

Special Issue

Diversity and Interactions Between Mites and Vertebrates

Message from the Guest Editors

Mites (Acari) represent a highly diverse group of organisms with remarkable adaptability, often forming close symbiotic relationships with vertebrates. These interactions, ranging from commensalism to parasitism, play crucial roles in the health and ecological dynamics of their vertebrate hosts. Despite extensive research, many aspects of these complex relationships remain understudied. Recent advances in molecular techniques and ecological studies have opened new avenues for understanding the diversity and evolutionary history of mites associated with vertebrates. This has led to the discovery of new species and to re-evaluating the systematics and taxonomy of known taxa. Additionally, these studies have provided insights into the ecological roles and behaviors of mites, which are essential for comprehending their impact on vertebrate hosts. This Special Issue aims to compile and synthesize data from various research fields to advance our understanding of mite–vertebrate interactions. We invite submission of high-quality original papers focusing on the systematics, distribution, ecology, evolution, behavior, or conservation of mite taxa associated with vertebrates.

Guest Editors

Prof. Dr. Maciej Skoracki

Department of Animal Morphology, Faculty of Biology, Adam Mickiewicz University, 61-614 Poznań, Poland

Dr. Bożena Sikora

Department of Animal Morphology, Faculty of Biology, Adam Mickiewicz University, Poznań, Poland

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Animals
Editorial Office
MDPI, Grosspeteranlage 5
4052 Basel, Switzerland
Tel: +41 61 683 77 34
animals@mdpi.com

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Message from the Editor-in-Chief

Animals is an on-line open access journal that was first published in 2011. *Animals* adheres to rigorous peerreview and editorial processes and publishes only high quality manuscripts that address important issues in the many varied disciplines that involve animals, with a focus on animal science, animal welfare and animal ethics. *Animals* is covered in the Science Citation Index Expanded (SCIE) in Web of Science, with the latest Impact Factor: 2.7 (2024, ranks 15/86 (Q1) in 'Agriculture, Dairy & Animal Science'; 21/170 (Q1) in 'Veterinary Sciences'), 5-Year Impact Factor: 3.2.

Editor-in-Chief

Prof. Dr. Clive J. C. Phillips

1. Institute of Veterinary Medicine and Animal Sciences, Estonian University of Life Sciences, Kreutzwaldi 1, 51014 Tartu, Estonia
2. Curtin University Sustainability Policy (CUSP) Institute, Kent St., Bentley 6102, Australia

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