ACCESS TO CERA CONSORTIUM IN SKUAST-K, FISHERIES E-JOURNALS: AN INFORMATIVE STUDY

Asifa Jan

Assistant Librarian, SKUAST-K
Faculty of Fisheries, Rangil, Ganderbal, 190012

Ridwana Bach

Asstt Librarian, SKUAST-K
FVSc & AH, Shuhama

ABSTRACT

The paper provides the brief background of the Indian Consortium for e-Resources in Agriculture (CeRA) and the components of the National Agricultural Innovation Project (NAIP) with special reference to the Component-I under the important and most innovative web-based projects, i.e., CeRA. The overview of these project including objectives and deliverables has been highlighted especially keeping in view of the current scenario of the MPKV. There are several library consortia in India, UGC Infonet is mainly meant for universities controlled by UGC and CeRA is meant for agricultural universities. The results reveal that CeRA e-Journal in Fisheries Science is increasing at an exponential rate and currently 87 fisheries Journal are registered in CeRa. These Journals are published from 12 countries from 18 publishers in 07 languages. The maximum Journals are published from USA (81.61%), by Elsevier publisher (29.87%).

Key words: CeRA; E-Journals; Fisheries Science; SKUAST-Kashmir

Cite this Article: Asifa Jan and Ridwana Bach, Access to CeRA Consortium in SKUAST-K, Fisheries E-Journals: An Informative Study. *International Journal of Library & Information Science*, 7(5), 2018, pp. 27–35.

<http://iaeme.com/Home/issue/IJLIS?Volume=7&Issue=5>

1. INTRODUCTION

Timely access to information is becoming more and more crucial for survival in every sphere of life and agriculture sector is no exception. In the present competitive world, moving towards what we perceive as knowledge society, the access to right information at anytime, anywhere, about anything has gained high significance. This off course does not mean that the earlier societies were not aware of importance of information or were not knowledgeable. The

information played very important role even in ancient time especially in field of agriculture. Today information has become absolutely important input in agriculture. Agricultural research, the backbone of agricultural growth in the country, demands timely dissemination of knowledge being generated and updated across the globe from time to time. R & D institutions have been procuring print versions of journals and literature in aid of science and technology. With the rapid growth of internet facilities and advancement of web technology, almost all reputed international journals are available on-line and can easily be accessed by researchers over the network. Since ICAR is having network connectivity across institutes and state community. Accordingly, the National Agricultural Innovation Project (NAIP) has funded for establishing the Consortium for e-Resources in Agriculture (CeRA) at the Indian Agricultural Research Institute (IARI) in November 2007 to facilitate accessibility of scientific journals to all researchers/teachers in the National Agricultural Research System by providing access to information specially access to journals online which is crucial for having excellence in research. As the universities in India are broadly controlled by two agencies like UGC and ICAR, the library and information resources management and services are also performed differently. While the universities under UGC have formed UGC Infonet for consortia mode of journal subscription and electronic information services, the agricultural universities and agricultural research institutes formed CeRA for the same purpose. Moreover, there are several other consortia also in operation in India for institutions under CSIR, DRDO, IITs, IIMs, etc.

1.1. Formation of consortium for e-resource in Agriculture

CeRA was launched successfully on 30 April 2008. Access to CeRA was initially given to 124 institution through IP addresses, out of 124 institution, 114 institution successfully received access through IP addresses, but institutes located in remote areas got access through user name & password. It covers agri, vety sc, fisheries crop sc, computer sc, soil sc, animal science. Currently 147 institutions in NARS have 24x7 online accesses to important journals in CeRA platform through IP authentication. Thomson Web of Science for Science Citation Index (SCI) has been made available to the Lead Institute (IARI), but the facility is available to all members of CeRA.

2. OBJECTIVES OF CERA

- a) To upscale the existing R&D information resource base of ICAR institutions/universities comparable to world's leading institutions/organisations;
- b) To subscribe e-journals and create e-access culture among scientists/teachers in ICAR institutes/ agricultural universities; and
- c) To assess the impact of CeRA on the level of research publications measured through NAAS ID and Science Citation Index.

3. DELIVERABLES

1. Online accessibility of all important journals and other resources related to Agriculture and Allied sciences to researchers and students of the consortium;
2. Quick access to R&D information as available worldwide and permanent archive of the Subscribed e-databases; and
3. Improvement in the quality of scientific publications, teaching and research guidance.

4. ACCOMPLISHMENTS

IP-based access to CeRA resources has been made available to NARS institutions and universities. Web-based URL (www.cera.jccc.in) is available with easy and customised interface and facilitating the online access and document delivery. More than 2900 journals are covered.

