



Scope

Behaviour (*BEH*) publishes all aspects of behaviour, spanning ecology, psychology, (neuro)physiology, learning, cognition, and emotion. We welcome contributions on all animal species, including humans, as well as studies on artificial forms of behaviour (AI, robotics) and plant signalling behaviour. *Behaviour* has a long tradition of publishing systematic observations of spontaneous behaviour, but also welcomes submissions describing well-controlled laboratory experiments or computational models of behaviour or its evolution.

Evolutionary approaches, which focus on potential fitness benefits of behaviour or cognitive capacities for organisms, are emphasized both at a theoretical level and in relation to specific behaviours. We welcome research articles, reviews, commentary/reflection/opinion, and reports on anecdotes and interesting new hypotheses focusing on behaviour. We encourage, and provide editorial support for, authors who collaborate to create a special Issue that brings together multiple perspectives around a common theme to stimulate new research directions in emerging subfields.

Behaviour was founded by Nobel Prize winner Niko Tinbergen together with W. H. Thorpe, in 1948. In his classic 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 lenses. At the proximate level, there is (1) the causation of behaviour (internal physiological and anatomical mechanisms, external abiotic and biotic stimuli) underlying motivation, cognition, and emotions), and (2) the behaviour's ontogeny, such as how it develops or is acquired, including gene by environment interactions that shape behavioural phenotypes. At the ultimate level, there is (3) the behaviour's survival value (habitat selection, acquisition of food, avoiding predators, finding a mate, caring for offspring), and (4) its evolution and phylogeny. *Behaviour* seeks to cover all four lenses equally.

The study of behaviour remains vibrant and increasingly diverse with contributions from talented scientists from multiple disciplines reporting their findings in *Behaviour* to a wide range of researchers.

Editors-in-Chief:

Prof. Mariska Kret (Leiden, The Netherlands)

Dr. Brian D. Wisenden (Moorhead, MN, USA)

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Different article types can be chosen for submission:

- *Research Article*: presents one or more empirical studies.
- *Review Article*: gives a literature overview and critical reflection on a behavioural topic.
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All text and tables of the final revision must be as a source file in Word or another suitable word processor document.



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Supplementary Media / Data Files

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When submitting a manuscript, please note:

- The editorial board tries to keep the reviewing process as short as possible and to inform the author within two months after submission.
- The author receives proofs in about 6 weeks after acceptance. The paper will be published about 3 months after acceptance.

Submission Requirements

Language

Contributions to *Behaviour* must be written in English. Spelling should be consistent throughout. As of 2024, we do offer a free language service for non-native speakers. Contact Mariska Kret at m.e.kret@fsw.leidenuniv.nl for more information.

Manuscript Structure

Contributions should be typed with numbered pages, numbered lines, double line spacing and wide margins throughout.

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



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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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Main headings in **bold** (Summary, Introduction, Material and methods, Results, Discussion, Acknowledgements, References or other variants if appropriate), capitals only for first letter of each sentence and first letters of proper nouns, separated from the subsequent text by an empty line. Second level headings in *italics*, flush left, capitals only for first letter of each sentence and first letters of proper nouns, separated by an empty line from the text that follows. Sub-subheadings in roman type, aligned to the left, capitals only for first letter of each sentence and proper nouns, separated by an empty line from the preceding text, the following text starts on the next line.

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Bold

Bold should only be used in exceptional cases of extra emphasis or in some formulas.

Capital Letters

Capitals should only be used for first letters of sentences, first letters proper nouns and first letters of specific words (e.g. tables, figures, experiments, behaviour patterns) that should be emphasized; small capitals for words that should be printed in capitals (e.g. ANOVA, MANOVA)

References

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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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Examples: Figure 1 or (Figure 1); Table 7 or (Table 7).

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