



## EDITORIAL 2018: The *Croatian Journal of Fisheries: Ribarstvo* 80<sup>th</sup> Anniversary

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### ABSTRACT

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The *Croatian Journal of Fisheries* (Croat J Fish) was launched 80 years ago, in 1938, as *Ribarstvo*, so the current issue of Croat J Fish celebrates this significant event. Since 1992, the Journal was issued quarterly on a regular basis under the name *Ribarstvo*. However, in 2012 the Journal changed its name to *Croatian Journal of Fisheries: Ribarstvo* to attract more international audiences. The scope of the Journal has not changed much during its development and has mainly focused on ichthyology, aquaculture, ecology, fish pathology, marine and inland waters and other issues related to fisheries. Nowadays, the Journal tends to be a high-quality open-access scientific journal, visible online, of interest to a wide scientific community. Expanding the number of international associate editors also indicates this process. In the segment of publishing strategies, more effort is needed to increase citation activity of the Journal. The Editorial 2018 also provides information on the articles published and the list of reviewers who participated in the review process in 2017.

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## INTRODUCTION

Most scientists have little time or reason these days to be concerned with the history of scientific literature. This is understandable since scientific and technical developments are occurring so rapidly that no one working in experimental science can afford to dissipate energy looking back too far or for too long. This year marks the 80<sup>th</sup> anniversary of the founding of the *Croatian Journal of Fisheries* (Croat J Fish) and it gives us the opportunity to reflect on the past, present and future of the Journal because, as wisely said long time ago, "If we don't mark the milestones, we're just passing with the time".

### *History and development*

The history of the Journal, influence and development of fisheries profession was covered in detail in the papers by Habeković (2000) and Piria (2013). As a brief reminder, *Ribarstvo* is the direct predecessor of the present journal - Croat J Fish. The first issue of *Ribarstvo* was published in March 1938 (Fig. 1) and now, exactly 80 years later, the current issue of Croat J Fish celebrates this important event. The first issue of Croat J Fish contained 144 pages. From 1938 it was published bi-monthly and from 1992 four times a year. Over the years, the Journal changed its name several times:

1938 – 1940 Ribarstvo  
1946 – 1991 Ribarstvo Jugoslavije  
1991 – 2012 Ribarstvo  
2012 – present Croatian Journal of Fisheries: Ribarstvo



**Fig 1.** The first issue of *Ribarstvo* published in March 1938

From 1946 to 1991, the Journal was published under the name *Ribarstvo Jugoslavije*. From 1991 to 2012 it was published again under the name *Ribarstvo*, and since 2012 under the name of the *Croatian Journal of Fisheries: Ribarstvo* (Piria, 2013) (Fig. 2). Since 1960, the Journal has primarily comprised scientific and technical papers, whereas practical problems of fisheries have been removed to a special section. At the time, there was a rapid development of fisheries, as well as scientific and technical research. Since 1954 – 1991 the Journal has also partially covered the statistics of fish production in the territory of the former Yugoslavia by the national republics. In this way, the data on fish production

and farmed fish species, fish nutrition, diseases and breeding technologies was collected. The CODEN “RIBAEG”, a six character, alphanumeric bibliographic code which provides concise, unique and unambiguous identification of the titles of periodicals and non-serial publications from all subject areas, was assigned to Croat J Fish in 1992. Back in 1999 Croat J Fish was first presented to the world in digital form and was uploaded to the World Wide Web by the former Editor-in-Chief, Marina Piria (Habeković, 2000).

