Special Issue

Effects of Enclosure Complexity and Design on Behavior and Physiology in Captive Animals

Message from the Guest Editors

Enclosure design can greatly affect behavior and physiology in captive animals. However, we know little about the effects of enclosure design beyond size and complexity. How do background, substrate, barriers, lighting (e.g., UV), or the environment outside the enclosure change behavior and stress in animals? How do animals use their environment in relation to the provided structures in their enclosure? How are the immediate surroundings outside the enclosure (noise, light, etc.) perceived by animals, and what are their impact? The Special Issue aims to collate recent advances in enclosure design and its relationship to behavior and welfare across a broad range of holding conditions and taxa. We are interested in contributions from all holding conditions ranging from zoos to laboratory and research facilities, and farm animals covering mammals, birds, fish, reptiles, amphibians and invertebrates. We welcome original research articles and review papers.

Guest Editors

Dr. Claudia Mettke-Hofmann

Dr. Andrew Smith

Dr. Paul Rose

Deadline for manuscript submissions

closed (1 December 2023)



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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.

Editor-in-Chief

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