Special Issue

Biogeography and Archaeozoology of Island Mammals

Message from the Guest Editor

The invasion of ecosystems by exotic *taxa* is currently viewed as one of the most important causes of the loss of biodiversity. Invasive alien species (IAS) are recognised as one of the major causes of habitat destruction on a global scale, and islands are particularly vulnerable in view of the high proportion of endemic species and the specific biogeographic situation linked to their isolation. The most significant cases of biodiversity loss are usually to be found on islands, where indigenous species have often evolved in the absence of strong trophic competition, parasitism or predation. As a result, the introduced species also thrive in the optimal insular ecosystems that affect their plant food, competitors or animal prey. It is above all on islands that the biological records offer univocal evidence of the appearance of allochthonous species and anthropogenic introductions. The fact is that on islands, the impact of extraneous elements on the unspoilt ecological system can be identified, and its chronology specified with considerable precision, as a result of the evidence left and the relative rapidity of the consequences produced.

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Diversity (ISSN 1424-2818) is a scholarly journal that covers all areas of diversity research. Our distinguished editorial board and refereeing process ensures the highest degree of scientific rigor for publishing. Original research articles and timely reviews are released online, with unlimited free access.
We invite papers and reviews on multidisciplinary topics of diversity that bridge organismic diversity (systematics, biodiversity, phylogeny, population genetics, and evolution) and molecular diversity (phytochemistry and biophysics).

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