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ISBE Newsletter

International Society for Behavioral Ecology
www.behavecol.com
Supplement to *Behavioral Ecology*

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FROM THE NEWSLETTER EDITOR

A few months have already passed, but I am sure many, just like me, fondly remember the New York congress. This issue features a report from the meeting, three book reviews and an article about our journal, Behavioral Ecology, which is celebrating its first quarter century this year. I would like to thank everybody that contributed to this newsletter, and encourage all members to consider a contribution in the future. Please send me information about upcoming conferences and workshops. There is also a long list of books that are available for review in upcoming issues of the newsletter.

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WANTED

Are you interested in working with the ISBE website?
www.behavecol.com

We are looking for somone to help develop and update our website. If you have some experience with web pages and want to contribute to your society, please contact the newsletter editor.

How to contribute to the newsletter

The ISBE Newsletter publishes Book Reviews, Conference and Workshop Reviews and Commentary Articles of interest to the International Society for Behavioral Ecology. The ISBE Newsletter will only consider work that is not already published or intended to be submitted for publication elsewhere.

Book Reviews: Reviews are generally solicited by the Editor as new books arrive at the office, and are deemed to be of interest to the society. Persons involved in the publishing of books who would like these to be considered for review in the Newsletter should contact the Editor and arrange for their publisher to forward a review copy to this office. Authors may submit a list of possible reviewers. Alternately, members who wish to review a particular text should contact the Editor. The Editor will provide reviewers with instructions and a style sheet. Reviews are typically 1500-2000 Words.

Workshop/Conference Reviews: Workshop and/or Conference reviews should be prepared in one of the following two formats. *Brief synopses* (max 1500 words) and *Longer reports* (max 3000 words) Graduate students and postdocs are strongly encouraged to consider contributing to writing these reports.

Cartoons: Cartoonists and other artists are encouraged to submit artwork, either in hardcopy, or as TIFF or high resolution (300 dpi) gig or jpg files. All cartoons published in the newsletter will be credited to the illustrator, and will appear on the Newsletter's website www.behavecol.com.

Spotlight on young scientists: Early career members (PhDs/ postdocs) are encouraged to participate in the section "Spotlight on"; please provide name, education, current address, research interests and selected papers in an email to the editor.

FROM THE PRESIDENT

As I write this autumn has most definitely arrived in the UK and I am reminded how excellent and sunny the 15th ISBE congress in New York only two months ago really was. Those of us fortunate to attend can vouch for another stimulating and brilliant meeting that really showcased the importance of our society for the field of behavioral ecology. Mark Hauber and James Higham enthusiastically and most professionally organized an excellent meeting with the help of a tireless and friendly team at the Hunter College of the City University of New York (CUNY) and New York University. Hunter was an excellent and most appropriate venue for the meeting. It was founded in 1870 originally as a women's college offering higher education opportunities to women, but is now open to both sexes. This was a fitting venue that perfectly reflects the healthy (equal) sex ratio of the ISBE membership and executive council with members from across the globe. There were >1100 participants from all over the world at the meeting with about 70% non-US, highlighting the international make-up of our society.

It was a superb meeting making the most of the spectacular and vibrant place that is New York. Walking through Central Park to the conference venue near Park Avenue in the morning from the flat I rented near Broadway was a fantastic and invigorating start to the day. The opening event at the Zoo in Central Park provided a popular launch setting the tone to a continued great meeting with several scientific and social highlights. The screening of Isabella Rossellini's short films Mammas! at the American Museum of Natural History nearly turned into a night at the museum for some participants had not the security staff been so vigilant. I think it safe to say that many were both starstruck and fascinated by Isabella's insightful and often hilarious animalization (in contrast to anthropomorphizing) of animal motherhood and maternal instinct. The accompanying discussion and question and answer session with Isabella and Marlene Zuk (who also closed the congress by giving a superb Hamilton lecture on behavioral ecology and genomics), perfectly illustrated the potent mix of art and science.

I was honored to unveil the Society's new logo at the meeting. It has taken over two decades for ISBE to get one, but it was certainly worth the wait. The logo is based on by Nils Cordes' (University of Bielefeld) winning entry in the membership competition for the ISBE logo. His idea was subsequently developed by Martin Thompson an artist and illustrator based in Perth, Australia. Martin has graciously given ISBE the finished logo free of charge as an endorsement of our society. ISBE is most appreciative of his kind offering and superb work.

Another key activity of our society, apart from holding vibrant international meetings every two years, is to publish our journal, Behavioral Ecology. This year is a landmark year as we are celebrating the journal's 25th anniversary. Behavioral Ecology started its life at the 2nd ISBE congress in Vancouver in 1988 where John Krebs, Linda Partridge and Randy Thornhill had the idea of a journal promoting the study of behavior within an evolutionary and ecological context. The first issue saw the light of day at the following ISBE congress two years later in Uppsala with Staffan Ulfstrand and Donald Kramer as the founding 1st editors. I highly recommend you take a look at the illuminating article on the history of the journal by our current editor, Leigh Simmons (*Behav. Ecol*. vol 25 (1), 2014), chartering the development of the field of behavioral ecology in its first 25 years. Leigh also highlights the 10 most cited articles in the journal's history, which serves as an excellent introduction to a series of commissioned anniversary essays appearing throughout 2014. I also recommend you take a look at the virtual 25th Anniversary Celebration Issue. Here you will find past and present Editors selecting articles from the archive they feel have made a substantial contribution to the development of the field of behavioral ecology. It also features invited reviews and commentaries, together with the winning articles of the Pitelka Prize, so is a rich source showcasing the development of our field and points to the future of our science. I want to take the opportunity to thank Leigh and his editorial team for their tireless work with the journal – it is in very safe and competent hands and is going from strength to strength. Their job is the very lifeblood of our society in terms of ensuring the best possible behavioral ecology science sees the light of day and therefore making sure our journal is at the forefront of the field. This is critical as it maintains the income to the society that means we can continue to put on fabulous meetings and subsidize the attendance of students, which of course are vital for the continued growth and success of behavioral ecology. I also want to extend the thanks to Ian Sherman at Oxford University Press who has recently taken over looking after our journal since Cathy Kennedy retired last year. Ian's extensive publishing expertise has ensured a seamless transition and we are looking forward to his continued input and support in years to come.

The Society is also lucky that we have an elected group of dedicated people on the ISBE Executive board. I would like to thank the outgoing officers for their excellent work over the years. Marie Herberstein has stepped down as the newsletter editor after several years of a fantastic delivery, and is now replaced by Andreas Svensson who is doing a great job as is evident from the current and the previous newsletters.

If you have items or ideas you think would be of interest to the membership, please just contact Andreas – he wants to hear from you. I want to thank Roxana Torres and Bruce Lyon as outgoing council members for their work over the past four years. They are replaced by Dough Emlen and Marie Herberstein. I also want to welcome the current president elect, Ben Hatchwell, and Bob Wong, our new secretary. Bob has taken over from Rob Magrath who after many years of impeccable work ensuring information is accurately reported and disseminated has finally called it a day. Many thanks to all of you.

Finally, I want to warmly invite all of you to the next ISBE congress in Exeter in 2016 when we will be celebrating 30 years of the society!

Nina Wedell, ISBE President

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ISBE executive meeting in August 2014. Photo: P. Andreas Svensson

C O N F E R E N C E C A L E N D A R

Social Insects in the North East Regions 4 (SINNERS) November 8 - 9, 2014. Cornell University.This is a bi-annual meeting of social insect researchers in the North Eastern US. Registration is currently open and abstract submission closes Oct. 10th. http://kevinloope.wix.com/sinners-4-cornell

ASAB Winter 2014: "Individuals in Groups"
December 4-5th 2014, Prince Albert Suite, Zoological Society of London, London, UK. Please see the website for further details http://www.collective-behavior.com/ASABWinterMeeting/

The Association for the Study of Animal Behaviour (ASAB) Winter meeting 2014
December 4-5 2014. Zoological Society of London, UK. Theme: Individuals in Groups
http://asab.nottingham.ac.uk/meetings/

Australasian Ornithological Conference
December 4-7, 2014, Auckland New Zealand
http://birdlife.org.au/get-involved/whats-on/aoc/

SICB 2015 Meeting Division of Animal Behavior – January 3-7, 2015 in West Palm Beach, FL – Mark your calendar for the Society for Integrative and Comparative Biology (SICB) 2015 annual meeting. The meeting will include contributed oral and poster presentations as well as several symposia, five of which are co-sponsored by SICB's Division of Animal Behavior. www.sicb.org/meetings/2015/

EHBEA 2015 in Helsinki, Finland
European Human Behaviour & Evolution Association 2015 will be held in Helsinki, Finland from 29th March to 1st April. This will be the first EHBEA conference in a Nordic country.
http://ehbea.com/conf/2015/

ASAB Easter meeting 2015
University of Durham, UK. More information to follow: http://asab.nottingham.ac.uk/meetings/

Human Behavior and Evolution Society
We are pleased to announce the 26th annual meeting to be held at the University of Missouri, May27–30, 2015: http://www.hbes.com/conference/

