

Special Issue

The Long-Standing Problem of Parasitic Diseases in Zoo Animals: Current Challenges and Searching for Solutions

Message from the Guest Editor

Parasitism is a widespread biological phenomenon in nature, and has also forever accompanied life in zoological gardens. The negative effects of parasitic infections in zoo animals could be numerous: the development of secondary deficiency and other infections, an impairment of reproduction, and a risk of death in cases of massive and dangerous parasitoses. Moreover, zoos are places where wild animals come into close contact with humans. This significantly increases the risk of the spread of parasitic zoonoses, posing a threat to the health of the animals themselves, staff of the zoos, and visitors. The fight against parasitoses in zoos faces various challenges such as deficiencies in preventive programs; untimely or inaccurate diagnosis; parasite import via intermediates, paratenic hosts, or mechanical vectors; persistent infections; the need to adapt the antiparasitic treatment for a specific animal species, the development of resistance to drugs; and others. Success in this fight requires the united efforts of all zoo professionals. Let us do our part for a better future for animals in captivity! Mariana Panayotova-Pencheva *Guest editor*

Guest Editor

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Message from the Editor-in-Chief

I encourage you to contribute a research or comprehensive review article for consideration for publication in Journal of Zoological and Botanical Gardens, an international, multidisciplinary, peer-reviewed, open-access and open-source scientific journal that covers areas at the intersection of fauna and flora conservation. It publishes reviews, original research papers, short communications and opinion papers, no restriction on the maximum length of the papers. The Journal of Zoological and Botanical Gardens is the first international, peer-reviewed journal that provides an advanced forum for studies on both animals and plants kept in zoos, aquaria, and botanical gardens. It offers a unique opportunity to have the most updated research insights into each individual institution and discipline, but also a chance to treat common issues relating to their missions and aims, responding to the need of a multidisciplinary partnership approach.

Editor-in-Chief

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