

- Do not use abbreviations for departments (i.e., Agr. Econ. Dept. should be spelled out as Agricultural Economics Department) or agencies (i.e. USDA should appear as U.S. Department of Agriculture.)

For your reference, the key AJAE guidelines are listed below.

AJAE Reference Guide for use in Choices

List all references at the end of your article, alphabetized by authors’ last names, at the end of the manuscript in a section titled For More Information. This material should be double-spaced. Do not use et al. in the reference section. (When citing works in text, use et al. only when a work has four or more authors.) Then, in the reference section, cite all of the authors.

For journal articles, include the issue number or month (see below) for journals that do not number pages consecutively throughout a volume (e.g., Journal of Economic Perspectives). Cite articles in American Economic Review and American Economic Review: Papers and Proceedings (May issues of AER) distinctly.

Please use the examples below to determine the correct format used in this section. If you have any questions about this, please contact Choices Editors.
Book with 1 author:

Book with 2 authors:

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Wold, H., J. Smith, and L. Jureen. Year. The Viability…

Forthcoming book:

Author and editor:

Editor as author:

Paper delivered at a meeting and not published:

Article in a book:

Article in a journal that numbers pages consecutively throughout the year (Be sure page numbers of articles are included.):

Article in process:
If publication year is known, use:

If publication year is not known, use:

Article in a journal that uses an issue number rather than a volume number or article in a journal that begins numbering at p. 1 in each issue:


**Article in a popular magazine.**

**Forthcoming magazine article:**

**Newspaper article with known writer**

**Newspaper article without writer designation**

**If two or more books or articles are by the same author or authors, list them alphabetically by title, not chronologically. DO NOT use a 3-em dash if author name(s) appear exactly the same in the second instance. Spell out the complete author or authors in subsequent listings.:**


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State Agricultural Experiment station bulletin:

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*Example:*

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