



## Peer-Review Statements

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All of the articles in this proceedings volume have been presented at the *International Conference on Emerging Food Studies (ICEFS2026)* during 9-10 January, 2026 (hybrid mode) in Poornima University.. These articles have been peer reviewed by the members of the *Review Committee* and approved by the Editor-in-Chief, who affirms that this document is a truthful description of the conference's review process.

### 1. REVIEW PROCEDURE

The reviews were *double-blind*. Each submission was examined by at least 2 reviewer(s) independently.

The conference submission management system was CMT.

The submissions were first screened for generic quality and suitability. After the initial screening, they were sent for peer review by matching each paper's topic with the reviewers' expertise, taking into account any competing interests. A paper could only be considered for acceptance if it had received favourable recommendations from the two reviewers.

Authors of a rejected submission were given the opportunity to revise and resubmit after addressing the reviewers' comments. The acceptance or rejection of a revised manuscript was final.

It was ensured that there was no conflict of interest while assigning papers to reviewers.

### 2. QUALITY CRITERIA

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Reviewers were instructed to assess the quality of submissions solely based on the academic merit of their content along the following dimensions *[Note: please summarise your criteria and order them by importance; the following list is an example]:*

1. Rooted in relevant theoretical frameworks and conceptual groundings;
2. Clear demonstration of relevance to social, cultural and/or real-world topics of the time;
3. Well-justified methodology contributing to the research question;
4. Presentation of logical and well-framed arguments, critically engaging with the data/problem statement;
5. Accuracy in compilation of cited sources, academic language, and compliance of scholarly standards;
6. Contribution of the research to theory, policy, or scientific understanding.

In addition, all of the articles have been checked for textual overlap in an effort to detect possible signs of plagiarism by the publisher. They were checked by the editorial committee for AI and plagiarism detection. To ensure ethical policy, the reports have been attached with the manuscript.

**3. KEY METRICS**

|                                                |       |
|------------------------------------------------|-------|
| <i>Total submissions</i>                       | 200   |
| <i>Number of articles sent for peer review</i> | 70    |
| <i>Number of accepted articles</i>             | 40    |
| <i>Acceptance rate</i>                         | 31.7% |
| <i>Number of reviewers</i>                     | 15    |

**4. COMPETING INTERESTS**

None of the three editors nor any member of the Scientific Committee declares any competing interest.

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