State of the Journal Report

G. Roberts[1], Editor-in-Chief; A. Harder[2], Senior Editor; J. Lindner[3], Senior Editor

Advancements in Agricultural Development (*AAD*) was started to address a need for a scholarly journal focused on the practical outcomes of research in agricultural development research. We have just concluded our second year of operation at *AAD* and want to share some reflections on the past and goals for the future. We wish to thank the authors and reviewers who have contributed to *AAD* over this time (see the reviewer list at the end of this report). We also wish to acknowledge and thank the Department of Curriculum and Teaching at Auburn University for their financial support of *AAD*. We also wish to thank our editorial assistants (Katrina Alford, Olivia Caillouet, Andy Chaparro, & Alexandria McLeod) who work behind the scenes to make things run smoothly.

Articles and Authorship

Issues in agriculture are often time-sensitive, so we sought from the beginning of *AAD* to develop a timely review/publication process to allow quicker dissemination of research. The number of published articles in AAD has slightly increased while the number of submissions is increasing (see Table 1). We anticipate a 25% increase in the number of published articles in 2022. Consequently, we will be adding a fourth issue beginning in Volume 3. We have also recently recruited Dr. Robert Strong from Texas A&M University as an Editor to assist with the review process, who brings prior experience as the Executive Editor of the *Journal of International Agricultural and Extension Education* to the *AAD* team. The breadth of contributing authors to *AAD* continues to expand. For Volumes 1 and 2 (50 articles), there were 135 unique authors from 33 universities and 5 countries.

Table 1

Published Articles in AAD

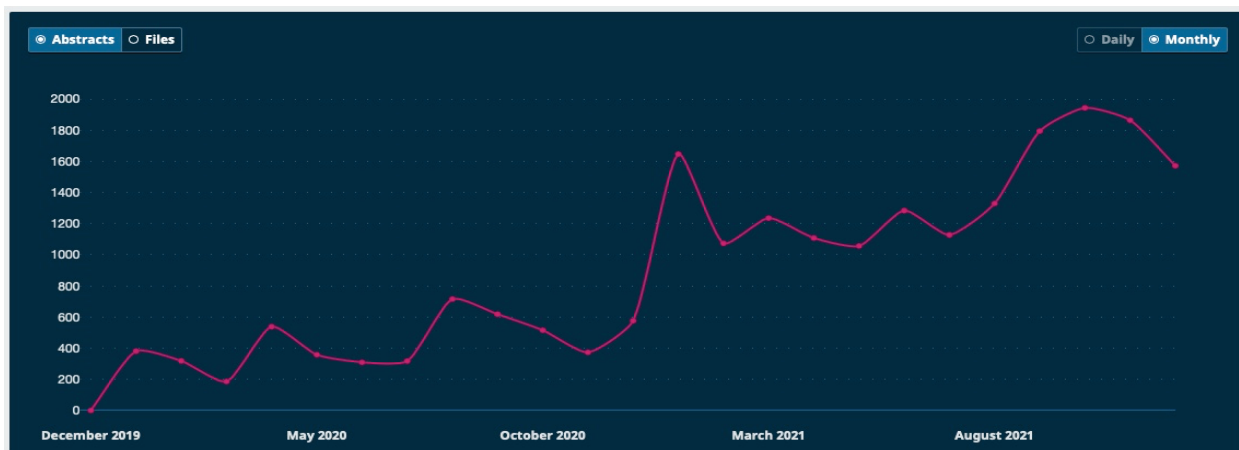| Volume (Year)	Issue	Number of articles published
1 (2020)	1	8
	2	7
	3	8
2 (2021)	1	8
	2	10
	3	9

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Consumption and Usage

The number of people consuming research published in *AAD* is expanding. The number of views for articles has been trending upwards (see Figure 1). The number of citations for articles in *AAD* is also increasing. The *Cited By* and *Plum X Analytics* features we installed on our web platform allow authors see how their research is being used. To further expand how research published in *AAD* is disseminated, we have launched Facebook (@agdevresearch) and Twitter (@agdevresearch) accounts to announce newly published research and to highlight previous research published in *AAD*.

Figure 1

Article Views in AAD

Metadata and Indexing

We are continually working to make research in *AAD* more discoverable by the larger scientific community. We submit the complete metadata to Crossref, which includes the full abstract, references, and funding information for each article. Including the references means that articles published in *AAD* are linked with the articles they cited and will show up in the *cited by* sections on other publisher's pages.

Indexing is an important part of making research in *AAD* even more discoverable. *AAD* is currently indexed in the *Directory of Open Access Journals (DOAJ)*, *Google Scholar*, *ROAD*, and *Ulrichs*. Our goal is to be indexed in *Scopus* and the *Web of Science*, both of which require a documented history of the impacts of the journal. We proactively taking steps to position *AAD* for inclusion in these prestigious indices to increase visibility of research published in *AAD*.

Looking Ahead

The editorial team at *AAD* continually works to meet the needs of researchers in our field. As we look into 2022 and beyond, our goals are to:
1.   continually refine our editorial process to meet researcher needs;
2.   attract research from the global agricultural development community;
3.   add features to our web-platform to enhance the author and reader experience; and
4.   position *AAD* for inclusion in *Scopus* and the *Web of Science.*

2020 and 2021 Reviewers

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