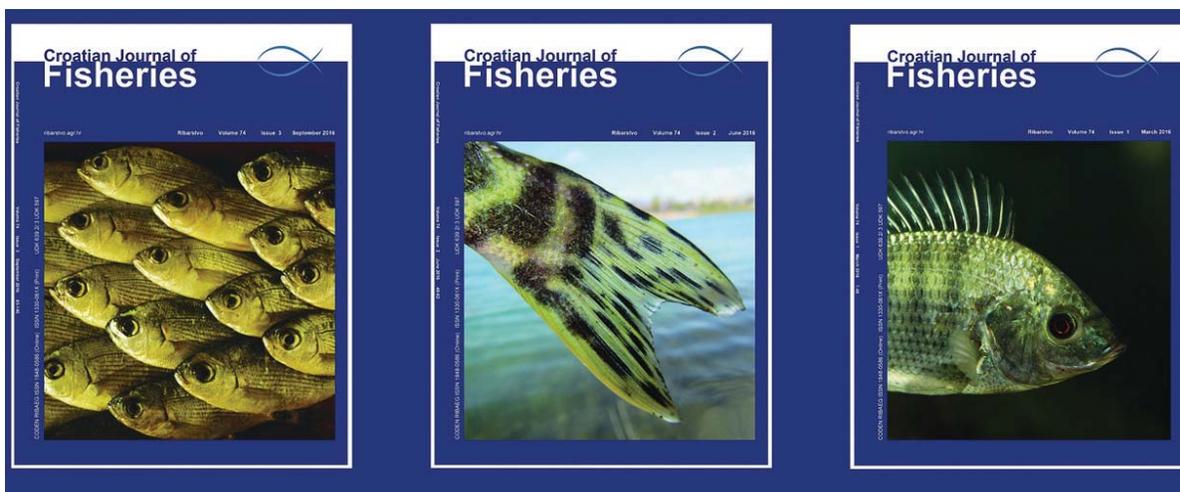
In general, published articles mostly focused on solving problems in freshwater fisheries, open waters, recreational fishing and mariculture. New tools and techniques have been described to answer biological questions at all levels, while theoretical studies have provided a comprehensive framework for explanations of variation in fish morphology, physiology and behaviour.

### *Journal progress and goals*

The way in which the Journal has developed, altered and thrived has recently been described (Piria et al., 2015; Matulić, et al., 2016; Matulić and Tomljanović, 2017).

Over 2/3 of the papers accepted last year come from overseas, which emphasises the international appeal the Journal has achieved. However, it is scientific quality which is of prime importance to the *Croatian Journal of Fisheries* and its readers. Along with the bases in which it has already been present, Croat J Fish has recently been included in Cabells Directory database for researchers (<http://www.cabells.com/about>).

Also, we would like to welcome our newly selected associate editors in 2018: Dr Yeamin Hossain, Dr Jacopo Aguzzi, Dr Alexis Conides, Dr Sanja Matić Skoko and Dr Luca Camanzi, and to express our sincere appreciation and gratitude to our former member of Editorial Board, Dr Meta Povž.



**Fig 2.** Covers of the last few issues of Croat J Fish

## Future

Existing time in currently covered scientific bases provides journal research discoverability and the opportunity to accrue citation activity. More effort is needed on the citation activity segment. When evaluating publishing strategies to increase citations to a journal, there are some important steps which still need to be considered:

- a) Recruiting papers from highly-cited authors;
- b) Identifying zero-cited papers - a percentage of articles may never be cited at all. It must be reviewed which topics do not attract citations and feed. It is important to remember that some papers can take a long time to accrue citations and although they were not cited, that does not mean they were not read;
- c) Publishing more review articles - comprehensive review articles are likely to attract a high number of readers and citations;
- d) Publishing special issues or special collections;
- e) Article to volume ratios - the number of articles or other citable items published per volume can influence journal citation. On the other hand, this item is closely related to the financial structure of the journal since cooperation with De Gruyter Open is regulated on the basis of published articles;
- f) Media promotion - newsworthy articles may benefit from

Public Relations efforts and are available on a case-by-case basis to raise the visibility of particular articles, and highlight new and important research. In October 2017, Croat J Fish was one of media sponsors of the Aquaculture Europe 2017 Conference, co-organized by the European Aquaculture Society (EAS) (Fig 3).

Since the SCIE evaluation of Croat J Fish is scheduled for October 2019, one of the main goals of the Journal for the future is to work on potential SCIE indexing. The success of a journal is greatly dependent on the quality of its publisher, but the journal, such as ours, can only succeed with a competent team of dedicated people, many of them busy and very active in fisheries. They are present in the form of Associate Editors whose scientific calibre and selfless work is vital to the reputation of Croat J Fish. With the rising number of manuscripts being submitted from all parts of the world, it is possible to further work on selecting quality-based articles.

