

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.

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- The author receives proofs in about 6 weeks after acceptance. The paper will be published about 3 months after acceptance.

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Language

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

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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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References

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

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