

Editorial Report 2008

One hundred and eighteen manuscripts have been submitted to *Amphibia-Reptilia* in 2008, i.e., a similar value than in 2005 but a bit less than the two last years. The manuscripts originated from all the continents with Europe (45%) and North-America (24%) coming first. There is a relative increase of interest for *Amphibia-Reptilia* for authors outside Europe, showing the broad coverage of our journal. Corresponding authors came from 34 countries; the top five being constituted by Argentina, the United States, Spain, Germany, and Portugal. Of these submissions, half the manuscripts were rejected. Manuscripts that were not editorially rejected because they fell outside of the scope of the journal (e.g. because of ethical concerns) went through one to three revisions. 327 review requests were sent, with English speaking countries coming first (U.S. and then U.K.), followed by Germany, Spain and Italy but reviewers from 31 other countries were also contacted. Only one reviewer out of two agreed to send back his comments, which complicated the editorial work. Despite this, the editorial process remained on average fast with respect to international standards: 18 days to give a decision (including editorial rejection) after a submission, but as manuscripts need more than a submission, the whole process lasted more time (30 to 45 days are left to authors to revise each version of their manuscript). As last years, the journal contained 600 pages.

The new on-line submission procedure, Editorial Manager, has proved to be much helpful. It allowed a better coordination between authors, reviewers, associate editors, co-editors and the publisher. Everything is archived in the system, which prevent files lost and delays and allows a fast selection of reviewers and associate editors in taking into account their current workload. Reminders are also set up in the system to shorten the delays. Some improvements have been done during the year to lighten the different steps

of the reviewing process, making thus it as easy as possible. Although instructions to authors are much detailed and free samples of the journal are available on-line, many manuscripts remain not conform for a large number of aspects. Such manuscripts are sent back to authors for revision through an automatic procedure.

We would like to thank our Associate Editors (R. Jehle, G.F. Ficetola, J. Lea, T. Madsen, and B. Schmidt) for their support to the co-editors (D.J. Harris, L. Luiselli, and M. Denoël). We are also particularly grateful to our internal and external reviewers (129, i.e., 18 more than in 2007) for their very good job on the submitted manuscripts: D. Adams, J. Ahnesjö, G. Akani, J. Alexandrino, R. Altwegg, N. Ananjeva, P. Arens, O. Attum, R. Avery, A.M. Barbosa, S. Barni, C. Battisti, D. Bauwens, X. Bonnet, J. Bourjea, F. Brischoux, J.C. Brito, T. Broquet, R. Brown, B. Cameron, D. Canestrelli, S. Carranza, M.A. Carretero, C. Castellano, A. Castilla, E. Chadwick, F. Chesi, R. Cimmaruta, J. Crnobrnja-Isailovic, M. Cuadrado, S. Daniels, F. Diego-Rasilla, D. Dolmen, R. Downie, A. Egea-Serrano, C. Eggert, E. Filippi, M. Fonseca, C. Fontenot, T. Friedl, U. Fritz, J. Fu, T. Garner, M. Given, D. Gledhill, J. Glos, M. Godfrey, G. Gollmann, I. Gomez-Mestre, R. Griffiths, H. Grillitsch, J. Hallermann, J. Hammond, R. Harris, T. Hartel, R. Hendrix, A. Hettyey, W. Hödl, L. Houck, A. Ivanovic, A. Janke, R. Jehle, C. Jenkins, P. Joly, M. Jowers, A. Kaliontzopoulou, F.

Kraus, A. Kupfer, A. Kurabayashi, A. Laurila, C. Leary, D. Lesbarreres, J. Loman, S. Lykapov, R. Márquez, A. Maletzky, F. Marangoni, M. Mazerolle, M. Menin, P. Mikulicek, L.F. Mouton, E. Muths, M. Ogielska, G. Orizaola, J. Padilla, V. Perez Mellado, D. Pincheira-Donoso, C. Pinho, C. Rato, R. Real, P. Rosenbaum, V. Rudolf, L. Rugiero, M. Rybacki, S. Salvidio, X. Santos, E. Sasso Cerri, R. Schabetsberger, M. Schaub, P. Segurado, F. Sequeira, D.M. Sever, N. Sillero, J. Snodgrass, U. Steiner, S. Steinfartz, M. Stock, M. Sztatec-sny, J. Teixeira, M. Urban, S. Ursenbacher, E. Ursprung, T. Uzzell, R. Van Damme, N. van Wilgen, M. Vences, F. Vera Candiotti, D. Vieites, L. Vignoli, P. Wagner, R. Walker, V. Wallach, P. Weatherhead, H.H. Whiteman, M. Whiting, W. Wuster, M. Zelditch, T. Ziegler, M. Zuffi. The reviewers are a key point in the quality of a journal. It is to be noted that after the communications of good reviews, reviewers can be invited to join the Advisory Editorial Board and afterwards the board of Associate Editors of the Society and thus take a more official role in the editorial process.

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