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### Contact details:

Dr. Tatiana Czeschlik  
Managing Editor  
Editorial Office Naturwissenschaften  
Muehlthalstrasse 9  
D-69121 Heidelberg, Germany  
e-mail: [Naturwissenschaften@t-online.de](mailto:Naturwissenschaften@t-online.de)  
Fax: +49-6221-418315

### Manuscript preparation

All manuscripts must be in English and type-written (12 pt) with double spacing and wide margins. Lines should be numbered consecutively throughout the text.

**Reviews** should cover a topic of current interest and present novel insights or conclusions for its interdisciplinary readership. The length should not exceed **85,000 characters** (including blanks, but excluding Abstracts, legends and tables). A Review may have up to seven figures and/or tables. Reviews should include at least the following sections: Abstract, Introduction, Discussion/ Conclusions, References (see below for more details).

**Short communications** must present scientific results that are essentially new and that have not been published or are not being considered for publication elsewhere. The manuscript length should not exceed **15,000 characters** including spaces from the beginning of Introduction to the end of References and may have up to 3 figures or tables. It should be arranged (if applicable) as follows:

**Title page** (including all authors' full names and affiliations; e-mail address, phone and fax number for the corresponding author). The title of papers focusing on a particular species should include both the species name and the common name.

**Abstract** should not exceed 250 words and should state explicitly the novel results or aspects of the study.

### Introduction

### Materials and Methods

### Results

### Discussion

**Acknowledgements** (if applicable). Please include, at the end of the acknowledgements, a declaration that the experiments comply with the current laws of the country in which they were performed. The Managing Editor reserves the right to reject manuscripts that do not comply with this requirement. The author will be held responsible for false statements or for failure to fulfil the above-mentioned requirements.

### References

Literature **citations in the text** should indicate the author's surname with the year of publication in parentheses, e.g. Carlin (1992); Brooks and Carlin (2002).

**References at the end of the paper** should be listed in alphabetical order by the first author's name:

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Examples:

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*Single contributions in a book:* name(s) and initial(s) of all authors; year; title of article; editor(s); title of book; edition; volume number; publisher; place of publication; page numbers:  
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Noirot C (1992) Sexual castes and reproductive strategies in termites. In: Engels W (ed) *Social insects*. Springer, Berlin Heidelberg New York, pp 5–35

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If available, the **Digital Object Identifier (DOI)** of the cited literature should be added at the end of the reference in question. Example: Hirsch BT (2002) Social monitoring and vigilance behavior in brown capuchin monkeys (*Cebus apella*). *Behav Ecol Sociobiol* DOI 10.1007/s00265-002-0536-5

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Illustrations should be kept to the minimum needed to clarify the text. They should be submitted on separate pages, each bearing the figure number and the author's name.

Figure parts should be identified by lowercase Roman letters.

For **color illustrations** the authors are expected to make a contribution (€ 485, US \$ 534 plus 16% VAT) per article (not per figure) towards the extra costs.

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**Species names** should be in italics. The common names of animals or plants should not be capitalized.

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- large original data that relate to the paper, e.g. additional tables, illustrations (color and black & white), etc.

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