Special Issue

Animal Sentience: Theories and Practices

Message from the Guest Editor

There is something of an "it feels like" factor to sentience in animals, and that something matters. Which animals are sentient is important scientifically, ethically, politically, psychologically and practically. Being deemed sentient is often an "entry ticket" to respect, protection or consideration under national and international legislation. We use scientific, philosophical and empathetic methods to ascribe sentience to some animals - and not to others. There is considerable disagreement about which animals are sentient, what (and how much) evidence is necessary or sufficient to warrant an ascription, and which methods are valid and appropriate to use. Now is the time for us to review, evaluate and apply what we understand about sentience, in order to address, and perhaps resolve, some of our long-standing questions. This Special Issue welcomes submissions on all aspects of sentience, in particular its definition, ascription and implications, encourages interdisciplinary efforts, new methodologies, and treatments of topical issues in the current public and political forums.

Guest Editor

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Deadline for manuscript submissions

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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.

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