

SEH News

Amphibia-Reptilia – Editorial Report 2010

122 manuscripts were submitted in 2010 a similar number than in 2008 but less than in 2009, the year with the highest number of submissions. The manuscripts originated from all the continents with Europe (45%) and South America (23%) coming first; which is respectively much more and less than in 2009. Asia and North America are also well represented (17 and 14%, respectively). Corresponding authors came from 34 countries; the top five consisting of the United States, Argentina, Brazil, Italy, and Spain. In Europe, manuscripts originated from Italy (n = 8), Spain (8), France (7), Germany (7), Portugal (4), United Kingdom (4), Poland (3), Greece (2), Hungary (2), Belgium (1), Croatia (1), Czech Republic (1), Georgia (1), Netherlands (1), Russian Federation (1), Serbia (1), Slovakia (1), and Switzerland (1).

The ISI impact factor indicated that Amphibia-Reptilia continued its progression among top herpetology journals as it increased to 0.976. Of the submissions, 61% of the manuscripts were rejected, i.e. a similar rate to 2009. Some manuscripts were editorially rejected because they fell outside of the scope of the journal, particularly because of small sample sizes or ethical concerns (e.g. euthanasia on threatened organisms, particularly when alternatives exist). The other manuscripts went through one to four revisions. Rejections mainly concerned the first submissions, but a few manuscripts were also rejected at a later stage. Several manuscripts did not follow the instructions to authors on many points and were returned immediately to authors for revision before being considered. Very detailed guidelines and tips are provided to authors on-line and must be accurately followed to save time for authors, reviewers, and editors. 365 review requests were sent, mainly in Europe (53%, Spain coming first with 11%) and the USA (29%). In total reviewers in 31 different countries were contacted. Similarly as in 2009, only 58% of the reviewers (all included) sent back their comments to the editors. The others either declined the invitation or did not reply before the deadline.

The editorial process was on average fast with respect to international standards: 3 days to take in charge manuscripts, 8 days to invite reviewers, 39 days to give the first decision, 84 days for the full turnaround (reception to final decision, i.e. transfer to the publisher). Reviewers who replied to the editorial invitation, i.e., agreed or declined the invitation, did so in 1 day on average. Those who agreed sent their comments 19 days later on average, but 66 reviews arrived after the deadline. The authors sent their revised manuscript in 36 days for the first revision. As in previous years, the journal contained 600 pages. The average time from submission to printed publication was 10 months, with the fastest published article published only 3 months after submission. A new online service was launched on Ingenta website: Fast-Track. It allows

the publication of papers before they are attributed to an issue. The real time from submission to online publication was then much lower than 10 months.

We would like to thank our Associate Editors (A. Ivanovic, J. Brito, G.F. Ficetola, C.R. Gabor, L. Luiselli, T. Madsen, M.J. Mazerolle, B. Schmidt and S. Steinfartz) for their support to the co-editors (M. Denoël, D.J. Harris and S. Ursenbacher).

We are also particularly grateful to our internal (i.e., Advisory Editorial Board, identified by an asterisk hereafter) and external reviewers (146) for their very good job on the submitted manuscripts: M.J. Adams, R. Altwegg, R. Amaro-Ghilardi, J. Anadon, S. Arnold, P. Arntzen, F. Aubret, T. Beebe, K. Berven, A. Besnard, G. Blouin-Demers, P. Bombi, X. Bonnet*, F. Brischoux, J. Brito, D. Buckley, D. Capizzi, G. Carfagno, S. Carranza*, M.A. Carretero, Y. Chiari*, V. Choumet, M. Clare, S. Converse, G. Costa, A. Crottini, D. Cundall, B. Dantzer, M. Delfino, R. Downie, L. Drummond, S. Dubey, M. Dyson, J. Ferner, G.F. Ficetola, U. Fritz, D. Frynta, M. Galetti, T. Garner, C. Goldberg, I. Gomez-Mestre*, H. Goncalves, E. Graciá, P. Gregory, A. Griffiths, M. Guillon, A. Haas, B. Halstead, K. Hansknecht, R. Harris, D. Hawlena, V. Helfer, G. Herczeg, A. Herrel, J. Homyack, M. Hudson, V. Hutchinson, K. Huyghes, A. Kaliontzopoulou, M. Kéry, J. Koehler, N. Kohn, S. Krishnamurthy, K. Kunte, A. Labra, D. Laloi, T. Langkilde, M. Letnic, E. Liebgold, S. Litvinchuk, K. Ljubisavljević, J. Loman, A. Loyau, X. Lu, S. Mackessy, T. Madsen, W. Magnusson*, A. Malhotra, F. Marangoni*, R. Márquez, J. Martin, F. Martínez-Freiría, G. Marvin, W. Mayer, A. Mazaris, S. Meiri, J. Mendelson, V. Menezes, C. Metzger, C. Miaud, M. Michel, J.-C. Monney, B. Mueller, G. Nilson, M. Ogielska, G. Orizaola*, A. Pagano, J. Peig, J. Pellet*, A. Perera, V. Perez Mellado, D. Pincheira-Donoso, A.-C. Prevot-Julliard, C. Ramon, N. Rastegar-Pouyani, S. Ravela, L. Ribeiro, Z. Rocek, S. Rocha, R. Rouag, J. Row, R. Sacchi, D. Salvi, S. Salvidio*, D. San Mauro, B. Sanchiz, X. Santos, S. Scali, M.A. Schlaepfer, T. Schmoll, R. Scudiero, N. Sillero, U. Sinsch, S. Siqueira, G. Smith, L. Smith, J. Snodgrass, M. Sparreboom, M. Stock, P. Tarroso, G. Tavecchia, G. Thompson, B. Todd, P. Tryjanowski, T. Tully, E. Ursprung*, M. Vaira, R. Van Damme, T. Vukov, J. Webb, S. Weiss, C. Winne, D. Woodhams, S. Woodley and Y. Zhang.

Prepared by the Editors:

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