

Special Issue

Invertebrate Welfare

Message from the Guest Editors

Over the last few years, it has become clear that advanced invertebrates are self-aware, sentient beings with the ability to feel pain, however that is defined. This view is supported by animal welfare legislation in several countries. Although many invertebrates exhibit the ability to learn and have memory functions, there are major structural and physiological differences between animal groups. Some investigators argue that these differences imply the inability of advanced invertebrates to feel pain, even though they exhibit self-protective behavior. Whether this is true or not, it is surely the responsibility of human beings, particularly scientists, to take the welfare of invertebrates seriously and to treat them well in captivity and in the wild. Here, we propose to consider invertebrate welfare in breeding or holding facilities, in laboratories and under natural conditions where possible. The effects of effluents on animal populations will also be considered. Where experimentation on advanced invertebrates is necessary, appropriate methods of anesthesia will also be discussed.

Guest Editors

Prof. Dr. William Winlow

Prof. Dr. Jennifer Mather

Prof. Anna Di Cosmo

Deadline for manuscript submissions

closed (15 April 2024)



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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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