# EDITORIAL POLICIES OF THE REVISTA LATINOAMERICANA DE HERPETOLOGÍA (RLH)

# https://herpetologia.fciencias.unam.mx/

In this document you will find all the information related to the Editorial Policies of the Revista Latinoamericana de Herpetología, including the RHL Declaration of Ethics and malpractice statement, access policies, copyright, privacy notice and Editorial Norms.

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# **General information**

The Revista Lationoamericana de Herpetología (ISSN: 2594-2158) is an Open Access scientific journal with a <u>double-blind peer-reviewed process</u> and a <u>continuous publishing model</u> with four full issues published during a year (January-March, April-June, July-September and October-December). It is published by the consortium of different herpetological societies: <u>Asociación Paraguaya de Herpetología</u>, <u>Asociación Red Chilena de Herpetología</u>, <u>Asociación Herpetológica Argentina</u>, <u>Sociedade Brasileira de Herpetologia</u>, <u>Asociación para la Investigación y Conservación de Anfibios y Reptiles A.C. (México)</u> and the <u>Sociedad Herpetológica Mexicana A.C.</u>

The RLH aims to "Disseminate original works whose main object of study are Amphibians and Reptiles, as well as themes related to those taxonomic groups of the American Continent". The RLH's goal is to strengthen the ties of the Latin American community of herpetologists to through the publication of a solid journal with strong scientific rigor.

The RLH is also the main dissemination body of the <u>Mexican Herpetological Society</u>, in which news concerning the SHM are published (contests, calls, announcements, among others) as well as the annual reports of the Board of Directors.

The RLH has gone through tree major stages. It was born as the <u>Boletín de la Sociedad Herpetológica Mexicana</u>. The first issue of the SHM Bulletin was published in March from 1989. The Bulletin was printed on paper for more than 20 years. You can consult the archive <u>here</u>. In 2015 it was converted to the <u>Revista Mexicana de Herpetología</u> (RMH), published only online. It had a short life span, only 2 years active; you can find the files <u>here</u>. Finally, in July 2017 it becomes the Revista Lationoamericana de Herpetología.

All the Editorial Policies can be downloaded here.

# Aims and Scope for RLH

The **Revista Latinoamericana de Herpetología** accepts manuscripts on all aspects of amphibian and reptile biology of the American Continent, including: biogeography, evolution, conservation, ecology, morphology, physiology, systematics, ethology, as well as topics related to herpetological education.

Although authors are encouraged to submit data-based manuscripts and hypothesis testing, or provide full descriptions of new taxa (living or fossil), we also urge herpetologists to approach theoretical aspects in a careful and thoughtful way. We also welcome extensive articles such as reviews of topics that may be of interest to the community.

Likewise, articles that contain aspects of environmental policy and / or laws that are related to Amphibians and Reptiles are accepted. Articles on captive breeding, new techniques or novel sampling methods, isolated anecdotal or must be presented in the form of scientific notes.

All submit scientific material go through a peer-review process. We accept articles in Spanish, English and Português. However, if the main language of the manuscript is Spanish or Portuguese, title, abstract, key words, footnotes and tables are required in English and vice versa. Please note that there is no cost in publishing in the Revista Latinoamericana de Herpetología. <u>Authors are not charged any submission or publishing fees</u>. Type of articles we accept are:

- 1. **Articles** *in extenso*, original work or reviews.
- 2. Scientific notes.

Natural history notes, short ecological or behavioral notes.

- 3. **Distribution notes**.
- 4. **Perspectives**, opinions on topics related to Amphibians and Reptiles.
- 5. **Editorials**, articles by invitation that are of general interest.
- 6. Book reviews.
- 7. Obituaries.

There is no limit of words in the manuscripts, although they are encouraged to submit less than 10 thousand words, including titles, abstracts, body of the writing and citations, without counting appendices, tables, and figure legends.

