

AN OVERVIEW OF CHILEAN MARINE SCIENCES JOURNALS

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The work provides a global vision of Chilean marine sciences journals, besides the problems that have existed in relation to their edition and publication. In spite of being serious publications with rich scientific content related to the study area, mainly along the coast of the eastern south pacific, these journals have not reached the expected levels to be considered within the ISI system journals. With the purpose of obtaining an objective appreciation in regard to the presentation formats of the titles investigated, diverse evaluation guidelines were employed to evaluate format, editorial management and policies, characteristics of content, ISI impact factors, etc. Publication, visibility and diffusion problems that these journals have gone through to remain as a part of the editorial media, are also examined.

Goal: This paper constitutes an attempt to know the specific factors which can be impacting the visibility of Chilean journals in marine sciences; it is also a proposal of certain guidelines to improve this.

I. Background

- None of the Chilean journals in marine sciences have ISI classification.
- The journal "Revista Chilena de Historia Natural" is a publication that is related with marine sciences and can be found in ISI the system.
- Different studies have demonstrated that in general Chilean publications have good format levels and good quality as relates to content. However, they have not reached the requirements necessary within the ISI system journals.
- These publications have a low impact factor in the international marine sciences literature.

II. Methodology

A list of Chilean journals specialized in marine sciences and related areas was identified. Twelve titles were selected. An evaluation was carried out that covered the following aspects; each aspect was assigned a specific score:

I.- identification: 10 points.
II.- indexation: 30 points

III.- distribution y diffusion: 30 points
 IV.- content and structure: 30 points
 total: 100 points

The evaluation guideline was carried out considering international standards of format, structure and content of scientific journals.

It was identified in what measure each journal reached the total of all four aspects. For this work, we considered a previous research carried out about the impact of Chilean marine sciences journals.

EVALUATION GUIDELINES:

I. IDENTIFICATION	SCORE
ABBREVIATED TITLE	0,25
VOLUME	0,75
NUMBER	0,75
MONTH	0,75
YEAR	0,75
ISSN	0,75
NAME OF INSTITUTIONAL EDITOR	0,75
ADDRESS INSTITUTIONAL EDITOR	0,5
PHONE INST. EDITOR	0,25
FAX INST. EDITOR	0,25
E-MAIL INST. EDITOR	0,5
FREQUENCY	0,5
INICIAL YEAR	0,25
EDITORIAL TEAM: - INSTITUTIONAL	0,75
- INTERINSTITUTIONAL	0,75
- INTERNATIONAL	0,75
COPYRIGHT	0,25
REPRODUCTION AUTHORIZATION	0,25
RESPONSABILITIES	0,25
TOTAL (10)	10

II. INDEXATION		SCORE
INDEXED IN: ISI		10
“ ASFA		5
“ OTHERS		1 C/U
TOTAL (30)		30

III. DISTRIBUTION AND Y DIFUSION	
	SCORE
INCLUDED IN <i>SCIELO</i>	5
INCLUDED IN <i>ALERTA AL CONOCIM.</i>	5
SUSCRPTION INFORMATION	3
SUSCR. PRICE IN LOCAL CURRENCY	2
SUSCR. PRICE IN US \$	2
PRICE OF INDIV. ISSUE IN LOCAL CURRENCY	2
PRICE OF INDIV. ISSUE IN US \$	2
DONATION	3
OFFER TO EXCHANGE	3
ACCEPT PUBLICITY	2
NUMBER OF COPIES PRINTED	1
TOTAL (30)	30

IV. CONTENT AND STRUCTURE	
	SCORE
EDITORIAL	1
RESEARCH ARTICLES	1
ARTICLES IN ENGLISH	3
OVERSEAS AUTHORS	2
AUTHORS' ADDRESS	2
FILIATION OF AUTHORS	1
SPANISH ABSTRACTS	2
ENGLISH ABSTRACTS	2
KEY WORDS IN SPANISH	1
KEY WORDS IN ENGLISH	1
STRUCTURE: - INTRODUCTION	1
- MAT. AND METHODS	1
- RESULTS	1
- DISC. AND CONCLUSION	1
- BIBLIOGRAPHY	1
REVISION ARTICLES	1
SCIENTIFIC NOTES	1
BOOK REVIEWS	1

FORTHCOMING ARTICLES	1
DATE OF RECEPTION OF ORIGINAL	1
DATE OF REVISION OF ARTICLE	1
DATE ARTICLE ACCEPTED	1
INSTRUCTIONS FOR AUTHORS	2
TOTAL (30)	30