Evolution 2015
is the joint annual meeting of the Society for the Study of Evolution (SSE), the Society of Systematic Biologists (SSB), and the American Society of Naturalists (ASN). The meeting this year will be held on June 26-29 at the Casa Grande Resort in Guarujá, Brazil (visa required). sbg.org.br/Evolution2015/

Animal behavior society
52nd Annual Conference, Anchorage, Alaska
June 10-14, 2015. www.abs2015.org

The annual Joint Meetings of Ichthyologists and Herpetologists will occur in Reno, Nevada from 15-19 July 2015: http://www.dce.k-state.edu/conf/jointmeeting/future-meetings

Field Herpetology of the Southwest The American Museum of Natural History is pleased to announce the dates for the 2015 version of its course Field Herpetology of the Southwest, to be held at the Southwest Research Station (Arizona) from 24 July - 2 August 2015:
http://research.amnh.org/swrs/herpetology-southwest

XVth ESEB Meeting, Lausanne
The Department of Ecology and Evolution of the University of Lausanne is delighted to organise the 2015 meeting of the European Society for Evolutionary Biology. It will be held on August 10th-14th 2015 in Lausanne, Switzerland.
http://www3.unil.ch/wpmu/eseb2015/

Behaviour2015 Cairns
A joint meeting of the International Ethological Conference (IEC), Australasian Society for the Study of Animal Behaviour (ASSAB), Australasian Evolution Society (AES), and Australasia, New Zealand and Africa Region of Applied Ethology. 9 to 14 August, 2015, in Cairns, Australia. www.behaviour2015.org/

International Society for Applied Ethology
The ISAE Congress of the returns to Japan! The 49th congress will be held in in Sapporo, Japan from September 14th to 17th in 2015.
http://www.jsaab.org/isae2015/

ASAB Winter meeting 2015: Animal Social Learning and Culture
London, UK, December 3-4 2015.
http://asab.nottingham.ac.uk/meetings

ISBE 2016 in Exeter UK, more information TBA

10th Conference of the European Ornithologists' Union University of Extremadura, Spain: 24 – 28 August 2015 We are planning three full conference days plus one day of mid-conference excursions. Alfonso Marzal, Head of Local Organizing Committee, email amarzal@unex.es
http://www.eounion.org/pdf/EOU_2015__Invitation.pdf

Society Of Integrative And Comparative Biology (SICB) 2016 Meeting in Portland, OR. *Call for Symposia* Please consider proposing a symposium for an upcoming SICB meeting!
http://www.sicb.org/meetings/2016/callsymp

International Congress of Neuroethology,
Uruguay 2016. March 29 – April 3.
http://eventegg.com/icn-2016/

8th World Congress of Herpetology
2016. August., Hangzhou, China
www.worldcongressofherpetology.org/?page_id=406

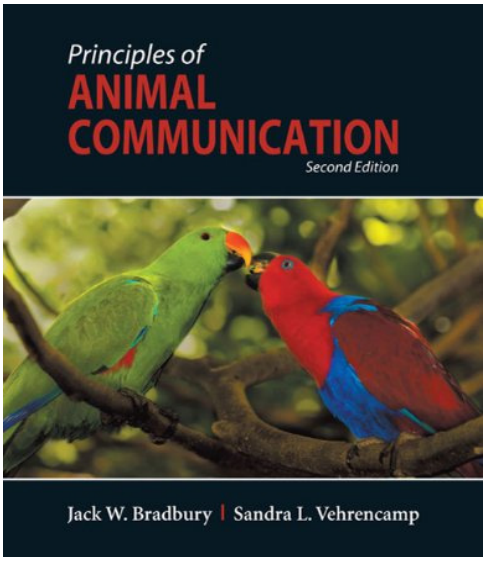
XXV International Congress of Entomology
September 25-30 2016, Orlando, Florida, USA
www.ice2016orlando.org

PRINCIPLES OF ANIMAL COMMUNICATION - ONLINE VERSION

A number of colleagues have asked for digital version of the second edition of the textbook, *Principles of Animal Communication*. CourseSmart, the agency that provides a 180-day life version of the book in digital form for students, now provides an unlimited lifetime version (for a higher price) that can be read through their app or a browser using any computer and most devices. The link to the website where you can sign up and pay for an "unlimited use" digital copy is:

www.coursesmart.com/principles-of-animal-communication-second/jack-w-bradbury-and-sandra-l-vehrencamp/dp/9780878930456

Alternatively: http://tinyurl.com/oe2hbg6



SAERI RESEARCH INSTITUTE ON FALKLAND ISLANDS

The South Atlantic Environmental Research Institute (SAERI) is based in Stanley in the Falkland Islands. It was created 2 years ago by its director Dr Paul Brickle and now has 7 full-time researchers, several PhD students and a range of international collaborators in the Americas, Europe, and Australasia. SAERI aims to be an academic organisation conducting world class environmental research, teach students, and build capacity within and between the UK South Atlantic Overseas Territories (the Falkland Islands, Ascension Island, St Helena, Tristan Da Cunha, Gough Island, South Georgia, South Sandwich Islands and Antarctica).

Dr Amélie Augé, by training and at heart a behavioural ecologist, has recently moved to the Falkland Islands to undertake a Marine Spatial Planning (MSP) project for the islands based at SAERI. Part of the first aim of this project is to understand how animals use the marine environment of the Falkland Islands. This involves a large-scale multi-species analyses of satellite-tracking of seabirds and marine mammals, habitat modelling for fish and benthic species to understand what environment factors dictate the use of the marine environment by marine life. This will then feed in spatial analyses to identify zones for spatial management. If you have any data of animal movements or observations or habitat distributions and would like to participate in the MSP project and contribute data and expertise, please get in touch at AAuge@env.institute.ac.fk. You can also follow the project on the MSP project webpage at

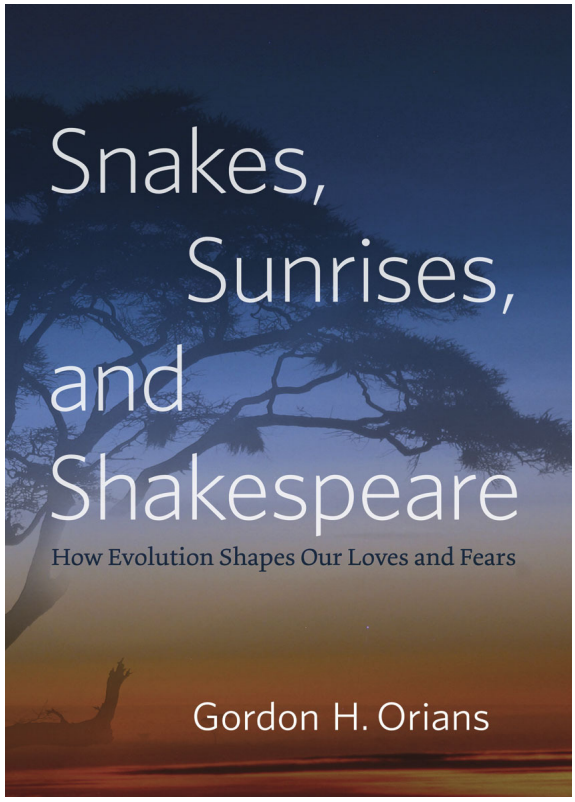
http://www.south-atlantic-research.org/research/current-research/80-marine-spatial-planning-falkland-islands

A number of projects led SAERI staff and students also involve behavioural ecology, such as penguin and sea lion tracking to determine risks from ongoing oil exploration around the Falkland Islands or studying icefish ecology around South Georgia. SAERI is keen to collaborate with researchers from around the world and assist research. There are a lot of research opportunities in and around the islands to conduct innovative studies and applied projects, in the terrestrial, freshwater and marine realms so, get in touch with us if you would like to discuss a research idea in the Falkland Islands or one of the other UK Overseas Territory in the South Atlantic. SAERI has a wide range of skills, contacts and knowledge and a passion for these amazing and special islands and their wildlife.

South Atlantic Environmental Research Institute SAERI
Stanley Cottage, Falkland Islands

http://www.south-atlantic-research.org/

Snakes, Sunrises, and Shakespeare: How Evolution Shapes Our Loves and Fears by Gordon H. Orians



Numerous studies show us that although humans should be most scared of fast-moving cars, gun wielding criminals, or nuclear bombs, we're actually more scared of snakes, spiders, and things that go bump in the night. Given the environments that most humans currently inhabit, and the fact that we're much more likely to die in a car crash than by venomous snake bite, our fears seem entirely counterintuitive. Snakes, Sunrises, and Shakespeare: How Evolution Shapes Our Loves and Fears, by Gordon H. Orians, takes an evolutionary psychological approach to discussing why our fears are so discordant with the risks we actually encounter on an everyday basis. Orians doesn't stop at fear though, also delving into the possible evolutionary bases for what brings us pleasure, exploring our aesthetic preferences across sensory modalities and domains.

In "Whistling for Honey" (Chapter 1), Orians details his own search for, as he calls it, "an environmental basis to emotions and aesthetics", laying out the evidence that humans have clear emotional responses to components of the environment. A thunderstorm with great bolts of lightning might leave us awestruck, and a bit fearful, whereas a sunrise is soothing and joyful. As a logical follow-up, "Ghosts of the African Savannah" (Chapter 2) asks why humans have emotions at all, and what functions these emotional responses to the environment might serve. Orians thus sets the stage for the rest of the book, a look across historical and evolutionary time, and across cultures, to explore the role of emotions in determining what we love, and what we fear.