- Subscription to all relevant and important resources from American Association for Advances of Science, American Society for Microbiology, American Society for Agronomy Annual Review, BioOne, Cabi, Springer, CSIRO, Elsevier, Taylor and Francis, Nature, SCI, Indian journals, Oxford, Wiley, ASA, etc. have been made available.
- Numbers of training/workshop/orientation programs have been arranged at local and national level for maximising the usage of subscribed resources.
- Researchers being assisted to access full-text of library subscribed journals (which are not available in CeRA); the Document Delivery Request System has been in place.
- CeRA maintains usage and other data for compiling the reports and further improving the system.
- Steering, monitoring cum negotiation, and working committees have been constituted and meetings are held periodically to achieve objectives of consortium.
- CeRA in collaboration with e-Granth and AALDI organised a Seminar cum User Meet on

In the fast emerging information explosion it is very difficult to access particular information without wasting time. The electronic resources give the solution and the users are attached towards electronic resources because of its greater potential in facilitating the search of required information quickly. Vast e-resources are available in agriculture and its allied disciplines, which we can access in library information centres & provide the information to library users. In the agriculture research some of the important electronic resources like electronic journal, online database, abstracts, e-books, online catalogue, and directories have pages of the institutes' organization etc.

5. SKUAST-K

SKUAST-K is established on 1984 and subsequently named as Sher-e-kashmir University of Agricultural Sciences & Technology after a great political leader Shiekh Mohd Abdullah. The main campus is situated 15 Km from city and it is multi Campii University with six faculties. The basic men date assigned to this university are advancement in teaching, research and imparting extension education to the farmers of state. These five faculties catering the similar services in their locality.

The present study is carried at faculty of Fisheries which is located in Ganderbal Distt and is 22Km from city having natural water supply for fish pond and carrying research in fishery science

6. LITERATURE REVIEW

Bostick Sharon L (2001) argued that the buying power of the libraries for better prices has increased under the consortia mode. Lebowitz (1997) observed that, "Although many consider the library to be the heart of the university, the use of the library is often not incorporated into courses being prepared for distance delivery as academic institutions extend their educational offerings beyond the campus, to rural, suburban, and urban locations, they need to consider... the role that the library plays in the educational process". She recommends that librarians convince fellow educators and administrators that as they are expanding their institutions' educational offerings beyond the campus boundaries, they need to provide their

students with access to library services, which include among others, instruction in use of resources, document delivery, and communication facility between the students and librarian.

As per the study of Singh and Tiwari (2010) all the agricultural university libraries are connected by networking system. While the under graduates are primarily using networks for communication purpose through social networking system group, the post graduate students are using for dissertations and other research assignments. Teachers are using Internet for support of their research work and preparing papers for journals. It is experienced that author and title searches are conducted on the web using Google and Google scholar. Singh et al (1996, pp.9-13) in their study on, “electronic journals on library and information science”, traced out that, electronic journals clearly have potential advantages in terms of flexibility over printed journals, however, can diminish these perceptions. Ahesh and Ghosh (1998, pp.67-76) in their study on, “availability and use of indigenous database by S & T libraries: a case study” pointed out that, science and technology libraries in Delhi are willing to buy and make use of indigenous databases compared to traditional resources.

A good amount of literature is available on the internet via open access form. In the year 1992 only the five journals were freely accessible and the number increased to 1200 in the year 2004 (Falk, 2004). An investigation regarding the sources of various open access journals was carried out by Kaufman-wills Group (2005) and it was found that only 248 journals were indexed in the Directory of Open Access Journals (DOAJ) from all disciplines among only 45% were in Science & Technology, 34 % in medicine, 10% in the social science and 7% in Arts & Humanities. Lone, Rather, and Shah (2008) revealed that there were 3756 open access journals in the DOAJ, and the top five contributing countries were the USA, Brazil UK, Spain and Germany.

7. OBJECTIVES

The main objective of the study is to analyse various aspects of open access journals in the field of fisheries science registered in the directory of Open Access Journals (DOAJ). Broadly, the present study aims:

- To identify the subject coverage of journals in the field of fisheries science
- To identify the growth-rate of journals in the field of fisheries science
- To identify the publishing countries of journals in the field of Fisheries science
- To identify the leading publishers of journals in the field of fisheries science
- To know the accessibility of Archives of e-journals on Fisheries on CeRA
- To know the usefulness and applicability of Fisheries e-journals.

8. METHODOLOGY

In the present study the directory of the E- Journals was selected as the sources for identification in the field of fisheries science. There are eighty three (87) fisheries journals registered in the CeRA in the April, 2018. The data were collected and websites (homepages) of these journals in order to achieve the set objectives.

