ACSESS Adopts Data Policy

The concept of “open data” is not new—weather data collected by NOAA has been openly available to the public for more than 50 years—but the concept that some data should be freely available to everyone to use is becoming more widely accepted. Governments are encouraging that data generated from projects that they fund should become open and accessible. The open data movement is gaining momentum and journals, or other outlets that publish data, providing it with a DOI (digital object identifier), are becoming more widespread. For example, the Journal of Environmental Quality publishes data papers. With these trends in mind, the Editors of our Society Journals have all adopted the following policy regarding data in article published in our journals:

- ACSESS Data Policy encourages the storage and availability of data necessary to understand and evaluate phenomena reported in our publications. Data should be stored or archived in domain repositories that are recognized widely and available to the community. Archiving should follow best management practices for metadata and data curation. Data not stored in such a repository should be available upon request to the authors. Additional guidance or requirements may be provided by individual journals.

Respectfully,

Dan Sweeney, ASA Editor-in-Chief
Wayne Smith, CSSA Editor-in-Chief
David Myrold, SSSA Editor-in-Chief