Orians follows typical evolutionary psychology thinking throughout this book, returning time and time again to the savannah and the environment early humans were thought to inhabit during the Pleistocene. He reminds the reader that until quite recently our human ancestors lived in small hunter-gatherer groups in a savannah environment, and that our cognition and behaviors are likely to make more sense when the risks and resources of that particular environment are considered. Although the same risks might not be as prevalent in today's world, "The High Cost of Learning" (Chapter 3) discusses how ingrained and innate preferences and fears are likely to be a better solution to navigating the world than trial and error learning, as learning is time-consuming, dependent upon suitable teachers/modelers, prone to error, and potentially risky if the wrong behavior is learned or executed. This chapter explores some of the "innate" behaviors and cognition that humans are thought to possess or acquire early in life, from perception of change to pattern extraction and categorization.

The next section of the book begins with a discussion of the importance of these innate and early developing abilities and preferences on human interactions with their environment, especially with regards to habitat selection. Although the overall hypothesis of the book is that general preferences and dislikes are set on an evolutionary timescale by natural selection, in "Reading the Landscape" (Chapter 4), Orians wisely points out that individual's characteristics (e.g., age, sex, reproductive status) and current needs (e.g., mate, food, shelter) can affect how one responds to a specific cue at a particular point in time. A mother with hungry, dependent offspring might pay less attention to environmental cues of a predator than a satiated individual. And with respect to dangers such as predators, in "The Snake in the Grass (…and Other Hazards)" (Chapter 5), Orians delves into our deepest fears, the evolutionary explanation for why these things scare us, and the conscious and unconscious ways in which we detect and react to potentially dangerous stimuli.

While the survival value of attending to threatening stimuli is obvious, there is value in *preferring* certain types of stimuli as well, as humans who selected the safest and most resource rich habitats often had an advantage which might make them more likely to survive and pass on their genes. In "Settling Down and Settling In" (Chapter 6), Orians reviews our aesthetic preferences, as revealed through art, literature, garden design, and scientific studies. Orians describes a very interesting case study in which two Russian artists asked 1,000 Americans their aesthetic preferences, from their favorite color to their favorite type of animal to see in paintings. They repeated this in nine other countries, from Iceland to Kenya, and found that when they created a country-specific composite picture from the answers, the pictures were remarkably similar across countries.

The characteristics they shared, such as a savannah landscape and the presence of large mammals and climbable trees, are features which might make life easier for those living in that type of environment. Ample food, easy access to height to survey the surroundings, and few places for predators to hide are all features which would recommend a habitat to a potential settler, and these features are those that humans across cultures appear to prefer intrinsically even today.

Food is another area in which humans exhibit clear preferences, and "A Ransom in Pepper" (Chapter 7) moves beyond the obvious importance of food to human survival, examining how humans have found and processed food across history. Although, as Orians points out, there is great variability across cultures and people in specific food likes and dislikes, there are some commonalities which demonstrate how evolutionary pressures have shaped our food preferences, such as the pleasure associated with foods high in sugar, and thus high in caloric content.

Moving across the senses, the next two chapters focus on our attention to and biases for certain auditory and olfactory stimuli. In "The Musical Ape" (Chapter 8), Orians explores the hypotheses around the evolution of music, and commonalities in musical preferences across cultures. In "The First Sniff" (Chapter 9), Orians discusses the important social and non-social odors that humans encounter and pay attention to, and how the brain and the nose work together to use odors to aid in decision making.

As a bit of an aside, Orians examines how we go about "Ordering Nature" (Chapter 10), discussing how humans classify and categorize the world. Orians also discusses how categorizing can lead to collecting, with potential reproductive benefits to collecting rare items which might indicate mate quality. Categorization is ubiquitous across species as it reduces the complexity of the environment, enables efficient learning, and reduces environmental uncertainty, and Orians brings in the literature showing that the relationship between collection and mating success is seen outside of humans as well, such as in bower birds.

In the final chapter, "The Honeyguide and the Snake: Embracing our Ecological Minds" (Chapter 11), Orians discusses ways in which all of these biases might actually reduce our survival and reproductive success in today's world, as they were shaped by evolution in a very different environment. For instance, our preference for sweet food was adaptive in the resource scarce environment humans evolved in; however, the existence of this bias in today's world, with its overabundance of sweet, high-calorie foods, is one potential cause of the current obesity crisis. As Orians shows throughout this entire book, our preferences and fears are so deeply ingrained that they're hard to override. This chapter is the most applied of all in the book, exploring ways in which humans can utilize their biases to enhance their lives and the environment around them, as well as exploring the potential danger of pretending these biases don't exist. Orians suggests that instead of trying to change our innate biases, we should instead change the situations that we put ourselves and our children in to avoid the daunting task of trying to ignore the pull of evolutionarily ingrained bias.

Orians' book is a nice introduction to cognitive bias in everyday life, and a good primer to those interested in learning more about this topic. I found this book a good companion to my travels this summer. As I wandered around English gardens, I kept returning to the studies presented in the chapter on "Settling Down and Settling In". I saw example after example of the ways in which our evolutionarily ingrained preferences for clear access to water, escape routes, and tree shape can be seen even in the most refined of places. And this illustrates where I think the strength of Orian's book lay. By demonstrating how cognitive bias is evident in so many aspects of our daily lives, Orians has made a vast literature on the evolution of cognition accessible as well as clearly applicable to anyone.

The evolutionary psychology of cognitive bias is far too immense a topic to cover in one small book, especially when considering the breadth of topics that Orians covers here. While Orians typically does not give detailed information for each study, he does an excellent job at providing a sampling of studies that examine real-world situations in which our innate biases emerge. Fortunately the book is generally well cited, allowing readers to dive deeper into the research on topics they're particularly interested in. Orians demonstrates how these biases manifest in our everyday life across a wide variety of domains, and seeing how ingrained cognitions affect our daily behaviors and thoughts demonstrates to readers why they should care about their own biases. Overall, this book is an interesting, straightforward introduction to the world of cognitive bias and the evolution of human cognition, and I would recommend it to anyone interested in learning more about how and why they see the world as they do.

Dr. Tara Mandalaywala

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Reintroduction Biology: Integrating Science and Management

by John G. Ewen, Doug P. Armstrong, Kevin A Parker, & Philip J Seddon, (editors)

Conservation Science and Practice Series no 9, Wiley-Blackwell Publishing Ltd. 2012.
The contents can be previewed at:
http://ca.wiley.com/WileyCDA/WileyTitle/productCd-1405186747.html

"Reintroduction Biology: Integrating Science and Management" covers the history, philosophy, and terminology used of this field, and considers in depth the rationales for best practices for utilizing this approach to species conservation. The editors hail from New Zealand, and the book arose from this country's pioneering efforts and world leadership in developing translocation approaches to provide refuges for native species, particularly birds, threatened by habitat change and invasive predators or competitors. The editor-practitioners wished to aid local proponents of reintroduction, which culminated in a symposium held in London in 2008. The editors have drawn on the international community to address issues where they lacked technical expertise, particularly genetics. Fourteen chapters were contributed by 35 co-authors, drawn from New Zealand (8), Australia (2) the UK (9), other Europe (8), South Africa (1), the US (5), and Mexico (1). They sensibly recruited e.g., James Nichols as lead author for a chapter on designing post-release monitoring plans, and disease and genetics specialists for chapters on those subjects. One chapter, co-written by Carl Jones and the late Don Merton, focuses on the outcome of 'case studies' from Mauritius and New Zealand, but the remaining chapters are issue oriented reviews of topics: habitat and distribution modeling, operational translocation practices, behavioral and dispersal considerations, modelling populations, post translocation population monitoring, and adaptive management following reintroductions, parasite and disease risks, and three chapters on genetic issues. Most of these chapters are of interest for a range of biologists, and many could be used as readings for courses in population genetics, population ecology, animal ecology (habitat and modelling), and, obviously, wildlife management. In particular, the chapter by Keller et al. on Inbreeding and Genetic Drift provides a concise general introduction to many aspects of basic population genetics, as well as some specific peculiarities relevant to the establishment and growth of new, small populations.

For behavioral ecologists, the most directly relevant chapter is that dealing with Dispersal and Habitat Selection, which focuses on habitat selection strategies that will increase the likelihood that introduced animals will stay put, including personality, currently still a hot topic. Other behavioral aspects are relevant, however, including stress responses to capture and holding prior to release, tradeoffs from 'hard or soft' release approaches, and post-release feeding regimes that may be used to support survivorship or reproduction.

The volume provides a sophisticated handbook for practitioners, but many, if not most of the suggestions for "best practices" are ones that few will be able to employ. The data needed e.g. for much of the population modeling described prior to introduction will rarely be available. Funding for post-release monitoring and adaptive management following releases will be hard to maintain in many situations. Planners and promoters will be able to point towards these chapters in their funding requests, which would be beneficial. Unquestionably, taking advantage of management action for reintroductions as opportunities for ecological experimentation could be valuable both scientifically and practically, but few situations will provide the opportunity to do so. This being said, answering the question: "why have most reintroductions failed?" is certainly worthwhile.

