

## Special Issue

# Cave Life: Creatures That Lurk in the Shadows

### Message from the Guest Editors

Cave environments represent some of the most enigmatic ecosystems on the planet. Isolated from sunlight and often with limited resources, caves are home to highly specialized organisms adapted to permanent darkness, constant humidity, and nutrient scarcity. Studying cave fauna is relevant to the conservation of subterranean habitats.

We are pleased to invite you to submit scientific articles to this Special Issue addressing various aspects of subterranean life, with an emphasis on creatures that inhabit caves. It aims to bring together work that will expand our knowledge of biological diversity, ecological and evolutionary processes, and the challenges around preserving organisms that inhabit caves.

Interdisciplinary research and innovative approaches are especially encouraged. Original research articles and reviews are welcome. Research areas may include (but are not limited to) the following:

- Zoology;
- Cave ecology;
- Physiology of subterranean fauna;
- Adaptive evolution;
- Biogeography;
- Conservation of hypogean environments.

We look forward to receiving your contributions.

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### Guest Editors

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### Deadline for manuscript submissions

10 July 2026



## Animals

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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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### Editor-in-Chief

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