

Special Issue

Functional Morphology and Adaptations of Aquatic Life

Message from the Guest Editor

Aquatic vertebrates can be divided into two categories: “primarily aquatic”—extant fish of all taxa, including lungfish and coelacanth, and their aquatic ancestors—and “secondarily aquatic”—tetrapod lineages that have derived an aquatic life from their terrestrial ancestors, which include non-avian reptiles, birds and mammals. The demands of aquatic life can be very different compared to those of an air-breathing terrestrial existence, and in many cases, a different range of functional adaptations has evolved in secondarily aquatic taxa.

We invite submissions on functional adaptations to aquatic life in both primarily and secondarily aquatic lineages, extant or extinct, in both original research and review papers, with the aim of further defining the needs of aquatic life. Topics could include sensory adaptations—electroreception, vision, and hearing, including echolocation—ventilation and gas exchange, locomotion, the hydrodynamics of swimming and diving, osmoregulation, and the physiology of life in a deep environment. Research into the comparative morphology of convergent or parallel evolution is encouraged.

Guest Editor

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Deadline for manuscript submissions

closed (29 February 2024)



Animals

an Open Access Journal
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Impact Factor 2.7
CiteScore 5.2
Indexed in PubMed



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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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