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General Information: Journal of Maize Research and Development (JMRD) is dedicated to publishing high-quality original research and review articles on maize breeding, genetics, agronomy, entomology, pathology, post harvest, soil science, botany, physiology, conservation agriculture and climate change effect on maize, maize economics, up-scaling research on maize and plant biotechnological approaches for maize improvement. The main objective of JMRD is to serve as a platform for the international scholars, academicians, researchers, and extensionists to share the innovative research findings in maize. The JMRD is an online open access international, peer reviewed and official journal published annually in month of December by National Maize Research Program, Rampur, Chitwan, Nepal.

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Welcome Message from the NMRP Coordinator

Dear All,

It is our great pleasure to share with you the inaugural issue of *Journal of Maize Research and Development (JMRD)*, a new open access journal is going to be published by National Maize Research Program Rampur Chitwan Nepal on December, 2015. JMRD is dedicated to the rapid dissemination of high-quality original research and review articles on maize breeding, genetics, agronomy, entomology, pathology, post harvest, soil science, botany, physiology, conservation agriculture and climate change effect on maize, maize economics, up-scaling research on maize and plant biotechnological approaches for maize improvement and promotion. Our aim is to serve as a platform for the international scholars, academicians, researchers, and extensionists to share the innovative research findings and key development issue in maize.

It is my expectation that this journal provides a real ideal forum for exchange of information on maize research achievements at national and international level. It provides useful information to all maize researchers, scientist, extensionists and academicians in the field of maize research and development. I am elated to thank our authors, editors and reviewers, all of whom have volunteered to contribute to the success of the journal. I am very much grateful to Scientist Jiban Shrestha, our Senior Scientist Tika Bahadur Karki and Scientist Subash Subedi at NMRP, the members of **editors-in-chief** for providing their enormous effort to launch this journal. Authors, reviewers and guest editors are always welcomed. Since it is our first Endeavour, I strongly urge all of you to cooperate us through comments and suggestions.

I hope in advance for your valuable contributions to *Journal of Maize Research and Development*.

Thank you all.

Govind K.C.
NMRP Coordinator
November15, 2015

A Message from Editors-in-Chief

National Maize Research Program under Nepal Agricultural Research Council (NARC), Nepal is launching for the first time in the history of commodity specific open access journal “*Journal of Maize Research and Development*” in Nepal. It will also fill a niche that was hitherto unoccupied by other agricultural journals, and because there is no other journals dedicated exclusively to maize research and development in Nepal. It will help the scientific and farming communities who are directly or indirectly involved in maize research and development across the globe. We will publish one issue annually at the end of December and will contain more than ten articles on maize R&D consisting of breeding, plant protection, crop and soil fertility management and socio-economics. The Editorial Board is composed of professional researchers from NARC and other national and international research and educational institutions. Maize research and development studies carried-out within and outside the country can be retrieved from a single journal. It may help to minimize the duplication of works and misuse of resources in maize R&D. There might be some weaknesses in its quality too. We, therefore, seek constructive feedback to improve its quality in future. We also expect the higher number of articles in our future issues from authors and institutions. Over the next year, we also plan several new initiatives to make the journal more exciting, popular and useful to our readers. We assure that under the active collaboration of the concerned scientists and institutions, we certainly will improve the quality of our journal in future.

Jiban Shrestha and Tika Bahadur Karki
Editors-In-Chief

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Guidelines to authors:

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