

13. *Vendors and Commercial Products*

13.1 AFS style gives authors a lot of leeway in referring to the commercial products (feeds, chemical compounds, equipment, and so forth) used in their research. The following formats are all acceptable:

- a backpack electrofisher
- a backpack electrofisher (Smith-Root)
- a backpack electrofisher (Smith-Root; Model 12)
- a backpack electrofisher (Smith-Root, Vancouver, Washington)
- a backpack electrofisher (Smith-Root, Vancouver, Washington; Model 12)

- a Smith-Root backpack electrofisher
- a Smith-Root Model 12 backpack electrofisher
- a Smith-Root (Vancouver, Washington) backpack electrofisher
- a Smith-Root (Vancouver, Washington) Model 12 backpack electrofisher

Terms such as “Inc.,” “Ltd.,” “Corp.,” and “Co.” in company names should generally be omitted.

If a commercial product figures prominently in a paper (e.g., when different products are being compared), the names of the product and producer should be given at first mention in both the Abstract and the introduction and a complete identification of the product and producer should be given in Methods:

Eagle’s minimum essential medium (Gibco BRL) [Abstract and introduction]

Eagle’s minimum essential medium (Gibco BRL, Gaithersburg, Maryland) [Methods]

13.2 Subsequent references to a producer may be shortened:

. . . phosphate-buffered saline (Sigma Chemical Co., St. Louis, Missouri) [first mention]

. . . an enzymatic glucose assay (Sigma) [subsequent mention]

Software

13.3 Software packages should be cited as commercial products or personal communications, whichever applies:

. . . performed with SuperANOVA 4.2 (21st Century Software, Cambridge, Massachusetts).

. . . performed with special software developed by researchers at Utah State University (E. M. Johnson, personal communication; available at www.usu.edu/zool/habsim/).

In the case of personal communications, indicate whether the software is generally available.

U.S. Government Disclaimer

13.4 When one or more of the authors is a U.S. Government employee, the following language should be included in Acknowledgments:

Reference to trade names does not imply endorsement by the U.S. Government.