Note that the RLH does not publish thesis abstracts. However, we encourage authors to submit ther thesis results as a scientific article or notes, either natural history or distribution.

## Peer review process

The **peer review process** consists of the author submits an article, the editor-in-chief reviews it and, according to the content, assigns it to an Associate Editor according to her or his areas of expertise. The Associate Editor tasks consist on evaluating the quality of the manuscript, deciding whether this will be sent for review, choose a minimum of two specialized reviewers and later, based on the comments of the reviewers, make a decision, which she/he will communicate to the authors. Manuscripts will be evaluated solely on the basis of their scientific merits.

All the Editorial Policies can be downloaded <u>here</u>.

If you are not sure if your article falls within the appropriate topics of the RLH, please contact the Editorial Committee (revista.latin.herpetologia@gmail.com) before sending your manuscript.

## **Publication times**

The RLH is committed to give a first decision within a maximum period of 90 calendar days (3 months). Likewise, authors who must make revisions of their manuscripts within the maximum established periods (see below) to submit a new version of their manuscript, taking into account the comments of the reviewers. The new version of the manuscript **must** be accompanied by a reply letter specifying what actions were carried out for each comment. If the revised manuscript is not received during this period, or as long as there is no response from the authors, the work will be automatically withdraw from the system.

#### **RLH times**

# **Articles**

3 months maximum time of first decision60 calendar days for the author to respond6 months ideal time from submission to publication

#### **Scientific Notes**

2 months maximum time of first decision45 calendar days for the author to respond5 months ideal time from submission to publication

#### **Distribution Notes**

45 days maximum time for first decision

30 calendar days for the author to respond

4 months ideal time from submission to publication

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https://academicos.fciencias.unam.mx/leticiaochoa/

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http://cmas.siu.buap.mx/portal\_pprd/work/sites/biologia/resources/PDFContent/173/Curriculum%20carlos%20hdez.pdf

https://www.redtox.org/experto/dr-carlos-alberto-hernandez-jimenez

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Authors must ensure that their submitted work does not contain any matter that may be considered construed as defamatory or in any way infringes the copyrights of another party. They are also entitled to receive an impartial review based solely on the scientific merits of the manuscript.

**Writing.** The authors must present an accurate description of the work done, as well as an objective discussion. The evidence and underlying data must be accurately represented in the manuscript. A document must contain references sufficiently detailed to allow others to reconstruct its argument. Fraudulent or deliberately inaccurate statements constitute a behavior that violates the code of ethics, they are unacceptable and can cause a manuscript rejection.

**Data access.** In some cases, authors may be required to provide evidence and raw data in relation to a document for editorial review, so they must be prepared to provide access to it. The RLH will accept requests not to publish data that the authors are working on, understanding that after a reasonable period, these may be made public with prior notice to the authors.

**Originality and plagiarism.** Authors should ensure that they have written original manuscript. When using the work and/or words of others, they should make sure that this has been cited in the appropriate way.

**Multiple or redundant publications.** An author should not publish manuscripts that describe essentially the same research in more than one journal or primary publication. Submitting the same manuscript to more than one journal at the same time constitutes a behavior that is contrary to the code of ethics and is unacceptable. The journal editor will make every effort to process and evaluate submissions in a timely manner. If an author decides to send the manuscript to another journal, he/she must request the journal editor to withdraw the manuscript so that it is not considered for publication in the RLH.

**Source recognition.** All authors must disclose in their manuscript any financial support or other conflicts of interest that may be interpreted to influence the results or interpretation of their manuscript. All sources of financial support used to produce the manuscript must be explicitly disclosed.

**Fundamental errors in published works**. When an author discovers a significant error or inaccuracy in their own published study, they have the obligation to immediately notify the journal editor and cooperate to retract or correct the document.

The Publications Ethics Committee (COPE) provides resources for journal editors, peer reviewers, and authors on the subject of professional publishing standards at publishingethics.org.