Reintroduction programs are inherently hopeful enterprises. The authors note that the release of transported animals is intrinsically celebratory and can often be used to help generate public support for such programs. The book is prefaced with a memorium to the late Don Merton written by his co-worker Carl Jones, whose exceptional leadership helped create both scientific and political support for this approach to species conservation.

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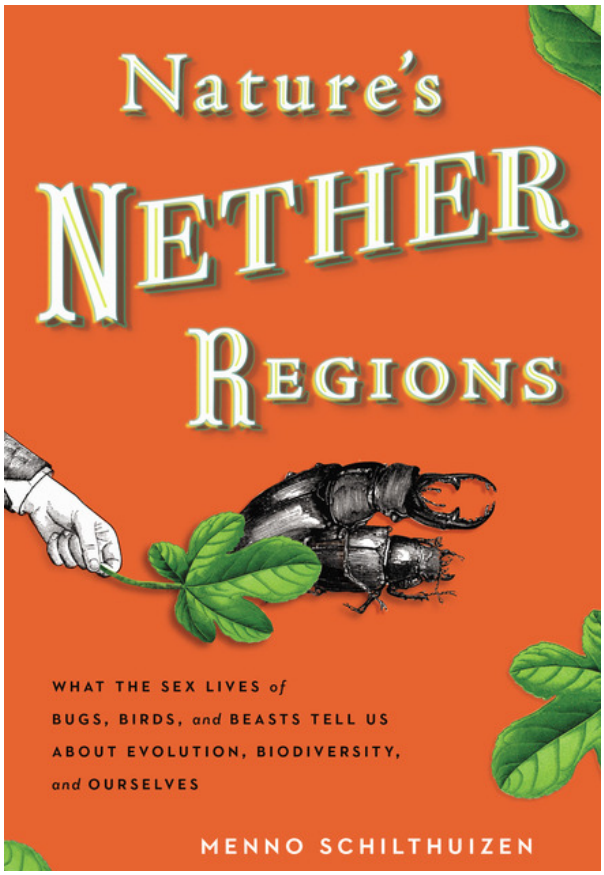
Nature's Nether Regions by Menno Schilthuizen 2014

Penguin group



I have to admit I cringed slightly on seeing the title of the latest animal porn popular science book. I'm not sure a metaphor that might have been used by embarrassed Victorian parents makes a good title for a book. And yet, one shouldn't judge a book by its cover – or title in this case – and I'm pleased to report that I enjoyed the book immensely.

There are, of course, a fair few popular science books out there on the endlessly fascinating (and no doubt profitable) world of animal sex. However, as far as I'm aware there are none that focus purely on animal genitalia, and it is here that Schilthuizen's text fills a gap. The story starts by clearing up certain definitions key to any text on sexual selection. We learn why anisogamy underlies the differences between males and females, and are introduced to the historical theories of why we see such diversity in genitalia – particularly male – across the animal world. We meet Eberhard's revolutionary book Sexual Selection and Animal Genitalia, a tome mentioned frequently enough throughout to make me suspect Schilthuizen holds a healthy respect for Eberhard and his work. Explanation and examples of sexually antagonistic coevolution comprise a fair chunk of the book, and the final chapter, which I particularly enjoyed, is dedicated to the evolution of genitalia in hermaphrodites. Throughout, the book is laced with wonderful anecdotes from the world of genitalia research, spanning the past century and a half. I was particularly taken by some of the descriptions of the very novel methods which researchers have employed over the years to study genitalia. Who knew, for example, that the function of primate penile spines has been examined in marmoset monkeys via their removal with depilatory cream?! And I shall never tire of Brennan's intrepid study whereby she demonstrated the coevolution of the male and female duck reproductive systems by encouraging males to evert their penises at ejaculation – rather explosively I might add – into glass tubes.

I do disagree with some of Schilthuizen's suggestions and, what I feel are sweeping generalisations. I don't agree, for example, that "in the past ten years or so biologists have begun to realise that the difference of opinion between the Fisherians and the Good-geners is only an illusion." I think many of us still distinguish between Fisherian and good-gene benefits to females of exercising choice, and understanding the relative importance of the different mechanisms by which sexual selection operates in a given species, or even population, is still a major focus of the field. I was also disappointed – although I admit that I am probably being a pedant given Nature's Nether Regions is a popular science text – to see the usual wheeling out of Baker and Bellis' 1993 Animal Behaviour publications on the function of the human female orgasm in biasing sperm use towards preferred males. Although Schilthuizen comments – very briefly – further on in the book that the Baker and Bellis studies were based on little data, they are still given more attention than I think is warranted for research that has since largely been discredited.

The afterword includes a very nice retort to those who question the fact that some of us devote our lives to answering the more esoteric questions in animal sex. I shall be memorising some of those lines for when I am next asked to justify my being paid to research the intimate sex lives of insects.

For sexual selection researchers there are unlikely to be that many surprises in Nature's Nether Regions. The usual superstars are all here including Darwin's well-endowed barnacles, Waage's spoon-penised damselflies, and Siva-Jothy's traumatically-inseminating bedbugs. However for those that are new to the sexual selection literature, for those who wish to inspire their undergraduates, or for those who just fancy an entertaining read, I highly recommend the book.

Dr. Zenobia Lewis
School of Life Sciences,
University of Liverpool, UK.

New York. The proud queen of cities.
Its dominating skyline, green summer parks, tangle of subway and beating human heart set an impressive stage for ISBE 2014.

There were those that expressed concern about shifting the typical conference venue from the familiar collegiate atmosphere of a university town or the ordered structure of a convention centre to the chaotic Manhattan jungle. It would be too expensive, too confusing, too distracting. But Mark Haber, James Higham, and their team pulled it off with professionalism and grace to provide the attendees with a conference that they won't soon forget.


View from the poster session
Photo: P. Andreas Svensson

Sure, there were some issues with the venue. New York is an expensive city by anybody's standards, but the organisers ensured that the costs of the conference itself were kept as low as possible, giving people the freedom to choose how much they would spend. The weekly metro card also gave people a golden ticket to the city and was absolutely critical in bringing unity to the composition of the segmented piece. Yes, the layout of the talks throughout multiple floors of two buildings meant a lot of moving about, but Hanna Kokko put it best by saying that the frantic jumble provided opportunities to refresh body and mind in preparation for the next talk. It certainly gave everyone a good opportunity to get the exercise they need. The high quality of the talks also compelled people to put up with any difficulties. The much despised HN1036 room, mainly showcasing talks on social behaviour, brought in large crowds despite it being remote, stuffy and awkward. Similarly, both the Assembly Hall and Kaye Playhouse, home to some colourful symposia, were always packed in spite of the straining AC. Next we had the scattered locations for conference events, ranging across the breadth and length of the Island, meaning that we had to hold tightly to our maps, ride the subway, take taxis and walk countless blocks (just like real New Yorkers). Yet this also provided everyone with a diversity of sights and sounds to take in, and it showcased one of Earth's greatest cities to us all. Every attendee of the conference can now say with some confidence that they've visited some of New York's nicest areas.

And that brings us to the unmistakable mark that the city itself had on the conference. We each truly got to indulge in the wealth of experiences that the city had to offer. New York's diverse urban environment provided us all with means to find exactly the kind of leisure that we wanted. The city has the infectious energy of countless thousands striving to be their best and express themselves. Within its parks, between its skyscrapers and in the collective spirit of eight million souls lie the creative and inspirational muses that have touched so many artists, leaders, heroes and merchants. All this spark ignited our scientific hearts to bring us to our best, as we shared food, drinks and entertainments together in addition to the progress we were making scientifically. We were given the opportunity to develop true friendships amongst our kindred spirits that share our passion toward behavioural ecology.

This metropolitan energy is not a thing to dismiss lightly, as enriched friendships naturally lead to enriched science, denser professional networks and renewed excitement toward the scientific endeavour. The attitude on friendship was reflected in the hearts and minds of many attendees, who claimed that chief amongst their desires for the conference was to spend time with old peers and conference buddies rather than encountering new science. New York was truly the perfect location for invoking and fostering those relationships that bind the connections between behavioural ecologists that in turn drive the research.

The role of friendship and shared experience within the ISBE community was earnestly expressed in the Presidential address from Nina Wedell and Gunilla Rosenqvist. Together, the Presidents gave a personal account of what ISBE has meant to them throughout their career and their life. Their account of the multitude of positive female role models in our field that have inspired them at some point reminded us all that our branch of science is a true shared enterprise between scientists regardless of sex or sexuality. They highlighted the ties of friendship that develop because of behavioural ecology, and the importance of memories from old conferences. They spoke of how they cherish the open and engaging social environment, its multinational diversity, healthy sex-ratio and abundance of fresh young faces. They revealed that their membership in the ISBE community has been a large, fun and fantastic part of their lives that has truly become part of who they are. The 2014 meeting kept to the best of these qualities, by providing the perfect environment for developing the kinds of friendships and memories that define us.