Table 1 Distribution of Subject Heading of E-Journals on Fisheries

1.	Africa Zoology	zoology
2.	Aquaculture	Aquaculture
3.	Aquaculture Asia	Aquaculture
4.	Aquaculture International	Aquaculture
5.	Aquaculture nutrition	Aquaculture-Nutrition
6.	Aquaculture Research	Aquaculture
7.	Bonn Zoological Bulletin	zoology
8.	Contribution to zoology	zoology
9.	Current Zoology	Zoology
10.	Ecotropics	Zoology-Ecology
11.	Egyptian Academic Journal of Biology Science	Zoology-Biology
12.	Fish & fisheries	Fishery Science
13.	Fish physiology & biochemistry	Fish-Physiology
14.	Fisheries	Fishery science
15.	Fisheries bulletin	Fishery Science
16.	Fisheries Management & ecology	Fishery Science
17.	Fisheries Research	Fishery Science
18.	Fisheries Sc	Fishery Science
19.	Fishery technology	Fish-Preservation
20.	Frontiers in Zoology	Zoology
21.	Gayana (concepcion)	Oceanography
22.	International Journal of zoology Research	Zoology
23.	International Journal of Zoology	Zoology
24.	Jl of fish diseases	Fish-Disease
25.	Jl of fisheries & aquatic science	Fishery science
26.	Jl of Marine Research	Marine Sc
27.	Jl of marine sc & application	Marine Sc
28.	Jl of marine sc & technology	Marine Sc
29.	Jl of marine system	Marine Sc
30.	Jl of oceanography	oceanography
31.	Jl of plankton research	Hydrobiology
32.	Jl of research	Agriculture research
33.	Jl of shell fish research	Marine Fish
34.	Jl of the inland fisheries	Fisheries Sc
35.	Jl of the world aquaculture society	Aquaculture

36.	Jl of zoology	Zoology
37.	Journal of Fish Biology	Fishery sc
38.	Khurushehtra	Agriculture
39.	Limnology & oceanography	limnology
40.	Limnology ecology & management of inland water	Limnology
41.	Marine & coastal fisheries	Marine sc
42.	Marine ornithology	Marine Sc
43.	Marine & freshwater behaviour & physiology	Marine Sc
44.	Marine & Freshwater resources	Marine sc
45.	Marine biology	Marine Sc
46.	Marine biology research	Marine Sc
47.	Marine biotech	Marine Sc
48.	Marine biotechnology	Marine sc
49.	Marine chemistry	Marine sc
50.	Marine ecology	Marine Sc
51.	Marine ecology progress series	Marine Sc
52.	Marine environment Research	Marine Sc
53.	Marine fisheries review	Marine Sc
54.	Marine Genomics	Marine sc
55.	Marine Geoday	Marine sc
56.	Marine geode sty	Marine sc
57.	Marine Georesources & Geotechnology	Marine Sc
58.	Marine mammals	Marine sc
59.	Marine Policy	Marine sc
60.	Marine pollution	Marine sc -pollution
61.	Marine pollution Bulletin	Marine sc-Pollution
62.	Marine resources	Marine Resources
63.	Marine resources economics	Marine-Resources
64.	Marine Science	Marine Sc
65.	Mollusc	Shell fish
66.	Nature	Life Sc
67.	Neotropical ichthyology	Fishery sc
68.	New Zealand Jl of Marine & freshwater research	Marine-Freshwater Res
69.	New Zealand jl of zoology	Zoology
70.	North America Journal of Aquaculture	Aquaculture
71.	North American jl of fisheries management	Fishery sc
72.	Open Fish science Jl	Fishery sc
73.	Parasitic diseases	Parasitology
74.	Parasitology	Parasitology
75.	Progress in oceanography	Oceanography
76.	Review in aquaculture	Aquaculture
77.	Review in fish biology	Fishery sc
78.	Review in fish Sc	Fishery sc
79.	Ribarstvo Creatian Journal of fisheries	Fishery sc
80.	Serie Zoologica	Zoology
81.	Transaction of the American fisheries society	Fishery sc
82.	Turkish Jl of fisheries & Aquatic Science	Fishery sc
83.	Turkish jl of zoology	Zoology
84.	Zoology	zoology
85.	Zoological Research	zoology

Analysis of Subject Headings of E-Journals on Zoology

S NO	Subject Heading	No of Journals	%
1.	Agriculture-Fisheries	2	2.30
2.	Aquaculture-Fisheries Science	24	27.59
3.	Fish-Disease	01	1.15
4.	Fish -Nutrition	01	1.15
5.	Fish-Physiology	01	1.15
6.	Fish-Preservation	01	1.15
7.	Hydrobiology-Planktons	01	1.15
8.	Life Sc	01	1.15
9.	Limnology	02	2.30
10.	Marine Sc	41	47.13
11.	Marine-Pollution	02	2.30
12.	Marine-Resources	02	2.30
13.	Oceanography	03	3.45
14.	Parasitology	02	2.30
15.	Zoology	15	17.24
16.	Zoology-Biology	01	1.15
17.	Zoology -Ecology	01	1.15
18.	Total	87	100

The CeRA lists 87 journals in the field of fishery science. The maximum journals publish article on marine science (41, 47.13%) only whereas 24(27.59%) publish article on Aquaculture-Fisheries Science and 15 (17.24%) only on Zoology. whereas few journals are related to the specialized field of the limnology, oceanography, parasitology, planktons, life science.