It is important to emphasize that the Revista Latinoamericana de Herpetología reserves the right to withdraw manuscripts in process of publication or already published that have breached the code of ethics. In this case, support and reliable evidence will be provided.

# **Editorial Norms for the Submission of Manuscripts**

Before submitting a manuscript, the correspondence author must verify that their writing was prepared in accordance with the journal's editorial regulations. Manuscripts that do not follow the editorial

norms and the mentioned criteria will be returned to the authors without going through the reviewing process.

**Important note:** Authors must propose three to five reviewers when submitting their article. However, it is up to the associate editors to consider these proposals or not. This information should be provided in the cover letter, including the full name of the reviewer, institution and email address.

Authors should carefully fill in the metadata during submission, such as adding all authors and their institutions, keywords, correct title, and abstract. Likewise, once the manuscript has been accepted, the authors should verify that all the modifications the manuscript has undergone are reflected in the metadata. Since they CANNOT BE MODIFIED once the manuscript is published, and this information is important because it is used in the meta-tags that the reference handlers use.

# **Submission Manuscript Checklist**

As part of the submission process, authors are required to verify that their submission meets all of the elements indicated below. Submissions that do not meet these guidelines will be returned to authors.

- The manuscript has not been previously published nor it has been submitted to another journal during the evaluation time at the RLH.
- All authors agree with the content of the manuscript to be submitted, this will be specified in the cover letter of the manuscript.
- The text, tables and figures adhere to the editorial standards. They can be found below and in the <u>Author's Guidelines</u>, in the "About the journal" section.
- The submission file must be in formats: \* .doc or \* .docx. A template can be downloaded <a href="here.">here.</a>
- A submission letter to the Editor-in-Chief specifying at least three potential reviewers is requested. Here is an example.
- The manuscript complies with the statement of <u>Ethics and malpractice statement of the Revista</u> <u>Latinoamericana de Herpetología</u>.

#### **EDITORIAL NORMS**

FROM THE FIRST OF JANUARY 2022 THE REVISTA CHANGES TO DOUBLE BLIND SO THE FOLLOWING RULES MUST BE CAREFULLY FOLLOWED:

The submission must contain:

- 1. Cover letter
- 2. Personal data document
- 3. Main manuscript

#### PERSONAL DATA DOCUMENT

1. Cornice or page header. At the beginning of the first page, write the last name of the authors (use et al. for more than 2 authors) and a short title of the study, which should not exceed 60 characters, including spaces.

### Example:

Rodríguez-Hernández et al. — Genus Barisia in Mexico

2. Title. It should be short and informative and written in capital letters, centered and bold at the top of page 1 after the ledge. Scientific names must appear in uppercase, lowercase and italics. In Spanish the capital letters are accentuated.

## **Example:**

# EFFECT OF ENVIRONMENTAL PRODUCTIVITY ON THE PHYSICAL ROBUSTNESS OF Sceloporus grammicus IN AN ARID ENVIRONMENT

3. Names and affiliation of the authors. Complete names separated by a comma and indicating with a superscript the corresponding institution or institutions and with an asterisk the corresponding author. The full postal addresses of the authors must appear immediately. Numbers (superscripts) should be used to associate the address or addresses corresponding to each author in italics. The author's email address for correspondence must be indicated in a separate line.

# **Example:**

Salvador Santana Riveray<sup>1\*</sup> & Paul R. Smith<sup>2</sup>

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<sup>2</sup>Departmenot of Biology, University of Texas at Austin, Austin, TX 78712, USA.

\*Correspondence: ssriv@ecol.edu.mx

**4. Acknowledgments.** Must be concise. Authors should include the full names of the people they thank, as well as the organizations or sources of financial support of the study. The permit numbers for the scientific collection must also be included in this section.