The positive attitude to sharing was officially underscored by an enriched official focus on outreach, with access to the BBC and science writers, keynote

speaker Martin Chelfie's touching video of some scientists' appeal to fund basic science, and a stand out talk by Patricia Brennan on justifying research to the general public. We were also treated to an exceptional and delightful performance from actor and biologist Isabella Rossellini, whose short films and Q and A session with Marlene Zuk inspired people with the idea of sharing what they've learned as scientists with the public.

Isabella's film series *Mammas* warmed the hearts of the audience with her talent of touching upon the essence of a creature that is scientifically valid, but also something beautiful in the world. Her background as an actor gave her the mindset to connect with the creatures in a very personal way and provided her with the drive to communicate what she learned. She stated that her aims were to bring non-scientists a broader view of the concept of motherhood by exposing them to the sheer variety in how different creatures treat their offspring. Although her role as an actor may seem quite separate from that of the scientists in the audience, her conversation with Marlene Zuk revealed that our directions in life have much in common. At one point in time, we each found the natural world fascinating and resolved to find out more about it. Some went on to study in great detail, others to share what is learned, and some a bit of both. Overall, her work truly demonstrated that there is much value in what we do and society wants to hear about it. She showed us that there are many ways to bridge the gap between people and their understanding of nature.

The friendly and energetic atmosphere brought out a truly positive reception to the outstanding quality of science on display. The talks and posters were diverse in their content, fresh in their insight, exciting in their expression and expertly achieved in their execution. We were treated with a spread of topics that were more extensive than the buffet and dessert lunch spreads. Symposiums covered highly specific topics including ejaculate-mediated behaviour and evolution, new insights in the study of camouflage, invertebrate signalling, light pollution and subsociality in insects. On the other hand, talk series covered a variety of broad topics that reflected well established trends, the convergence of ideas and the emergence of new concepts and approaches (Figure 1).

In terms of established ideas, social behaviour and communication took centre stage. Although these concepts have lain at the heart of behavioural ecology since its inception, they are continually fed by the development of theory, fresh insight and new techniques that uncover layer upon layer of the complexity that underlies the interaction between strategic agents. Parental care and life history also maintain a healthy influx of new ideas and understanding, which highlight the importance of these concepts in comprehending animal behaviour. Conservation, an ideology that lies close to any naturalist's heart, remained a staple session of the ISBE conference.

The convergence of previously isolated topics reflected relatively new domains of observation being synthesised with existing knowledge. Of chief note being the integration of animal personalities, the hot topic of previous years, with the broader concept of plasticity. Other mergers were the product of applying a broader scope to our understanding of behaviours, in terms of how different aspects of an organism's life interact with each other. That is, our research is beginning to take a greater appreciation for the complexity of an organism's behavioural set as an inseparable unity of interdependent actions. Case in point being the merger of foraging and predation, representing the insight that animals must balance finding food with avoiding becoming food. But it was not only behaviours that were being considered together, but broad processes as well. The major conversation of the conference considered both sexual selection and conflict, underscoring the push and pull of sexuality on evolution. Cognition and learning were also considered together, reflecting a more unified

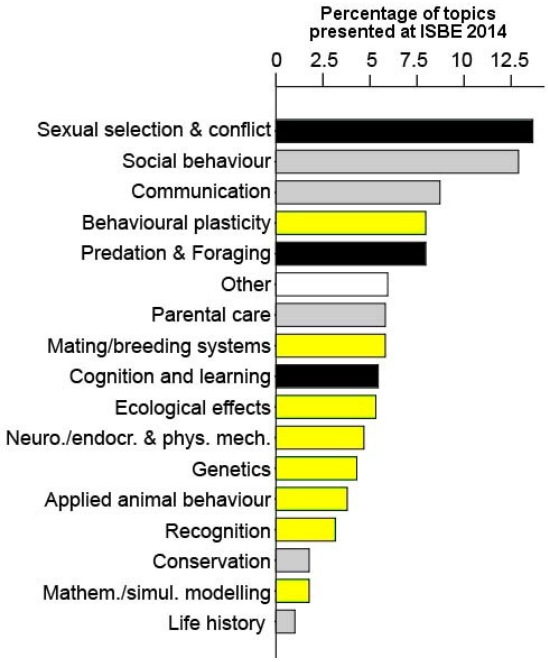


Figure 1: The major categories of talks at ISBE 2014. Established sessions (grey) have had dedicated sessions in previous conferences, whilst convergent sessions (black) integrated themes that were previously considered separately. There was also an abundance of emerging topics (yellow). The figure was generated by summarising talks and posters under the topics presented in the program. There were 528 talks scheduled as well as 878 posters at this congress.

view of decision making. The theme of cognition and learning was expertly discussed in Thomas Seeley's plenary, which gave a fascinating account of collective decision making processes in honeybees. Thomas weaved the scientific elements of his work with an entertaining narrative of the journey to illustrate mind-blowing concepts regarding the nature of intelligence and the variety of ways in which it can surface.

Finally, ISBE 2014 saw the emergence of many new topics to think about. A multitude of concepts that were disparate in previous years were brought together under the overlying theme of plasticity. Similarly, the importance of mating and breeding systems, ecological effects and recognition systems gained traction as important conceptual anchors for understanding behavioural ecology. Such important topics, as well as the continued development of older ideas into fresh territory, seems to call for a renewed focus on theoretical insight as this conference held sessions that focused purely on mathematical and simulation models. The field of behavioural ecology also looks to be expanding its scope, as there were sessions that explicitly explored the underlying mechanisms and genetics behind behaviour, as well as in the application of behavioural ecology to humans, society and environmentalism.

In an age when the future directions of behavioural ecology may seem shrouded, these emerging talks highlight the paths ahead. The emerging themes were strongly supported by a series of excellent plenaries that provided a glimpse over our conceptual horizons.
Firstly, Martin Chalfie gave a keynote lecture on how cellular responses to touch sensations are tied with controlling variable behaviour, and how this may have evolutionary consequences. Although this deeply mechanistic view was outside the purview of many in the audience, the elegant display of an organism's genes interfacing with the environment through a series of remarkable processes completed the cycle between mechanism and function necessary for understanding behavioural evolution.

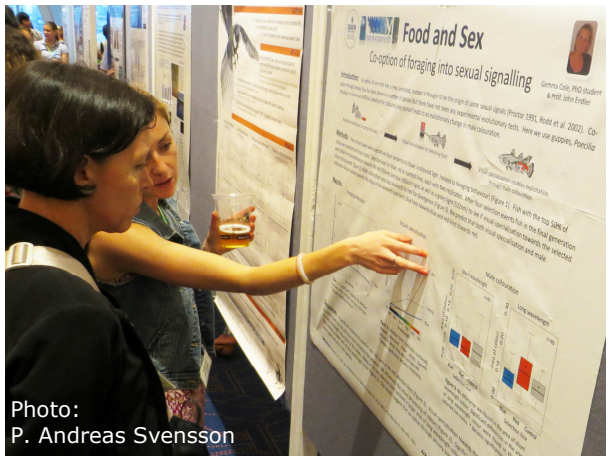


Photo:
P. Andreas Svensson

We also had Karen Strier speaking to us about behavioural changes in primates associated with a change in lifestyle brought about by larger populations. Her work gave us the opportunity to witness the connections between behaviour, the environment and sociality as well as providing amusement with primate antics. Karen also told of how important an understanding of behaviour is toward conservation efforts, highlighting the trend for developing applications of our science.

Ruth Mace provided us with a post-lunch talk on the evolution of cultural norms in human societies. She argued that cultural evolution in humans may be qualitatively different to other animals, mainly due to the powerful effects of cumulative culture. She explored the underlying behavioural ecology of culture by considering population density, connectivity and dispersal strategies as well as the role of frequency dependence. She concluded by stating that reproductive norms could be largely understood as adaptations to local ecology brought about by traditional kinship systems.

The final day began with Elizabeth Tibbets speaking about the role of coevolutionary processes in signalling, focusing on why some wasp species have evolved the ability of face recognition. The argument included the importance of hormonal mechanisms, variable individual condition and behaviour and learning in establishing the costs of a social signal, and thus brought together many of the topics being discussed throughout the conference within an elegant model system.

Finally, we were treated to Marlene Zuk's Hamilton Lecture on the use of genomic data within behavioural ecology. She cautioned that the allure of playing with new technology (*'ooh, shiny!'*) needs to be tempered with a clear understanding of what questions the technology is capable of confronting. In this regard, Marlene shared her insights on how genomic information could work to settling debates on long-standing issues in the field, including social insect behaviour, alternative mating strategies and sexual conflict. However, she also showed us the promise of tackling new questions centered on the interaction between genes and the environment using the power of genomics. Such work could finally put to rest the outdated notion of nature and nurture being purely in opposition. The addition of genomics to our methodological arsenal was also argued to help us face the rising importance of environmental uncertainty, cognitive biases, 'irrational' behaviour and mechanism in our understanding of function. Finally, Marlene expressed the hope that behavioural ecology could provide the broader realm of biology with a larger range of 'non-model' organisms, which will be critical for a true understanding.

All in all, New York provided a stage that highlighted diversity in attendees, topics and ways of reaching the greater society. On this stage, the players were provided with the means of developing their relationships and exploring new realms of thought. The story of behavioural ecology that unfolded was one of continued development in established topics, the integration of ideas into a more intricate worldview and the emergence of new, exciting themes that will fuel us all for years to come. The experience of ISBE New York is surely one that will be talked about and recollected for years to come.

