

SEH News

Amphibia-Reptilia – Editorial Report 2009

2009 was a very successful year for Amphibia-Reptilia, with 149 manuscripts submitted, a similar number to the best year until now (2006). The manuscripts originated from all the continents with Europe (30%) and South-America (29%) coming first. Asia and North America are also well represented (12-13%). There is a strong increase of interest for Amphibia-Reptilia for authors outside Europe, showing the broad coverage of our journal. Corresponding authors came from 33 countries; the top six consisting of Brazil, Argentina, the United States, China, Germany, and Italy. The ISI impact factor indicated also that Amphibia-Reptilia continued its progression among top herpetology journals as it increased up to 0.949. Of the submissions, 58% of 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 four revisions. Rejections mainly concerned the first submissions, but a few manuscripts were also rejected at the second or third review rounds. 352 review requests were sent, with the US coming first, followed by Italy, France, UK, and Spain but reviewers from 21 other countries were also contacted. Reviewers replied to invitations within two days on average, but only 60% of the reviewers (all included) sent back their comments within 21 days on average. The others either declined the invitation or did not reply before the deadline. 72 reminders were sent in such cases but in some cases no reviews were received, that complicated considerably the editorial work. Despite this, the editorial process remained on average fast with respect to international standards: 7 days to invite reviewers, 34 days to give a decision after a submission. However, 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; most authors respected the deadlines). Manuscripts that did not need much revision could thus be accepted very quickly. As in previous years, the journal contained 600 pages.

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

We are also particularly grateful to our internal and external reviewers (159, i.e., 30 more than in 2008) for their very good job on the submitted manuscripts: G. Alexander, R.A. Alford, R. Altwegg, R. Amaro-Ghilardi, C. Angelini, O. Attum, R. Avery, C. Battisti, D. Bauwens, M. Becak, D. Blackburn, P. Bombi, X. Bonnet, C. Brasileiro, F. Brischoux, J.C. Brito, T. Broquet, B. Buchanan, D. Buckley, R. Burke,

S.D. Busack, P. Byrne, M. Cabanac, G. Caccone, J. Campbell, D. Capizzi, G.L.F. Carfagno, S. Carranza, C. Carreras, M.A. Carretero, B. Caspers, Y. Chiari, S. Converse, C. Corti, G. Costa, M. Cristaldi, J. Crnobrnja-Isailovic, P. Crochet, M. Cummings, I. de la Riva, V. Di Cola, M. Donnelly, L. Drummond, S. Dubey, A. Edwards, R.M. Elsey, R. Ernst, J. Faivovich, I. Farias, E. Filippi, M.M. Fonseca, U. Fritz, E. Froufe, H. Gasser, J. Gerlach, D. Germano, G. Gollmann, T. Gormant, P.T. Gregory, R. Griffiths, R. Gutberlet, B.J. Halstead, D. Hawlena, G. Herczeg, A. Herrel, S. Hertwig, A. Hettzey, W. Hoedl, L. Houck, F. Ikuko, D.J. Irschick, J. Isailovic, A. Ivanovic, J. Iverson, C. Jakob, R. Jehle, C. Jenkins, H. Johansson, J. Jonak, A. Kaliontzopoulou, J. Kapfer, S.A. Karl, W. Kendall, T.E. Krause, A. Kupfer, S. Lüpold, D. Laloi, P. Larson, C. Leary, T. Lengagne, D. Lesbarreres, M. Letnic, P. Lindeman, G. Llorente, J. Loman, A. Loyau, T. Madsen, F. Marangoni, J.C. Marshall, J. Martin, F. Mazzotti, J. Merila, C. Miaud, M. Michel, P. Mikulicek, L. Mouton, B. Mueller, A. Ohler, G. Orizaola, A. Pagano, W. Palen, F. Pasmans, A. Perera, V. Perez Mellado, C. Pinho, J. Pleguezuelos, H. Pröhl, S. Ravela, S. Recco-Pimentel, S. Rocha, S. Ruane, L. Rugiero, K. Ryan, S. Salvidio, X. Santos, R. Saporito, E. Sasso Cerri, S. Scali, R. Schabetsberger, M. Schaub, D. Schmeller, T. Schmoll, F. Sequeira, D. Sever, U. Sinsch, S. Siqueira, G.R. Smith, L. Smith, J. Snodgrass, U. Steiner, S. Steinfartz, M. Sztatecsny, G. Tavecchia, J. Thorbjarnarson, B. Todd, S. Ursenbacher, M. Vallinoto, J. Van Buskirk, R. Van Damme, P. van Dijk, N.J. van Wilgen, M. Vences, D. Vieites, J. Waddle, D.K. Wasko, M. Whiting, R. Williams, K. Witte, and M.A.L. 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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