



Instructions for Authors

Scope

Behaviour (*BEH*) is interested in all aspects of animal (including human) behaviour, from ecology and physiology to learning, cognition, and neuroscience. Evolutionary approaches, which concern themselves with the advantages of behaviour or capacities for the organism and its reproduction, receive much attention both at a theoretical level and as it relates to specific behaviour. The journal *Behaviour* has its roots in ethology and behavioural biology (see historical note), in which the emphasis is not so much on how animals compare with humans under strictly controlled conditions (as in comparative psychology), but more on tracing the phylogeny and evolution of natural behaviour as shown under naturalistic or natural conditions. Specialized cognition and communication are part of this approach. Well-controlled laboratory experiments are needed and welcome, but by no means the only approach. *Behaviour* has a long tradition of publishing systematic observations of spontaneous behaviour. *Behaviour* covers the whole animal kingdom, from invertebrates to fish, and from frogs to primates. The study of animal behaviour remains vibrant and keeps attracting young, talented scientists, who will find *Behaviour* a journal with a quick turn-around time (we strive for first reviews within a month) read by a wide range of students and researchers of animal behaviour.

Historical Note

Behaviour was founded by Nobel Prize winner Niko Tinbergen together with W. H. Thorpe, in 1948. In a classical 1963 paper — dedicated to the 60th birthday of that other animal behaviour Nobelist, Konrad Lorenz — Tinbergen proposed that questions relating to why an animal behaves in a particular way can be viewed through four prisms. At the proximate level, we have 1) the causation of behaviour (its underlying motivation, cognition, and emotions), and 2) the behaviour's ontogeny, such as how it develops or is acquired. At the ultimate level, we have 3) the behaviour's survival value, and 4) its evolution and phylogeny. *Behaviour* seeks to cover all four prisms equally.

Editors

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To support and enhance your manuscript, *Behaviour* accepts electronic supplementary material, including supporting applications, high-resolution images, background datasets, sound or video clips, large appendices, data tables and other items that cannot be included in the article PDF itself. Authors



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When submitting a manuscript, please note:

- The editorial board tries to keep the reviewing process as short as possible and to inform the author within two months after submission.
- The author receives proofs in about 6 weeks after acceptance. The paper will be published about 3 months after acceptance.

Submission Requirements

Language

Contributions to *Behaviour* must be written in English. Spelling should be consistent throughout.

Manuscript Structure

Contributions should be typed with numbered pages, numbered lines, double line spacing and wide margins throughout.

Title of the manuscript should be in roman (capitals only for the first letter and the first letters of proper nouns) should be as brief and informative as possible.

In addition, a short title should be provided, which should not exceed 50 characters, spaces included.

Authors names in roman with capitals as normally used by the author (e.g., M.P. Haley; Els Van Duyse; Johan G. van Rhijn; P.G. McDonald; D. Muller-Schwarze), first name or initials as preferred, names separated by commas and by '&' between the last two names, with references to affiliation addresses as superscripts (e.g. ¹), or ^{1,2}) in ascending order).



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E-mail addresses of corresponding authors may be added as footnotes.

Summary and Keywords

Each article should be accompanied by a summary in English, which should mention all the principal facts and conclusions set forth in the paper. A similar summary in another relevant language may be added, but this is not required.

Three to eight keywords should be given.

Headings

Main headings in **bold** (Summary, Introduction, Material and methods, Results, Discussion, Acknowledgements, References or other variants if appropriate), capitals only for first letter of each sentence and first letters of proper nouns, separated from the subsequent text by an empty line.

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Sub-subheadings in roman type, aligned to the left, capitals only for first letter of each sentence and proper nouns, separated by an empty line from the preceding text, the following text starts on the next line.

Italics

Italics should only be used for scientific species names, words that need to be emphasized (no italics for: e.g., i.e., et al., etc., cf.) and for mathematical and statistical variables such as p, F, U, t, N, r, but not for SD (standard deviation), SE (standard error), df (degrees of freedom) and NS (non significant).

Bold

Bold should only be used in exceptional cases of extra emphasis or in some formulas.

Capital Letters

Capitals should only be used for first letters of sentences, first letters proper nouns and first letters of specific words (e.g. tables, figures, experiments, behaviour patterns) that should be emphasized; small capitals for words that should be printed in capitals (e.g. ANOVA, MANOVA)

References

Reference citations in the text should consist of one or two authors and the year of publication or first



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author + et al. and year, all within brackets or only the year in brackets, authors separated by '&', author(s) and year separated by comma. Different references should be separated by a semicolon and listed chronologically. If the list contains several references by the same author(s), extra years should be added to the first entrance of an author. Differentiate between references by the same author(s) from the same year by adding a, b, etc. Examples: (Gaston, 1977) or Gaston (1977); (Wingfield, 1985; Wingfield & Wada, 1989; Wingfield & Hahn, 1994; McDonald et al., 2001); (Silverin, 1993, 1998a; Wingfield & Hahn, 1994)

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Examples

Journal Articles

Bekoff, M. (1974). Social play soliciting by infant canids. – *Amer. Zool.* 14: 303-315.

Nowicki, S., Searcy, W.A., Hughes, M. & Podos, J. (2001). The evolution of bird song: male and female response to song innovation in swamp sparrows. – *Anim. Behav.* 62: 33-39. Edited volume

Bekoff, M. & Byers, J.A., eds (1998). *Animal play: Evolutionary, comparative and ecological perspectives*. – Cambridge University Press, Cambridge.

Chapter in a Book

Loizos, C. (1967). Play behaviour in higher primates: a review. – In: *Primate ethology* (Morris, D., ed.). Aldine, Chicago, p. 176-218.

Figures and Tables

References to tables and figures should consist of the complete word, first letter capital (also in the middle of a sentence or in brackets) + number in Arabic numerals.

Examples: Figure 1 or (Figure 1); Table 7 or (Table 7).

Tables should be kept as simple as possible with at least 3 horizontal lines and additional lines if appropriate, data ordered in a convenient way. The title should give all details that are needed to understand the table except obvious footnotes.

Figures should be submitted as separate source files in .eps, .tif, or .jpg format, in a size suitable for the typesetting area of the journal which is 118 x 180 mm. The resolution of these files should be at least 300 dpi for half-tone figures, and 600 dpi for line drawings. Number the files, and indicate in the manuscript where they are to appear (Fig. 1 here).

The text in a figure must be legible, and font size should not be smaller than 7 pt. The size of this lettering for any text in a figure should be the same for all figures in the manuscript.

Figure captions should not be attached to the figures but should be typed on separate pages and attached to the end of the manuscript.

Abbreviations

Abbreviations should be followed by '.' unless the abbreviation is written with the last letter of the



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original word at the end position (thus: i.e. – e.g. – cf. – etc. but eds – Dr – edn) – measures (such as mm cm m s l) without ‘.

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