

"A broad and thorough compendium that covers cutting-edge theoretical issues and includes taxonomic overviews by leading experts. For serious students of sexual selection, reproductive behavior, and sexual diversity, this book will uncover a plethora of fascinating facts and make them feel like the proverbial kid in the candy store!"

—ZULEYMA TANG-MARTINEZ, Professor of Biology, University of Missouri-St. Louis

"Most biologists, myself included, probably feel they have a good understanding of primary and secondary sexual characters and how they relate to natural and sexual selection. But this volume of well-chosen chapters offers a whole new perspective. A broad spectrum of outstanding authors covers diverse taxa and reproductive modes. Not only does this comprehensive treatment inform Graham Bell's 'queen of problems in evolutionary biology,' it helps extend this fascinating topic to a broader audience. Well written and edited, richly illustrated, and full of details, the volume is a must for the broadly trained biologist and naturalist."

—JOHN PEARSE, Professor Emeritus, Department of Ecology and Evolutionary Biology, University of California, Santa Cruz

P RIMARY SEXUAL CHARACTERS—those structures and processes directly involved in reproduction—are some of the most varied, specialized, and bizarre in the animal kingdom. Moreover, reproductive traits are often species-specific, suggesting that they evolved very rapidly. This diversity, long the province of taxonomists, has recently attracted broader interest from evolutionary biologists, especially those interested in sexual selection and the evolution of reproductive strategies.

In this comprehensive volume, the authors explore a wide range of primary sexual characters and selective pressures that have shaped them, from natural selection for offspring survival to species-isolating mechanisms, sperm competition, cryptic female choice, and sexual arms races. Examining reproductive adaptations from a theoretical and practical perspective, *The Evolution of Primary Sexual Characters in Animals* will provide an unparalleled overview of sexual diversity in many taxa and an introduction to the issues in sexual selection that are changing our view of sexual processes.

ABOUT THE EDITORS

JANET L. LEONARD is a research associate at the Institute of Marine Sciences, University of California, Santa Cruz.

ALEX CORDOBA-AGUILAR is a researcher at the Instituto de Ecología, Universidad Nacional Autónoma de México.

OXFORD
UNIVERSITY PRESS

www.oup.com

Cover Design: Rachel Perkins

Cover Images: Damselflies (top right): Adolfo Cordero; harvestmen (right): © Joe Warfel; banana slugs (bottom right): Janet L. Leonard; lion (left): Adolfo Cordero

ISBN 978-0-19-532555-3