Ethical aspects and in accordance with the laws of each country. The authors must include in the acknowledgments the collecting permits from competent organizations for each country involved in the study, regarding the collection of specimens, this must be fulfilled in all publication formats (articles and notes). Likewise, in the event that the manuscript refers to manipulation of organisms (e.g. experiments), the authors must state that they followed the ethical standards of their respective institutions and countries.

#### The main manuscript

Manuscripts will be submitted for review only in .doc or \* .docx format; no other format will be accepted. The manuscript must contain all the necessary information in a single file. Tables, figures and

appendices must be included in the manuscript after the literature cited in the order listed. **IT MUST NOT HAVE ANY PERSONAL INFORMATION.** 

- The whole manuscript, including cited literature, tables and figure captions, must be double-spaced.
- —The font must be 12-point Times New Roman.
- —The active voice should be used.
- —The manuscripts must be edited on a letter size page (US letter 25.59 x 27.94 cm), with margins of 2.54 cm.
- —All pages must be marked with the authors' last names in the upper right corner; if there are more than two authors use "et al." after the first author.
- —Indents will not be included in the manuscripts, the texts must be justified only on the left side.
- —The words will not be separated into syllables at the end of the line.
- —No extra space will be left between paragraphs. This is only between sections.
- —Manuscripts should have page numbering (lower right) and lines to facilitate the revision process.
- —Foot notes are not allowed.

#### Main manuscripts structure:

**Title.** It should be short and informative and written in capital letters, centered and bold at the top of page 1 after the ledge. Scientific names must appear in uppercase, lowercase and italics. In Spanish the capital letters are accentuated.

#### Example:

# EFFECT OF ENVIRONMENTAL PRODUCTIVITY ON THE PHYSICAL ROBUSTNESS OF *Sceloporus* grammicus IN AN ARID ENVIRONMENT

**Abstract** should describe clearly and concisely the main points of the manuscript, without references to the text and without citations from the literature. They must have a maximum length of 300 words for articles and 150 words for the rest. The submission of one abstract in Spanish or Portuguese and one in English is mandatory. The words "Resumen or resumo" and "Abstract" should appear indented, in bold and followed by a long dash or em dash (—). The abstract should begin after the authors' addresses, and the abstract should appear immediately after the keywords. If you have any doubts please check the last published number.

**Key words.** Four to six words separated by commas must be included in alphabetical order. They should not repeat words found in the title. These shoul be in Spanish or Portuguese and English. They will appear after the summary and the abstract respectively. The terms "Keywords" and "Palabras clave" or "Palavras chave" should appear indented, in bold and followed by a long or em dash.

**Text.** Articles will typically contain the following sections in bold and verses: Introduction (without heading), Material and methods, Results, Discussion, Conclusions and Cited literature. Review articles, scientific notes and perspectives do not need to follow this structure. There may be subtitles in each

section if necessary, specified in a separate line with italics. Sections should be separated by a blank line, but there should be no space between paragraphs inside the section.

#### Example:

#### **Materials and Methods**

Monitoring of behavior patterns. Description begins here ...

Statistics analyses. They should be brief and clear.

All figures and tables must be referred to in the text. If they are explicitly cited, figure X or table X will be used, otherwise they will be cited in parentheses (Fig. X). If it is more than one figure, the plural will be used and following the punctuation rules (Figs. 1, 2 and 4 or Figs. 1a and 1c). Symbols, abbreviations and acronyms must be defined the first time they are used. Only italic letters should be used for species scientific names.

References in the text. References to published articles will be cited with the surname of the author or authors, and year of publication in parentheses. In the event that the article has more than two authors, the surname of the first author will be cited and "et al." will be used (without italics) to refer to the rest of the authors. When there are several citations, they will be ordered in chronological order first, and alphabetically after. For work in process of publication, the expression "in press", in parentheses, will be used to replace the date of publication. All references mentioned in the text must be in the Literature Cited and vice versa.

#### Examples:

"Brodie and Campbell (1993) and Tinkle et al. (1995) demonstrated that ..."

