
Preface

The first words about this book were spoken soon after the closing of the symposium we organized as part of the scientific program of the 7th World Congress of Herpetology held in August 2012 in beautiful Vancouver, British Columbia. While still waiting to leave the presentation room, the speakers and symposium organizers gathered, as usual, to prattle about future collaborative research projects and plans that would surely happen in the short term. One of these plans indeed has come to fruition in the form of this book, composed primarily of many of the presentations delivered at that session. As such, this book assembles a diversity of topics related to the theme of the interplay between behavior and physiology as amphibians and reptiles interact with the environment. Expert contributors have worked generously to provide integrative and comprehensive reviews of subjects they have spent many years studying. The resulting chapters will hopefully promote new insights for students first learning about these topics without compromising the rigor and depth expected by experts. The chapters in this book can be read in any order, and we appreciate that not all titles will appear equally appealing to everyone at first glance. However, just as happens in scientific meetings, in which we sit through a whole session waiting for a particular presentation, our interest is often captured by different talks. We have no doubt that, if you are holding this book, you will find something relevant in every chapter. We want to thank Anthony Herrel for mentioning our inconsequential murmurs about this book to John Sulzycki, Senior Editor, Taylor & Francis, and to John for believing in us. As editors, we want to express our utmost appreciation to all the contributing authors of this book, especially given the time dedicated to preparing their respective chapters, as well as to the funding agencies that have supported our research activities over the years. Finally, we thank our mentors and families for their support and dedicate this book to them.

Denis, Cathy, and Zé
Rio Claro, October 31, 2015