Table 2 Growth-rate of the Fisheries Journals

NO	Time Peroid	Number	Cumulative Number
1.	1964-1975	06	06
2.	1976-85	06	12
3.	1986-95	8	20
4.	1996-2005	25	45
5.	2006-2015	26	71
6.	2016-	16	87

It is evident from the data that the e-journals are published very fast and gaining momentum every passing day. There were only 45 fisheries journal till 2005 and the number increases at a very exponential rate after every 5 years.

Table 3 Leading Publishers of the Fisheries Journals

Rank	Publisher	Number	Percentage
1.	Elsevier	26	29.87
2.	Tylor & Francis	16	18.39
3.	Springer	14	16.09
4.	John Wiley	12	13.79
5.	CSIRO,India	2	2.30
6.	Inter Research	2	2.30
7.	Ministry of Information & Broadcasting,India	2	2.30
8.	Society of Fisheries Technology	2	2.30
9.	Cambridge	1	1.15
10.	Central Fisheries Research Council, Turkey	1	1.15
11.	Inland Fisheries Association,India	1	1.15
12.	Marine Biology Assoication,India	1	1.15
13.	National Marine Fisheries	1	1.15
14.	Nature Publication	1	1.15
15.	Oxford University press	1	1.15
16.	Scientific Pub	1	1.15
17.	Sear Foundation of Marine Research	1	1.15
18.	University Chicago press	1	1.15

The maximum number of journals is contributed by Elsevier followed by the Taylor & Francis and Springer and John Wiley publications respectively four publisher has published two each in fisheries and 10 publishers published one in the fisheries science

Table 4 Publishing Countries of the Fisheries Journals

SNO	Place of Publication	No of e-Journals	Rank
1.	Africa	01	4
2.	Australia	01	4
3.	China	03	3
4.	Croatia	01	4
5.	Egypt	01	4
6.	Europe	01	4
7.	Germany	01	4
8.	Herzegovina	01	4
9.	India	04	2
10.	Germany	01	4
11.	Portuguese	01	4
12.	United States	71	1

Table 4 depicts the country wise distribution of E-journals on Zoology on CeRA . United States was in 1st rank due to publication of 71 e-journals followed by India with 04 publication and china with 3 publications in fisheries science. Rest of countries publish 1 Journal each.

9. FINDINGS

- It is observed that united state was 1st rank due to publication of 71 e-journals followed India
- English is the most common communication language to spread the knowledge in all over the world which is used by all 71 e-journals out of 87 e-journals in fisheries 03 e-journals is published in Chinese language 01 published in Portuguese, Croatia, Bosnian.
- It is observed that fisheries e-journals are interdisciplinary in nature. Out of 87 e-journals 39 e-journals are useful for purely for fisheries science as core subject, but fisheries journals can also be useful for marine science, Marine Resources. Limnology oceanography, ecology, agriculture & hydrobiology and zoology research researcher scholars & scientists

10. CONCLUSIONS

CeRA is comprehensive & covers all open access scientific & scholarly Journals use an appropriate Quality control system and it will not be limited to parental language or subject area.

CeRA is IP based access has been made available to NARS institution & university and it will not be limited to particular language or subject areas.

It is available with easy & customised interface & facilitating the online access & document delivery. Researcher being assisted to access full text of library subscribed journals. It also provides access to thesis published in India

REFERENCES

- [1] Ali N(2005). The use of electronic resources at IIT Delhi Library: a study of search behaviour. The Electronic library; 23(2): 200-203.
- [2] Lihitkar Ramdas, Lihitkar Shalini R., Waghmare, Pranati (2013). open access Zoology found on DOAJ: an analytical study, international Journal of Life Science. 1(4): 321-327 .
- [3] Rabiya, Mustaq. And Loan, Fayaz. Ahmad. 2017. open access health and Medicine Journal An informative study .webology .14 (2): 90-100.
- [4] Singh B., Tiwari B, (2010). Library networking and internet facilities in agricultural university library in India: a survey 2009. Proceeding of national conference on knowledge management in globalised era, p297