Stephen Heap (stephen.m.heap@jyu.fi)
Isabel Mück (isabel.mueck@uni-tuebingen.de)

BEHAVIORAL ECOLOGY- REPORT FROM THE EDITOR-IN-CHIEF

Our journal *Behavioral Ecology* has seen a number of significant changes since I became Editor-in-Chief in 2012. These changes have been made in an effort to improve our editorial procedures so that the journal provides an attractive option to researchers for the rapid publication of their work, to increase the journals visibility and impact, and to more effectively promote our science to the general public.

New initiatives

Design

The most obvious change to the journal is its new colour page design, making articles more aesthetically pleasing in their electronic format. Along with this change we have also increased the use of colour figures; we now offer one free colour figure in the print version of the journal and we encourage authors to consider using colour more, particularly in complex figures where it can facilitate reader understanding.

New article types

We have introduced two new article types. The first is our *Editor's Choice*, an article deemed to be of particular worth, and which is given immediate free access status to enhance its impact. The second new article type is the *Comment and Response*. This offers the opportunity for critiques of regular articles published in the journal and for authors to respond to those critiques, a facility that was lost when our Forum section changed in 2010 to publishing Invited Reviews, Commentaries on Reviews, and Invited Ideas. Comments and their responses are published in the electronic journal, and listed in the Table of Contents of the hardcopy issue.

The Lay Summary

Lay summaries have been completely overhauled. These are now brief (75 words maximum) statements that convey the main message of the article to the general public, and are presented on the table of contents page of the electronic journal. Authors are encouraged to use the first 140 characters in such a way as they can be readily used in social media.

Social media

To further our public outreach, and to increase impact of our articles, in 2012 we launched a journal FaceBook page. The page is used to highlight journal news and articles published in the journal, and in particular our Editor's Choice articles. The page seems to be very popular with >2800 followers, and is also proving effective as our Editor's Choice posts have been reaching ~1500 readers on average, and up to 8000 readers in some cases.

Virtual Issues

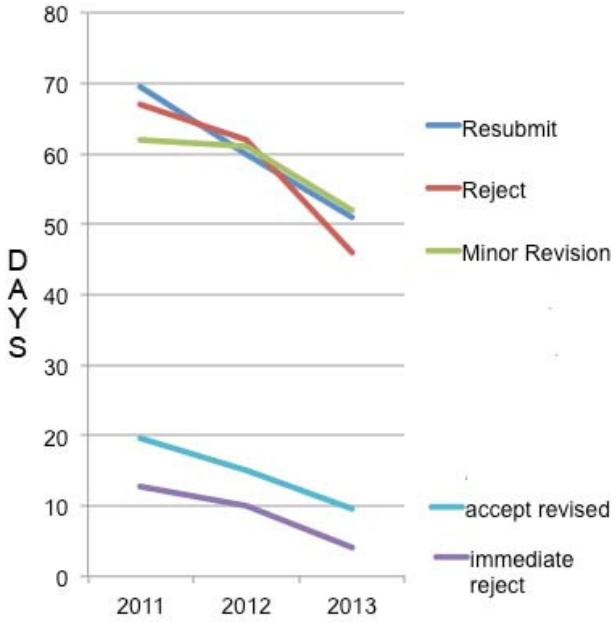
Behavioral Ecology now publishes virtual issues on its electronic journal page. We plan for 2 virtual issues per year, built around topics of particular interest. For example, our first virtual issue appeared in 2013 and highlighted the field of Human Behavioral Ecology. It was built around Daniel Nettle and colleagues Invited Review and its commentaries, and included 22 articles on human behavioral ecology collected from past issues of the journal that were made freely available to view. The articles received between 300 and 600 views when the virtual issue went online.

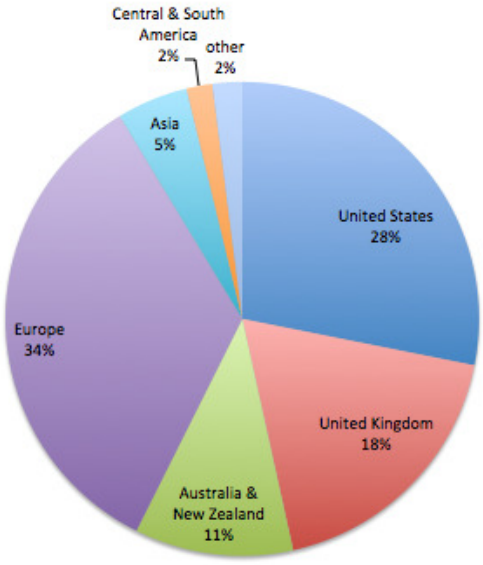
Editorial Board

There have been a number of changes to the Editorial team. Some of our Editors have finished their terms of office over the last two years, including Ben Hatchwell (2012), Regina Macedo (2012), Candy Rowe (2013), Sue Healy (2013), Gil Rosenthal (2013), Anna Dornhaus (2013), and Sarah Pryke (2014). I would like to formally thank each of these individuals for their hard work and dedication to the journal. Accordingly, we now have seven new Editors, Nick Royle, Bob Wong, Glauco Machado, Johanna Mappes, Marc Thery, John Fitzpatrick and Madelaine Beekman. I am extremely grateful to these individuals for agreeing to offer their time and expertise to build upon the strength of our journal over the coming years.

In order to increase the speed and efficiency of the editorial process we have revised the roles and responsibilities of our Editorial Board. My thanks go to Kerry Shaw, Angus Buckling, Steve Phelps, and Andy Zinc who have retired from the Editorial Board, and I welcome new members Stuart West, Neil Metcalfe, Mariella Herberstein, John Skelhorn, Lutz Fromhage, Maria Servidio and Carel ten Cate. Our editorial board provide rapid reviews on up to 10 manuscripts per year, and serve as adjudicators when necessary. Our editorial structure thus affords a broad area of expertise in behavioral ecology research.

Finally, with the retirement of Cathy Kennedy from OUP in August 2012, the Journal now sits in the portfolio of Ian Sherman at OUP. Ian has proved to be a responsive and engaged publishing Editor, and I am happy to report that the journal is in very good hands. We have established annual editorial meetings involving production staff at OUP and our Editorial Office Manager, Jenny Jekyll.





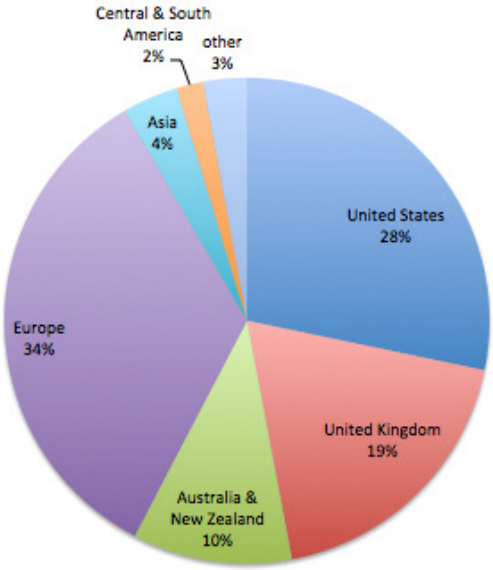
Volume 23 2012

Manuscript Submissions, Decisions & production
During 2012 (2013) *Behavioral Ecology* received 537 (549) Original Articles, and Invited 7 (12) Reviews and associated Commentaries, and 10 (6) Ideas. During the same periods decisions were made on 583 (535) submissions. Of these 69% (74%) were rejected (28% (29%) without review) and 31% (26%) were accepted for publication. The acceptance rate is slightly lower than previous reporting periods (34% of manuscripts were accepted in 2010 and 2011).

Since the last reporting period we have reduced the overall time from submission to decision by 30%, from 47 days in 2012 to 32 days in 2013. The longest wait period is when manuscripts are in the initial review process. This period has been reduced from around 65 days in 2011 to 49 days in 2013. Resubmission to final acceptance has been reduced from an average of 20 days in 2011 to an average of 10 days in 2013. The time for immediate rejections has been reduced from 13 days in 2011 to 4 days in 2013.

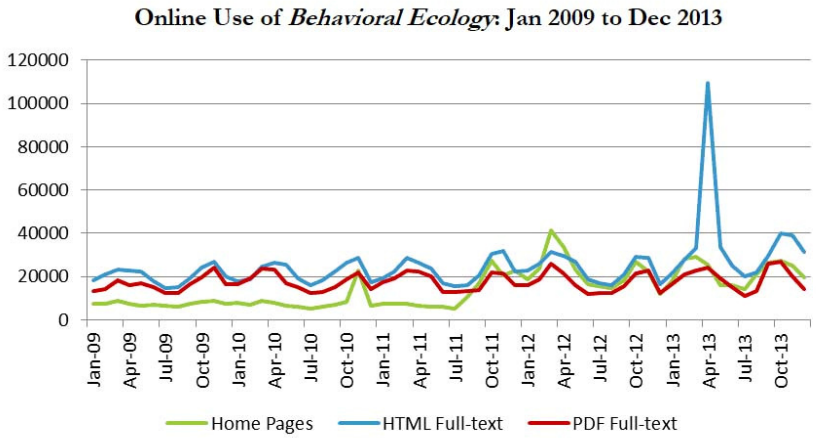
The time from decision to publication in advance of print fell from 7.2 weeks in 2012 to 5.2 weeks in 2013. Thus the work on our editorial procedures is providing demonstrable pay-offs.

