

Special Issue

Brain and Sensory Systems in Non-Avian Reptiles

Message from the Guest Editors

From the specialized pit organ that allows infrared detection in pit vipers to the vibration-sensitive integumentary cells that enable alligators to sense minute water disturbances, non-avian reptiles exhibit extraordinary sensory adaptations that have long fascinated both scientists and the public. Reptiles also occupy a unique phylogenetic position, have colonized diverse terrestrial and aquatic habitats, and serve as valuable models for understanding how the brains of land vertebrates evolved. However, compared to birds and mammals, the brain of reptiles remains far less explored.

This Special Issue aims to highlight current advances in our understanding of the brains and sensory systems of non-avian reptiles. The topics of interest include aspects of their neuroanatomy, neurophysiology, brain development, brain-body allometry, and ethology. Studies integrating multiple approaches are especially encouraged.

By bringing together these diverse perspectives, this collection seeks to emphasize non-avian reptiles as key comparative models for studying brain evolution and as important contributors to our broader understanding of neurobiology.

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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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