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Cat Behavioural Ecology

Guest Editor:

Dr. Marie-Amélie Forin-Wiart

Department of Ecology,
Physiology and Ethology,
University of Strasbourg, CNRS,
IPHC UMR 7178, F-67000
Strasbourg, France

Deadline for manuscript
submissions:

closed (30 November 2022)

Message from the Guest Editor

The domestic cat is one of the most widely distributed terrestrial carnivores due to its great behavioural plasticity, and individuals evolve along a continuum depending on their association with humans, e.g., in terms of degree of feeding and freedom of movement. Between the indoor-only cats and the feral cats, there are free-ranging cats. Some may be fed ad libitum and free to leave and/or enter the home (free-ranging house cats). Others may not be attached to a particular dwelling, though being fed by humans (semi-feral or semi-owned cats). Finally, some individuals may be attached to farm buildings where they are fed only occasionally (farm cats).

Both the observed complexity of domestic cat populations and the inter-individual behavioural variations explain to a large extent the difficulty of studies trying to highlight consistent patterns. However, methodological (e.g., citizen science) and technological (e.g., bio-loggers, environmental DNA) advances may provide some answers. This Special Issue aims to bring together the latest research on the behavioural ecology of domestic cats. Studies on other species are invited, if they may improve knowledge about cats.



mdpi.com/si/81852

Special Issue



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Editor-in-Chief

Prof. Dr. Clive J. C. Phillips

1. Curtin University Sustainable Policy (CUSP) Institute, Curtin University, Kent St., Bentley, Western Australia 6102, Australia
2. Former Foundation Professor of Animal Welfare, University of Queensland and Foundation Director, Centre for Animal Welfare and Ethics, University of Queensland, Brisbane, Australia

Message from the Editor-in-Chief

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Animals Editorial Office
MDPI, Grosspeteranlage 5
4052 Basel, Switzerland

Tel: +41 61 683 77 34
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