

Special Issue

Ecology of Aquatic Crustaceans: Crabs, Shrimps and Lobsters

Message from the Guest Editors

Aquatic crustaceans, including crabs, shrimps, and lobsters, play pivotal roles in maintaining the balance of marine and freshwater ecosystems. They serve as keystone species in nutrient cycling, sediment dynamics, and food webs while supporting global fisheries and aquaculture industries. However, rapid environmental changes—such as pollution, climate change, anthropogenic disturbances, etc.—are increasingly threatening their survival, ecological functions, and the sustainability of associated fisheries. Understanding the interplay between environmental factors and the ecology of these crustaceans is critical for developing effective conservation strategies and ensuring ecosystem resilience. This Special Issue warmly welcomes original research and review articles that explore the environmental ecology of aquatic crustaceans, with a focus on their responses to ecological stressors, adaptive mechanisms, and broader implications for ecosystem health. We welcome interdisciplinary studies integrating field observations, experimental approaches, and advanced technologies to address pressing ecological challenges.

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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.

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