One of the upcoming future plans (summer 2018), which corresponds to our future goals, is the launching of a brand new website with a responsive web design and upgraded inner structure which will ease the review process, assist in recording papers and reviewers, modernize the appearance, etc.

## Journal metrics

Scopus CiteScore metrics indicated that Croat J Fish average citations received per document published in the serial for 2016 was 0.69 and, according to CiteScoreTracker for 2017 (last updated on 11 January 2018), it was 0.73. SCImago Journal Rank (SJR), which measures weighted citations received by the serial for 2016, was 0.157. Citation weighting depends on subject field and prestige of the citing serial. Source Normalized Impact per Paper (SNIP) measures actual citations received relative to citations expected for the serial's subject field. SNIP for Croat J Fish is 0.383.

According to HRČAK - the central repository for Croatian scientific journals - Croat J Fish placed fourth (out of 48) in visit statistics during 2017 (01/01/2017 - 01/01/2018), with a total of 207,626 and 103,086 full text visits in the scope of biotechnical sciences.

## ISSUES IN 2017

In 2017, 12 original scientific papers, 1 preliminary and 6 short communications, 1 review paper and 1 supplement to fishing profession were published. The manuscripts mostly continued to cover topics in freshwater aquaculture, ichthyology and inland waters. Other topics covered include marine biology, marine aquaculture, sociology and genetics (Table 1). A total of 56 manuscript submissions were received in 2017.



**Fig 3.** *Croatian Journal of Fisheries* as a media sponsor of the Aquaculture Europe 2017 Conference (presented in the picture are Editors-in-Chief)

**Table 1.** Topics covered by the Croatian Journal of Fisheries and titles of published papers in 2017 (Original scientific paper – OS; Preliminary communication – PC; Review article – RA; Short communication – SC, Professional paper – PP)

MAIN SUBJECT CATEGORY	PAPER TITLE	PEER REVIEW	REFERENCES	Type of article
Freshwater Aquaculture	Effects of tank background colour on growth performance and feed utilization of African catfish <i>Clarias gariepinus</i> (Burchell, 1822) fingerlings	Yes	Okomoda et al., 2017	SC
	A review of aquaculture research in Croatia published in the Croatian Journal of Fisheries since 1938	Yes	Zanić et al., 2017	RA
	The effect of commercial feed supplemented with selected yeast, probiotics and herbal additives on the growth performance of juvenile dusky kob ( <i>Argyrosomus japonicus</i> )	Yes	Madibana et al., 2017	SC
Marine Aquaculture	Metal contents in fish and crustaceans from brackish, freshwater and marine systems in South-Western Nigeria	Yes	Olujimi et al., 2017	OS
	Immunomodulatory and growth-promoting potential of lowcost probiotic product in <i>Penaeus monodon</i> culture system	Yes	Chandran et al., 2017	OS
Ichthyology	Length-weight relationship and condition factor of crayfish from South Sorong and Jayawijaya, Papua, Indonesia	Yes	Weya et al., 2017	SC
	Sexual dimorphism in black jaw tilapia ( <i>Sarotherodon melanotheron</i> ) and banded jewelfish ( <i>Hemichromis fasciatus</i> ) from the Great Kwa River, Calabar, Nigeria	Yes	Ibor et al., 2017	OS
	Length-weight relationships of six freshwater fish species from Lake Kirkkojärvi, Finland	Yes	Gama and Nyberg, 2017	SC
Marine biology	Morphometric variations between triploid and diploid <i>Clarias gariepinus</i> (Burchell, 1822)	Yes	Normala et al., 2017	OS
	The relationship between condition and form factors of the Adriatic fishes in the Zadar area	Yes	Treer and Babačić, 2017	SC
	Threatened fishes of the world: <i>Telestes croaticus</i> (Steindachner, 1866) (Cypriniformes: Cyprinidae)	Yes	Jelić and Krivek, 2017	SC
Inland water	Threatened fishes of the world: <i>Orsinogobius croaticus</i> (Mrakovičić, Kerovec, Mišetić and Schnider, 1996) (Teleostei: Gobiidae)	Yes	Horvatić et al., 2017	SC
	The co-existence of recreational and artisanal fisheries in the central parts of the Danube and Sava rivers	Yes	Treer and Kubatov, 2017	OS
	New distribution data for <i>Alburnus sava</i> Bogutskaya, Zupančič, Jelić, Diripasko & Naseka, 2017 and <i>Telestes souffia</i> (Risso, 1827) in the Western Balkans	Yes	Vucić et al., 2017	OS
Genetics	Phytophilous fauna of a small and artificial urban lake	Yes	Orkić Krajina et al., 2017	OS
Sociology	Genetic diversity by RAPD in four populations of rohu <i>Labeo rohita</i>	Yes	Kabir et al., 2017	OS
Supplement to fishing profession	Wild-caught versus farmed fish – consumer perception	Yes	Tomić et al., 2017	OS
Editorial	Aquaculture Europe 2017 – an excellent opportunity for cooperation in improving research and production	No	Katavić, 2017	-
	Editorial 2017: Reflections and current insights	No	Matulić and Tomljanović, 2017	-

