

Enhancing the Science of Agricultural Development: The 2026 State of the Journal Report

T. G. Roberts¹, Editor-in-Chief; A. Harder², Senior Editor; J. R. Lindner³, Senior Editor

Abstract

This is the annual state of the journal report for *Advancements in Agricultural Development*. 2025 was another great year for AAD. First, we experimented with novel methods to elevate the digital presence of research published in AAD. Second, we held our second symposium. Third, we refined several policies to provide greater clarity for our authors. Fourth, we have implemented a new way of recognizing the best articles published each year.

Article History

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Notable Accomplishments

Dr. Jamie Loizzo from the University of Florida is our Digital Dissemination Editor. Through her work with Streaming Science (<https://streamingscience.com/>), she has tested narrated research summaries and AI-enhanced social media to broaden the dissemination of AAD articles. Be sure to follow us on Facebook, X, and LinkedIn to check out the innovations that she is testing. In addition to our social media presence, we also achieved an all-time high in terms of article views and downloads from the AAD website (see statistics later in this article).

We hosted our second symposium, centered on the theme of “*Applications of Artificial Intelligence and Digital Technologies in Agricultural Development Research and Practice*,” co-hosted by the University College Dublin School of Agriculture and Food Science, on October 13 and 14, 2025. Invited experts from Auburn University, Digital Green, Harper Adams University, International Food Policy Research Institute, the University of Florida, University College Dublin, and Utah State University shared papers that advanced our understanding of the role of these emerging technologies in our extension and teaching efforts. We would like to thank Professor

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 3. James R. Lindner, Auburn University, 5058 Haley Center, Auburn, AL 36849, jrl0039@auburn.edu,  <https://orcid.org/0000-0002-1448-38464>.

Jim Kinsella and his colleagues for their warm hospitality. The papers from the symposium will soon be published in a special issue of the journal.

AAD also continually monitors our policies and adjusts to meet changing conditions. Recent changes include:

- We have refined our expectations for what must be included in the Acknowledgements section of a manuscript. We now require:
 - Funding Information
 - Conflict of Interest
 - Previous Dissemination
 - Artificial Intelligence Usage
 - Author Contributions Statement
- We are refining our review criteria to ensure that accepted articles meet our expectations for impact.

AAD also launched a job board (<https://agdevresearch.org/index.php/aad/jobs>) to provide a platform for employers to post academic, government, NGO, and industry jobs that focus on education, extension, human capacity building, diffusion of innovations, leadership, and communication in the context of food, agriculture, and natural resources. We continue to look forward to connecting employers with prospective employees.

Article Recognition

In 2025, we introduced a new recognition for outstanding articles published each year, designated as Articles of Distinction. These articles were selected based on a nomination from one of our editors and then a review by the rest of the editors. Please join us in celebrating the great work from these researchers.

- Agole, D., Brennan, M. A., Baggett, C. D., Ewing, J. C., Crump, A., & Wacal, C. (2025). Determinants of food security status among young farmers with and without disabilities. *Advancements in Agricultural Development*, 6(2), 1–13. <https://doi.org/10.37433/aad.v6i2.567>
- DiBenedetto, C. A., Ferand, N. K., Roberts, R., McKim, A. J., Robison, R. L., Dale, L., & Myers, B. E. (2025). Agriscience teachers beliefs about STEM illumination after an immersive professional development experience: A Q Sort study. *Advancements in Agricultural Development*, 6(3), 27–40. <https://doi.org/10.37433/aad.v6i3.607>
- Dunphy, N., Kearney, S., & Flannery, S. (2025). Behavioural drivers and barriers for adopting climate mitigation actions on dairy farms. *Advancements in Agricultural Development*, 6(4), 32–49. <https://doi.org/10.37433/aad.v6i4.583>

Our most cited article, based on lifetime Crossref citations, is now:

- Lindner, J. R., & Lindner, N. (2024). Interpreting Likert type, summated, unidimensional, and attitudinal scales: I neither agree nor disagree, Likert or not. *Advancements in Agricultural Development*, 5(2), 152–163. <https://doi.org/10.37433/aad.v5i2.351>

Most downloaded articles in 2025:

1. Lindner, J. R., & Lindner, N. (2024). Interpreting Likert type, summated, unidimensional, and attitudinal scales: I neither agree nor disagree, Likert or not. *Advancements in Agricultural Development*, 5(2), 152–163. <https://doi.org/10.37433/aad.v5i2.351>
2. Greig, J. A., Colclasure, B., Rampold, S., Ruth, T., & Granberry, T. (2024). Enhancing agricultural education through virtual reality: Facilitation, application, reflection, and measurement in the classroom. *Advancements in Agricultural Development*, 5(2), 64–80. <https://doi.org/10.37433/aad.v5i2.353>
3. Narine, L., & Harder, A. (2021). Comparing the Borich model with the Ranked Discrepancy Model for competency assessment: A novel approach. *Advancements in Agricultural Development*, 2(3), 96–111. <https://doi.org/10.37433/aad.v2i3.169>

AAD Personnel Updates

Our team at AAD is critical to providing the highest quality experiences for our authors and readers. This year, Ms. Sarah McCord from Texas A&M University and Ms. Luci Searels from the University of Florida joined us as editorial assistants. Dr. Juan Montealegre (University of Florida) completed his PhD and completed his service as an editorial assistant. We also wish to thank our Editorial Board members, who have provided excellent advice on managing the journal. We especially want to thank our reviewers from 2025 (listed at the end of this report).

Journal Statistics

	2022	2023	2024	2025
Journal Usage				
Article Views	20,515	29,098	49,197	71,601
Article Downloads	11,378	16,238	29,492	54,055
Total	31,893	45,336	78,659	125,656
Editorial Processes				
Total Submissions Received	44	58	58	47
Overall Acceptance Rate	37%	46.5%	33%	36.2%
Accepted on Initial Submission	4.5%	1.7%	4.4%	2.1%
Accepted after Revisions	32.5%	44.8%	28.6%	34.1%
Days to First Editorial Decision	29	25	39	21
Days to Accept	139	87	130	107
Days to Reject	76	46	101	36
Days from Accept to Publication	38	18	15	20
Google Scholar Metrics				
h5 index			10	13
h5 median			13	17

Peer Reviewers in 2025

Again, we wish to thank and acknowledge the valuable contributions of the reviewers listed below. They play a critical role in the research process. If you are not currently a reviewer for AAD and wish to become one, please contact the Editor in Chief.

Jaehyun Ahn, University of Florida
Amanda Ali, Utah State University
Anna Ball, University of Illinois
Debra Barry, University of Florida
Amy Brown, Montana Space Grant Consortium
J. C. Bunch, University of Florida
Sarah Bush, University of Florida
Ataharul Chowdhury, University of Guelph
Kellie Claffin, The Ohio State University
Chris Clemans, Auburn University
Adam Cletzer, Auburn University
Nathan Conner, University of Nebraska
Dan Croom, University of Georgia
John Diaz, University of Florida
Catherine DiBenedetto, Clemson University
Chris Estep, University of Arkansas
Sebastian Galindo, University of Florida
Monica Gorman, University College Dublin
Tyler Granberry, University of Tennessee
Patterson Hilaire, Mississippi Forestry Commission
Paul Hill, Utah State University
Jay Jayaratne, North Carolina State University
Don Johnson, University of Arkansas
Eliot Jones, IFPRI
James Kinsella, University College Dublin
Hamad Kioumars, Agricultural Research, Education and Extension Organization AREEO (Iran)
Jawoo Koo, IFPRI
Vikram Koundinya, University of California-Davis
Pablo Lamino, University of Florida
Fallys Masambuka-Kanchewa, Iowa State University
Karen McGrath, University College Dublin
Jason McKibben, Auburn University
Jenny Melo Velasco, Huella Delta
Alesha Miller, Digital Green
Stephen Mukembo, University of Missouri
Lendel Narine, Utah State University
William Norris, New Mexico State University

Shuyang Qu, Iowa State University
Kristopher Rankin, New Mexico State University
Kameron Rinehart, Austin Peay State University
David Rose, Harper Adams University
Tomás Russell, University College Dublin
Taylor Ruth, University of Tennessee
Quisto Settle, Oklahoma State University
Scott Smalley, Iowa State University
Sarah Sprayberry, University of Kentucky
Nicole Stedman, University of Florida
Brooke Thiel, North Dakota State University
Marcelo Wallau, University of Florida
Kelly Wilson, University of Missouri
Austin Wise, University of Nebraska
Ashley Yopp, Florida Department of Education

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