Two or more references by the same author and year of publication must be designated in lowercase letters; for example, "Best (1978 a, b)".

The citations are made up of the author and date (Best, 1978), in case of multiple citations, use a semicolon between them (Best, 1978a, b; Campbell, 1993; Brodie, 2000; Flores-Villela et al., 2001; Guzmán & Pérez, 2011).

**Cited Literature.** The list of bibliographic references will be incorporated at the end of the manuscript and before the tables, figures or appendices. Only list the references mentioned in the text. References will be listed in alphabetical order of the first author followed by chronological order. In the event that there are several references with the same first author and same year of publication, these will be listed according to the alphabetical order of the second author, and so on. In all cases French indent and short dash between page numbers.

#### Articles

Fraser, D.F. 1976a. Coexistence of salamanders of the genus *Plethodon*: a variation of the Santa Rosalia theme. Ecology 57:238-251.

Hartmann, P.A. & O.A. Marquez. 2005. Diet and habitat use of two sympatric species of *Phylodryas* (Colubridae), in South Brazil. Amphibia-Reptilia 26:25-31.

- Holycross, A.T., C.W. Painter, D.B. Prival, D.E. Swann, M.J. Schroff, T. Edwards & C. Schwalbe. 2002. Diet of *Crotalus lepidus klauberi* (Banded Rock Rattlesnake). Journal of Herpetology 36:589-597.
- Kolby, J.E., K.M. Smith, L. Berger, W.B. Karesh, A. Preston, A.P. Pessier & L.F. Skerratt. 2014. First evidence of amphibian chytrid fungus (*Batrachochytrium dendrobatidis*) and ranavirus in Hong Kong amphibian trade. PloS one, 9(3), e90750.
- Wiens, J.J., C.A. Kuczynski, S. Arif & T.W. Reeder. 2010. Phylogenetic relationships of phrynosomatid lizards based on nuclear and mitochondrial data, and revised phylogeny for *Sceloporus*. Molecular Phylogenetics and Evolution 54:150-161.
- Smith, H.M. & E.H. Taylor. 1950. An annotated checklist and key to the Reptiles of Mexico exclusive of the snakes. Bulletin of the United States National Museum 199:1-253.

#### **Books**

- Siegel, S. 1956. Nonparametric Statistics for the Behavioral Sciences. McGraw-Hill, New York, New York, USA.
- Vitt, L.J. & J.P. Caldwell. 2003. Herpetology. An Introductory Biology of Amphibians and Reptiles, 3rd Edition. Academic Press. San Diego, California, USA.
- Huey, R.B., E.R. Pianka, & T.W. Schoener (Eds.). 1983. Lizard Ecology. Studies of a Model Organism. Hervard University Press, Cambridge, Massachussetts, USA.
- Grismer, L.L. 2002. Amphibians and Reptiles of Baja California, including its Pacific Islands and the Islands in the Sea of Cortes. University of California Press, Berkeley, California. USA.

#### **Book Chapters**

- Krebs, J.R. 1978. Optimal foraging: decision rules for predators. Pp. 243-254. In J. R. Krebs & N. B. Davies (Eds.), Behavioural Ecology: An Evolutionary Approach. Sinauer, Sunderland, Massachusetts, USA.
- Arvea, R.C. 1990. Alfredo Dugès: Pionero de la herpetología en México. Pp. 85-99. In E. Beltrán, A. Jáuregui de Cervantes & R. C. Arvea (Eds.). Alfredo Dugès. Ediciones La Rana, Guanajuato, México.
- Arriaga, L. 2010. Sierra de la Trinidad, Baja California Sur. Pp. 397-399. In G. Ceballos, L. Martínez, A. García, E. Espinoza, J. Bezaury-Creel & R. Dirzo (Eds.). Diversidad, Amenazas y Áreas Prioritarias para la Conservación de las Selvas Secas del Pacífico de México. Fondo de Cultura Económica-CONABIO, México.
- Krebs, J.R. 1978. Optimal foraging: decision rules for predators. Pp. 243-254. In J. R. Krebs & N. B. Davies (Eds.), Behavioural Ecology: An Evolutionary Approach. Sinauer, Sunderland, Massachusetts, USA.