## Sažetak

### UVODNIK 2018: OSAMDESETA OBLJETNICA ČASOPISA Croatian Journal of Fisheries: Ribarstvo

*Croatian Journal of Fisheries* (Croat J Fish) je osnovan prije 80 godina, 1938., pod nazivom Ribarstvo, stoga Croat J Fish 2018. godine obilježava značajnu godišnjicu. Od 1992.

časopis izlazi redovito u kvartalnom obimu pod imenom Ribarstvo. Od 2011. časopis mijenja ime u *Croatian Journal of Fisheries: Ribarstvo* kako bi privukao i internacionalni auditorij. Tijekom razvoja, osim imena časopis mijenja oblik, vlasnika, izdavača, no uvijek se bavi važnim temama iz područja ihtiologije, akvakulture, ekologije, bolesti riba i vodenih organizama, problemima otvorenih voda i ostalim temama vezanim uz ribarstvo. Danas, časopis pokušava biti visokokvalitetni znanstveni časopis otvorenog pristupa,

vidljiv na internetu, od interesa za široku znanstvenu zajednicu. Povećanje broja međunarodnih područnih urednika upravo ukazuje na taj proces. U segmentu strategije publiciranja potrebno je uložiti više napora kako bi se postigla veća citiranost časopisa. Također, Uvodnik 2018. daje informaciju o publikacijama objavljenim u 2017. godini, te listu recenzenata koji su sudjelovali u procesu recenzije radova.

**Ključne riječi:** Croat J Fish, godišnjica, Hrčak, SCOPUS CiteScore.

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**Appendix 1.** List of reviewers for the Croatian Journal of Fisheries between 1 January 2017 and 31 December 2017

Zdenek Adamek	Samantha Leigh
Mohammad Sadegh Alavi-Yeganeh	Reza Malekzadeh
Malek Ali	Zoran Marčić
Upali S. Amarasinghe	Sanja Matić-Skoko
Brian Austin	Daniel Matulić
Prabal Barua	Ewen McLean
Anna Basińska	Dragana Miličić
Blanka Beer Ljubić	Daniilo Mrdak
Adrian A. Bischoff-Lang	Paola Navarrete
Irella Bogut	Marina Piria
Marin Čagalj	Maíra Pombo
Carla Cavallo	Meta Povž
Matijaž Červek	Mustafizur Rahman
Branko Dragičević	Guillaume Salze
Zorka Dulić	Shailesh Saurabh
Vlatka Filipović Marijić	Michael Schwarz
Jörg Freyhof	Patrick Douglas Shirey
Marijan Govedič	Predrag Simonović
Zexia Gao	Merica Slišković
Ivo Grgić	Oksana Stoliar
Leon Grubišić	Åsa Strand
Lari Hadelan	Orhideja Tasevska
Albert K. Imsland	Tea Tomljanović
Goran Jakšić	Ana Tošić
Laith A. Jawad	Tomislav Treer
Dinko Jelić	Arturo Tripp Valdez
Pavel Jurajda	Victor M. Tuset
Japo Jussila	James P. Udoh
Belma Kalamujić	Teppo Vehanen
Unmesh Gajanan Katwate	Sanja Vidaček
Goran Klobučar	Zhenjiang Ye
Ana Kotevska	Davor Zanella
Snježana Kužir	Barbara Zorica
Boni Amin Laskar	Denisa Žujo Zekić