

Special Issue

Cat Behavioural Ecology

Message from the Guest Editor

The domestic cat is one of the most widely distributed terrestrial carnivores due to its great behavioural plasticity, and individuals evolve along a continuum depending on their association with humans, e.g., in terms of degree of feeding and freedom of movement. Between the indoor-only cats and the feral cats, there are free-ranging cats. Some may be fed ad libitum and free to leave and/or enter the home (free-ranging house cats). Others may not be attached to a particular dwelling, though being fed by humans (semi-feral or semi-owned cats). Finally, some individuals may be attached to farm buildings where they are fed only occasionally (farm cats). Both the observed complexity of domestic cat populations and the inter-individual behavioural variations explain to a large extent the difficulty of studies trying to highlight consistent patterns. However, methodological (e.g., citizen science) and technological (e.g., bio-loggers, environmental DNA) advances may provide some answers. This Special Issue aims to bring together the latest research on the behavioural ecology of domestic cats. Studies on other species are invited, if they may improve knowledge about cats.

Guest Editor

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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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