Published Volumes
Volumes 23 and 24 of *Behavioral Ecology* appeared in 2012 and 2013 respectively. Volume 23 comprised a total of 1378 pages with 136 original articles, 2 Invited Reviews and 6 Invited Ideas. Volume 24 comprised a total of 1425 pages with 158 original articles, 5 Invited Reviews with associated Commentaries, and 3 Invited Ideas. Collectively these articles have received 909 citations, an average of 2.44 citations per article, with the most cited being Tim Fawcett and his colleagues Invited Review in volume 24 issue 1, *"Exposing the behavioral gambit: the evolution of learning and decision rules"*.



Volume 24 2013

Our authors come from 41 countries, with continental Europe, the USA and the UK being the largest represented groups.



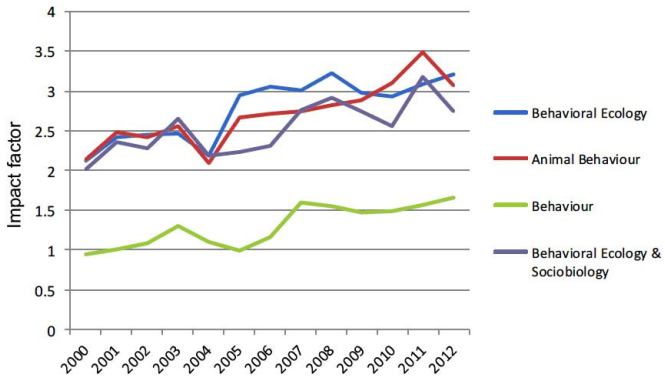
Electronic Journal Usage

The home page has attracted between 20,000 and 40,000 hits per quarter, with downloads of full text HTML and pdfs in the region of 40,000 per month. The extremely high figure for April 2013 was due to 76,746 downloads of a single article by Thomas Huk and Wolfgang Winkel (2008) *Testing the Sexy Son Hypothesis: Research Framework for empirical approaches*, 19(2) 456-461. The high traffic was due to referrals from reddit.com, illustrating the power of social media. Sadly this translated to just 2 citations in 2013, and a lifetime citation rate of 0.71 per year. Perhaps the 77,000 readers are still writing their articles.

At the beginning of January 2014 there were 5,317 individuals signed up for our eTOC alerts, an increase of 7.89% since last year.

Journal Impact

The ISI Impact Factor for *Behavioral Ecology* rose from 3.083 in 2011 to 3.216 in 2012 and is currently ranked 17/49 in Behavioral Sciences, 34/136 in Ecology and 6/151 in Zoology. *Behavioral Ecology* ranks closely with *Animal Behaviour* (IF 3.068) and *Behavioral Ecology and Sociobiology* (IF 2.752).



Celebrating 25 years of *Behavioral Ecology*

Behavioral Ecology has reached a significant milestone with the publication of volume 25. As such, throughout 2014 we have put a number of things in place to celebrate the remarkable success of our journal. The front cover and all articles published in 2014 bear an anniversary logo. In issue 1, I provided a brief outline of the history of our society and its journal, provided an overview of the changing landscape of behavioral ecology research over the last 25 years, and highlighted the ten most cited articles during the journal's history as an introduction to a series of commissioned Anniversary Essays which will continue to appear throughout the year. The aim was for authors to reflect on the past and future of behavioral ecology, either generally or from a specific research perspective. I would like to express my sincere thanks to the authors who agreed to write these essays, which I hope our readership will find both entertaining and thought provoking. Finally, our first Virtual Issue for 2014 has been a 25th Anniversary Celebration Issue, with our Editors, past and present, selecting articles from the archives that they feel have contributed most to the development of our discipline. The Virtual Issue also features an invited review on the behavioral ecology approach along with a series of invited commentaries on that review, and finally it highlights our Pitelka Award winning articles, in recognition that the future of our science, society and journal lies in the hands of those who are just starting their careers as behavioral ecologists.

Leigh W. Simmons

Editor-in-Chief,
Behavioral Ecology
leigh.simmons@uwa.edu.au

BEHAVIORAL ECOLOGY MOST USED ARTICLES

Top 10 Full-Text HTML Downloads, 2014 ytd

First Author	Title	Information	Requests
Kuukasjärvi, Seppo	Attractiveness of Women's Body Odors over the Menstrual Cycle: The Role of Oral Contraceptives and Receiver Sex	(2004) Volume 15, Issue 4, 579-584	7,929
Ruxton, Graeme D.	The Unequal Variance t-Test is an Underused Alternative to Student's t-Test and the Mann-Whitney U test	(2006), Volume 17, Issue 4, 688-690	6,450
Godin, Jean-Guy J.	Predator Preference for Brightly Colored Males in the Guppy: A Viability Cost for a Sexually Selected Trait	(2003), Volume 14, Issue 2, 194-200	2,965
Thornhill, Randy	Major Histocompatibility Complex Genes, Symmetry, and Body Scent Attractiveness in Men and Women	(2003), Volume 14, Issue 5, 668-678	2,472
Dixson, Barnaby J.	Beards augment perceptions of men's age, social status, and aggressiveness, but not attractiveness	(2012), Volume 23, Issue 3, 481-490	2,358
Nakagawa, Shinichi	A Farewell to Bonferroni: The Problems of Low Statistical Power and Publication Bias	(2004), Volume 15, Issue 6, 1044-1045	1,991
Weeks, Paul	Red-Billed Oxpeckers: Vampires or Tickbirds?	2000), Volume 11, Issue 2, 154-160	1,405
Skau, Philip A.	Do Bacterial Infections Cause Reduced Ejaculate Quality? A Meta-Analysis of Antibiotic Treatment of Male Infertility	(2003), Volume 14, Issue 1, 40-47	1,246
Prudic, Kathleen L.	Aposematic Coloration, Luminance Contrast, and the Benefits of Conspicuousness	(2007), Volume 18, Issue 1, 41-46	1,792
Woodward, Kevin	The parental investment model and minimum mate choice criteria in humans	(2005), Volume 16, Issue 1, 57-61	1,153

Top 10 Full-Text PDF Downloads, 2014 ytd

First Author	Title	Information	Requests
Pinter-Wollman, Noa	The dynamics of animal social networks: analytical, conceptual, and theoretical advances	(2014), Volume 25, Issue 2, 242-255	1,457
Birkhead, Tim R.	Reflections	(2014), Volume 25, Issue 2, 239-241	1,354
Ruxton, Graeme D.	The Unequal Variance t-Test is an Underused Alternative to Student's t-Test and the Mann-Whitney U Test	(2006), Volume 17, Issue 4, 688-690	1,293
Nakagawa, Shinichi	A Farewell to Bonferroni: The Problems of Low Statistical Power and Publication Bias	(2004), Volume 15, Issue 6, 1044-1045	1,101
Strassmann, Beverly I.	Menstrual hut visits by Dogon women: a hormonal test distinguishes deceit from honest signaling	(1996), Volume 7, Issue 3, 304-315	1,076
Doniol-Valcroze, Thomas	Optimal foraging theory predicts diving and feeding strategies of the largest marine predator	(2011), Volume 22, Issue 4, 880-888	989
Nettle, Daniel	Human behavioral ecology: current research and future prospects	(2013), Volume 24, Issue 5, 1031-1040	877
Kelley, Laura A.	Animal visual illusion and confusion: the importance of a perceptual perspective	(2014), Volume 25, Issue 3, 450-463	864
Muller, Ulrich	Facial dominance in *Homo sapiens* as honest signaling of male quality	(1997), Volume 8, Issue 5, 569-579	854
Dixson, Barnaby J.	Beards augment perceptions of men's age, social status, and aggressiveness, but not attractiveness	(2012), Volume 23, Issue 3, 481-490	838

AVAILABLE GRADUATE POSITIONS

1) Graduate Research in Sexual Selection and Ecological Immunology

Funded PhD positions are available under the supervision of Dr. Clint Kelly at the Université du Québec à Montréal (http://thekellylab.wordpress.com) beginning August 2015. I am seeking motivated students to study questions related to sexual selection including, but not limited to,
1) alternative mating strategies in New Zealand tree weta (funded by Canada Research Chairs Program); or
2) the physiological and reproductive costs of investment in immunity in insects (funded by NSERC).

My lab uses an empirical approach in the field and laboratory to examine a broad set of topics in behavioural and evolutionary ecology and we employ a variety of techniques and procedures to address research questions, including: molecular genotyping, immunological assays, phylogenetic comparative studies, geometric morphometrics and meta-analysis. The Kelly Lab belongs to the large, research-active Département des Sciences Biologiques at UQAM (http://bio.uqam.ca). If interested in pursuing a graduate degree in the Kelly Lab please send a brief description of your research interests and a CV to

Dr. Clint D Kelly
clintdkelly@icloud.com

2) Animal Behavior PhD program in New York

Come and join our growing Animal Behavior and Comparative Psychology PhD program at the Graduate Center of the City University of New York gc.cuny.edu/psychology.

