

Special Issue

Ethological Approach to Emotional Lives of Companion Animals

Message from the Guest Editors

The study of emotions in companion animals poses significant challenges due to the inaccessibility of the conscious subjective component of emotions. However, the understanding of the emotional functioning of animals is a key element for improving their welfare. The assessment of animal emotions is mainly based on the outcomes of affective states reflected on changes of animal behavior, physiology and cognition. The analysis of animal behavior, which represents a fast adaptive response to environmental and social changes, could provide a simple and objective measure of animal affective states. We invite original research articles, critical reviews, and commentaries on the use of ethological parameters to study animal emotions as well as the identification of new ethological methodologies and measures to assess affective states in companion animals. Research areas may include (but are not limited to) the following: stress-related behaviors, human-animal relationship, conspecific interactions, management and welfare of shelter, free-ranging and working animals (including Animal Assisted Interventions).

Guest Editors

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Deadline for manuscript submissions

closed (26 June 2023)



Animals

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



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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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