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## Launching of the fifth volume of the scientific journal “Ambiente & Água”

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### ABSTRACT

This first issue of volume five contains 16 inedited peer reviewed papers from 59 authors that originated from three continents, 25 universities from which 12 are federal universities, 7 are state universities, three are from a municipal university from Brazil and three from abroad. Other four authors are from research institutions. We proudly state that this twelfth edition has been published on time as it happened with all previous issues. Most articles of this issue concentrate on environmental characterization of different ecosystems and on water quality assessment of several river basins. Then, there two articles on water reuse and two on environmental chemistry. The others relate to sediments, water treatment and hydropower impacts investigations.

**Keywords:** Ambi-Agua; environment; water resources; publication.

### NEW ACCOMPLISHMENTS

As determined by the journal policy, the first issue of each volume must be published on April 30<sup>th</sup>, the second on August 30<sup>th</sup>, and the third on December 31<sup>st</sup> of each year.

An accomplishment worth mentioning is the new domain hosted in a highly reliable server. Now the journal can be accessed at <http://www.ambi-agua.net>, where all submissions should be now directed.

Articles continue to receive a DOI<sup>®</sup> registration (IDF, 2006) that substantially enhances their visibility and accessibility. The journal continues to practice the golden open access policy without any charges for submission, publication, or for full text access.

Data preservation is largely guaranteed through the storage of complete issues in several hosts (Socol@r, Redalyc, Sumários.org, etc.; Batista, 2009). Metadata are continuously collected by several data harvester associated with CrossRef, a DOI<sup>®</sup> registration agency with which the journal is affiliated and by harvesters that collect metadata using the protocol OAI-PMH (Batista, 2007).

One important feature of any scientific journal is the time between submission and acceptance. In this issue, the average time of all published papers was 103.8 days (ranging from 18 to 209 days, with a standard deviation of 71.5 days) and from acceptance to publication was 30.3 days (ranging from 9 to 78 days, with a standard deviation of 24.5 days). This compares favorably to many relevant journals and constitutes an additional motivation for scientists to submit their work, increasing, as a result, the number of manuscripts submitted and published. Another consequence of this reduced processing time for publication is the possibility of increasing author's Impact Factor (Hirsch, 2005). It has been observed that this time interval varies as a function of the initial quality of the submitted manuscript and the

author’s response to peer reviewers’ suggestions. Reviewers tend to consider more carefully good quality and well presented papers.

A new assessment of the Qualis CAPES has been released (CAPES, 2010) and **Ambi-Agua** is now qualified in additional areas (Table 1).

**Table 1.** Qualis CAPES classification of **Ambiente & Água** journal (ISSN 1980-993X).

Area of CAPES	Classification
Interdisciplinary	B3
Engineering II	B4
Agricultural Sciences I	B5
Ecology and Environment	B5
Engineering I	B5
Engineering III	B5
Geosciences	B5
Geography	B5
Chemistry	C

With this release it is noted that **Ambi-Agua** is now classified as B3, instead of B2, in the Interdisciplinary area, which is the major focus of the journal. By no means this is interpreted as a decrease in quality of the journal, but rather an adjustment of the Qualis CAPES system. After all, **Ambi-Agua** has only three effective circulation years and B2 is a rank usually given to long established journals in Brazil. With the continued support from the scientific community expressed in the form of high standard submissions and world class peer review panel, we hope to reach an even higher rank in the Qualis CAPES classification system in the near future. In fact, by examining the number of relevant recently published articles, selected from a large number of qualified submissions (Batista, 2009), it can be concluded that **Ambi-Agua** journal is steadily building up quality.

## FINAL REMARKS

**Ambi-Agua** is looking forward to its high quality paper submissions, especially in English, to be soon recognized by SCOPUS (Elsevier), SciELO and ISI Web of Science.

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