

Guide for Writing Experimental Protocols in the PJH Lab

To facilitate effective design of experiments, a written protocol should be prepared for each study conducted in the lab. It is expected that all protocols should have the following components:

1. Title
2. Name of investigators
3. Date the protocol was prepared (this will be useful in identifying the most recent version of the protocol when updates are prepared)
4. Contact information - list phone numbers of investigators for studies involving farm crew so they know who to call.
5. Introduction - one to two paragraphs describing the basis of rationale for the proposed experiment. Cite appropriate literature to support the arguments made in this section. Spell out what hypothesis is being tested.
6. Objectives or Hypothesis.
7. Methods - spell out in detail the nature of the experimental design, treatments to be imposed, procedures to be carried out, endpoints to be measured, etc. There should be enough detail so that all but routine procedures are spelled out.
8. Expected results - what do you expect to find? How will you interpret your results?
9. References