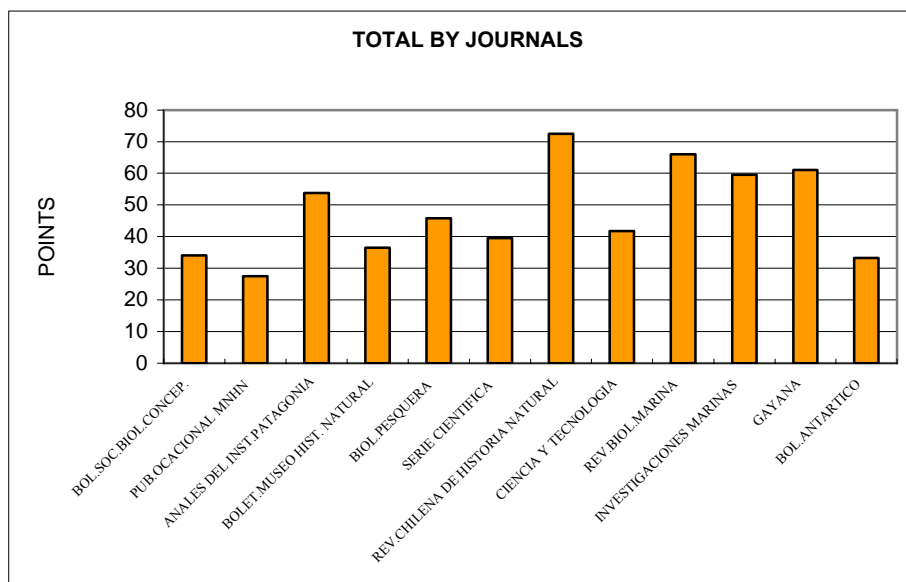
III. RESULTS:

<i>TITLE</i>	I	II	III	IV
Ciencia Y Tecnología Del Mar	7,75	8	2	24
Revista De Biología Marina Y Oceanografía	8	16	17	25
Investigaciones Marinas	8,5	8	19	24
Gayana	8	15	12	26
Boletín Antártico Chileno	7,25	6	9	11
Boletín De La Sociedad De Biología De Concepción	4	5	5	20
Publicación Ocasional, Mus. Nac. Hist. Natural	4,5	5	1	17
Anales Del Instituto De La Patagonia	4,75	8	19	22
Boletín, M.N.H.N.	4,5	6	4	22
Biología Pesquera	4,75	8	12	21
Serie Científica Inach	4,5	12	0	23
Revista Chilena De Historia Natural	7,5	21	17	27

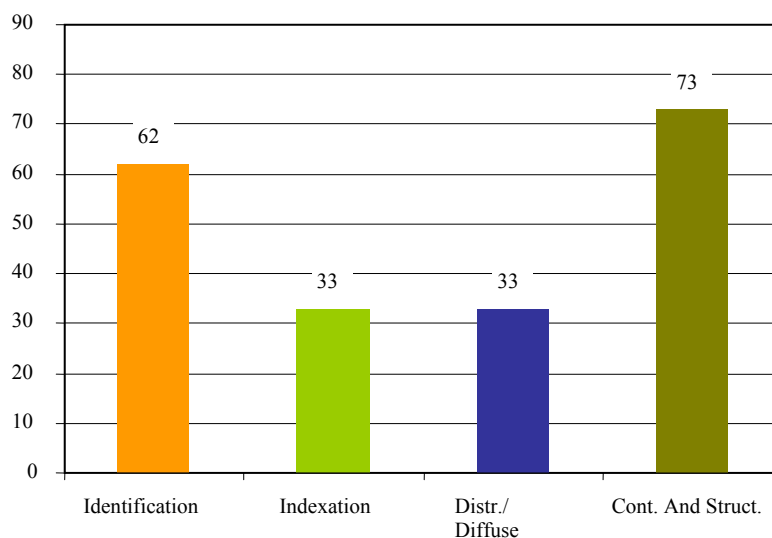
IV.- PERCENTAGE BY JOURNALS

Titles	I. Identification %	II. Indexation %	III. Distr. / Diffusion %	IV. Cont. And Struct. %
1.-Revista De Ciencia Y Tecnología Del Mar	78 %	27 %	7 %	80%
2.- Revista De Biología Marina Y Oceanografía	80 %	53 %	57 %	83 %
3.- Investigaciones Marinas	85 %	27 %	63 %	80 %
4.- Gayana	80 %	50 %	40 %	87 %
5.- Boletín Antártico Chileno	73 %	20 %	30 %	37 %
6.- Bol. Soc. Biologica De Concepción	40 %	17 %	17 %	67 %
7.- Pub. Ocasional M.N.H.N	45 %	17 %	3 %	57 %

8.- Anales Inst. Patagonia	48 %	27 %	63 %	73 %
9.- Boletín Del M.N.H.N	45 %	20 %	13 %	73 %
10.-Biología Pesquera	48 %	27 %	40 %	70 %
11.- Serie Científica Inach	45 %	40 %	0 %	77 %
12.- Revista Chilena De Historia Natural	75 %	70 %	57 %	90 %
TOTAL	62 %	33 %	33 %	73 %



V.- PERCENTAGE BY EVALUATION



Comments and Conclusions

None of the 12 titles evaluated reached the 100% of the score assigned for each aspect. In items II (indexation) and III (distribution and dissemination), the titles evaluated reached relatively low scores.

Due to the low impact and visibility of these publications in the scientific field, we conclude that:

1. the editors of these journals are not taking sufficient advantage of the dissemination and distribution instances such as, exchange, subscription, donation, etc.
2. the low use of dissemination and distribution tools and databases available in the market is caused by the lack of knowledge by the editorial groups.

We can also consider the low diffusion of international indexes and databases within the Chilean market

These publications have a good and appropriate level of quality that would permit to index them in other systems available in the market and, with this, to increase their visibility and impact in the scientific literature.

To conclude, considering the adequate level of these publications regarding their format, presentation and structure, we urge their editorial groups to put an emphasis in the diffusion of these publications, proposing different ways of distribution and diffusion.