

Special Issue

The Vertebrate Immune System: Insights from the Reptilian Perspective

Message from the Guest Editor

We invite original research papers that explore how the immune function of reptiles has shaped vertebrate life. Reptile immune function is unique in that it combines aspects of both innate and adaptive immunity and must deal with the physiological constraints of ectothermy.

One of the most recognisable traits of reptiles is their skin, and it was the advent of a robust physical barrier to form an initial line of defense against invading pathogens that allowed for terrestrial colonisation and radiation of these early vertebrates. A sound understanding of reptile immunity is essential for conservation efforts, disease management, and improving the health of captive animals. Research in this field continues to unveil the intricacies of reptilian immune systems, shedding light on their adaptations and vulnerabilities in the face of emerging novel pathogens and environmental change. You are invited to submit either an original research article or a review that focuses on how reptile immunity functions and responds to disease within this important taxon. Dr. T. Franciscus Scheelings

Guest Editor

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Deadline for manuscript submissions

closed (31 May 2024)



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About the Journal

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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