We are interested in recruiting talented and dedicated students to focus on the diversity of causes and functions of behavior, through studying pressing questions, diverse taxa, current theory, and integrating levels of analysis and methods of inquiry.

Students with research training and coursework in either biopsychology (including neuroscience) or biology (ecology/evolution/ethology) backgrounds are encouraged to apply. Access to tuition waivers, health insurance, and competitive stipends are included in admissions. Application deadline: Dec. 1. 2014. General (but not subject) GRE is required.

For more information, please visit us:
http://tinyurl.com/ABCPCUNY

Prof. Mark Hauber, Hunter/GC CUNY

3) Potential PhD project at the University of Tasmania, Australia

The study of parental effects is a fundamental area in evolutionary ecology, but is characterised by poor integration of proximate causation and ultimate explanation. Parents influence the development of their young through both genetic and non-genetic effects, with sex allocation one maternal effect that can have profound implications for fitness. In mammals, the glucose hypothesis has been postulated to link the adaptive hypotheses of sex ratio adjustment and unify other proposed mechanisms. This PhD project will investigate the role of glucose as a unifying mechanism in sex allocation theory and the practical applications of skewing sex ratios for conservation purposes in mammals.

Applications are currently being received for a 2015 commencement. For more information please contact Prof Elissa Cameron Elissa.Cameron@utas.edu.au or Assoc Prof Erik Wapstra Erik.Wapstra@utas.edu.au at the School of Biological Sciences, University of Tasmania.

4) Studying the singing behavior of male hyraxes

I am looking for a PhD student to join my long-term study on rock hyrax vocalization. Our main aim is to focus on vocal elements in the hyrax songs that reflect on male quality. Our data, show that male vocalization in this species correctly reflect male quality and status. Currently, we are conducting playback experiments, in order to determine what information is extracted from songs by the listening individuals (males and females). In conjunction, we study related issues like dynamic changes in social organization using social networks, audience effect, the role of syntax and chaotic behaviors on song composition, and the effect of elevated androgens on sex ratio. The Israel Science Foundation (ISF) is currently funding this project.

Our study site is located at the Ein Gedi reserve, a spectacular canyon land on the western shores of the Dead Sea, Israel. Each year, we spent about 5-6 months in the field, watching hyrax behavior. During the offseason, we run various lab procedures and analyze the data collected in Tel Aviv University.

If interested, please send an email that contains your CV, BSc grades, and a brief description outlining your research interests and also why you would be interested in joining my research group. For more information on our project you may inspect our recent publications on hyrax vocalization:
http://www.tau.ac.il/lifesci/departments/zoology/members/geffen/geffen.html

Prof. Eli Geffen, Dept. of Zoology, Tel Aviv University
geffene@post.tau.ac.il

BOOKS FOR REVIEW

If you are interested in receiving *and* reviewing any of these books, please email the newsletter editor: andreas.svensson@lnu.se The due date for the review is February 20, 2015.

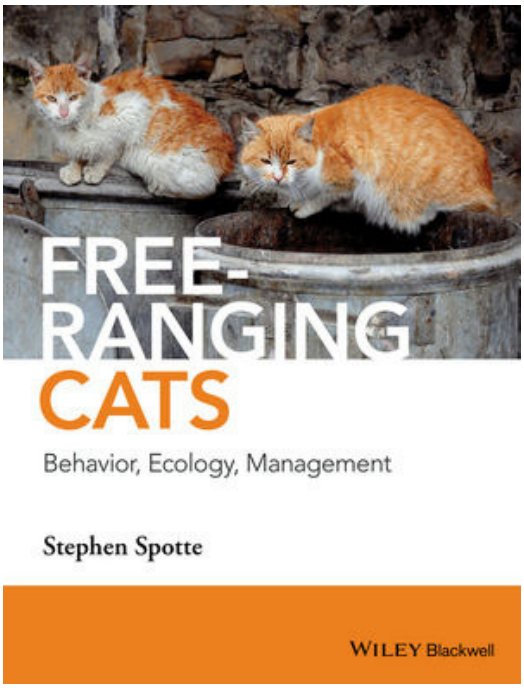
The following titles are available for review from Oxford University Press

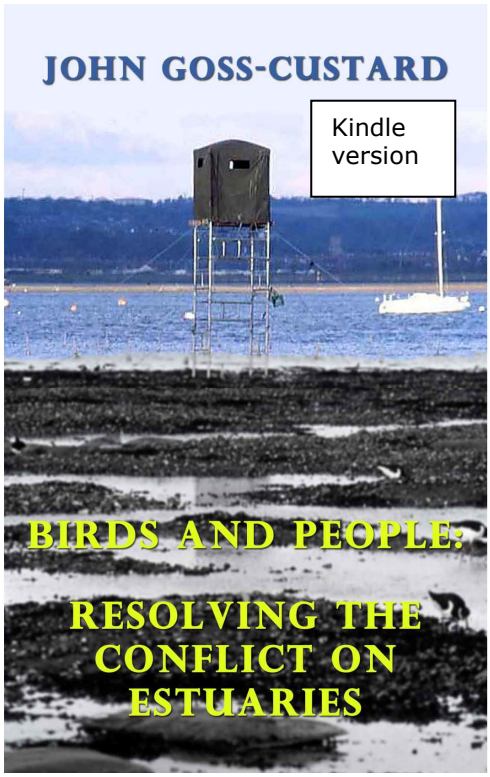
Title	Author
Animal Movement Across Scales (August 2014)	Hansson & Åkesson
Animal Social Networks (December 2014)	Krause et al
Aquatic Entomology	Lancaster & Downes
Dog Behaviour, Evolution, and Cognition 2e (December 2014)	Miklos
Free-Ranging Dogs and Wildlife Conservation	Gompper
Migration 2nd ed	Dingle
Plant Behaviour and Intelligence (August 2014)	Trewavas
Quantitative Genetics in the Wild	Charmantier, Garant, & Kruuk
Shallow Subterranean Habitats	Culver & Pipan
The Evolution of Insect Mating Systems	Shuker & Simmons
The Evolution of Sex Determination	Beukeboom & Perrin

The following titles are available for review from Cambridge University Press

Title	Author
Animal Communication Theory	Stegmann
Animal Contests	Hardy
Animal Teeth and Human Tools	Turner II
Anthropological Perspectives on Tooth Morphology	Scott
Behavioral Genetics of the Fly (*Drosophila melanogaster*)	Dubnau
Behavioral Genetics of the Mouse	Crusio
Behavioral Genetics of the Mouse	Pietropaolo
Bioarchaeological and Forensic Perspectives on Violence	Martin
Biosocial Becomings	Ingold
Causes and Consequences of Human Migration	Crawford
Cephalopod Cognition	Darmaillacq
Divided Brains	Rogers
Evolutionary Biology and Conservation of Titis, Sakis and Uacaris	Veiga
Evolving Human Nutrition	Ulijaszek
Extractive Industries and Ape Conservation	Arcus Foundation
From Clone to Bone	Asher
Giraffe	Dagg
How the Snake Lost its Legs	Held, Jr
Human Evolution	Finlay
Human Identity and Identification	Gowland
Mammoths and the Environment	Ukraintseva
Marmot Biology	Armitage
Oxytocin, Vasopressin and Related Peptides in the Regulation of Behavior	Choleris
Passive Acoustic Monitoring of Cetaceans	Zimmer
Pheromones and Animal Behavior	Wyatt
Play, Playfulness, Creativity and Innovation	Bateson
Primate Communication	Liebal
Primate Tourism	Russon
The Boreal Owl	Korpimäki
The Domestic Cat	Turner
The Foragers of Point Hope	Hilton
The Politics of Species	Corbey
The Politics of Species	Corbey
The Social Life of Greylag Geese	Scheiber
Tool Use in Animals	Sanz
Tooth Development in Human Evolution and Bioarchaeology	Hillson
Understanding Evolution	Kampourakis
Wild Cultures	Boesch

BOOKS FOR REVIEW





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VIRTUAL REALITY SYMPOSIUM AT BEHAVIOUR 2015

Symposium "Virtual reality: Computer animations as a tool in animal behavior research" at Behaviour 2015 in Cairns, Australia

The ideal animal stimulus is under total control of the experimenter, has visual traits and behaviour patterns that can be varied in any way, and produces consistent test trials that can be easily repeated many times. Sounds too far-fetched? Computer animated animal stimuli provide the opportunity to control for all these aspects under standardized conditions necessary to test a given hypothesis. Although computer animations arouse lots of interest among researchers for its advantages, many are reluctant to use it because of seemingly big technical requirements necessary for creating animal stimuli, and the apparently disparate worlds of biology and computer science.

In the scope of the 34th International Ethological Conference 2015 in Cairns, Australia, we hope to promote this method and its possibilities, increase accessibility, and open the dialogue for support and future advice. The symposium offers the possibility to demystify the process of creating animations and to share knowledge on tools, programs, and the correct implementation of 2-D and 3-D stimuli. Researchers already using computer animations get the opportunity to present and discuss their current work and hence show what is already possible in behavioural research.

See you next year at Behaviour 2015!

Organizers*:*
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