## Scientific reports

Graves, B.M. & S.H. Anderson. 1987. Habitat suitability index models: Snapping Turtle. U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service Biological Report 82 (10.141). USA.

#### <u>Thesis</u>

- Hernández-Salinas, U. 2009. Estudio herpetofaunístico del estado de Hidalgo, México. Tesis de Maestría. Centro de Investigaciones Biológicas, Universidad Autónoma del Estado de Hidalgo. México.
- Gergits, W.F. & R.G. Jaeger. 1982. Interference competition and territoriality between the terrestrial salamaders *Plethodon cinereus* and *Plethodon shenandoah*. M.S. Thesis. State University of New York, Albany, New York, USA.

# Electronic references

- Hammerson, G., G. Parra-Olea & D. Wake 2004. *Ensatina eschscholtzii*, in: IUCN 2014. IUCN Red List of threatened species. Versión 2014.2. <a href="http://www.iucnredlist.org">http://www.iucnredlist.org</a> [Accessed in November 2014]
- Uetz, P. & J. Hosek (Eds.). 2015. The Reptile Database. http://www.reptile-database.org, [Accessed in June 2015]
- Frost, D.R. 2016. Amphibian Species of the World: an Online Reference. Version 6.0. http://research.amnh.org/herpetology/amphibia/index.html. American Museum of Natural History, New York, USA. [Accessed in February 2017]

Note: if the electronic reference involves a country, it must be included.

Note that the journal titles are not abbreviated, that there are no spaces between the authors' initials, and that the electronic references are dated when the page was last consulted.

For references that are in the process of being published, "In press" should be cited instead of the page numbers, but the full journal name should be given. Citing references in preparation will not be admitted. It is not admitted to cite manuscripts submitted without positive resolution of acceptance, unpublished reports and summaries of conferences whose resource is not available. However, if it is considered pertinent to cite them, the expression "unpublished data" or "personal communication" must be included in parentheses and their respective references will not be included in the Cited Literature.

**Tables.** They must go after the Literature Cited, and each table must have its corresponding explanatory heading. Within the Table, only the initial letter of the first word will be capitalized (e.g. "Weighted average"). Lines within boxes should be avoided except when they clarify separate groups of columns. Figure footings (indicated by asterisks in superscripts) may be used after the table when detailed information needs to be given (such as levels of statistical significance).

## Description of the tables must be in English and Spanish or Portuguese as the case may be.

**Figures.** Will be placed after the Tables if any, if not after the Literature Cited. A page will be added where the figure feet of all the figures are specified, later one figure per page will be included, listing them as Figure 1, Figure 2, etc., regardless of whether it is graphics, photographs, maps or other graphic material. The dimensions of the figures should not exceed 21.5 x 28 cm, at 300 dpi. The figures should be planned for a reduction to a final width of one or two columns in the RLH. A size or distance scale should be

included when appropriate. If a figure includes more than one image, each one must be marked with a capital letter (A, B, C).

Once the article is accepted, the figures will be sent in separate files at a resolution of 300 dpi. The format of the figures must be JPG, JPEG, TIFF or EPS. It is important that, regardless of their resolution, all elements of the image can be clearly displayed.

# Figure captions must be in English and Spanish or Portuguese as the case may be.

**Numbers.** Numbers with two or more digits must be written with Arabic numerals (e.g. 10, 15) except at the beginning of a sentence. One-digit numbers must be written in letters unless they precede measurement units (e.g. 4 m), serve to designate something (e.g. Experiment 2), or are separated by a hyphen (e.g. 2-3 scales).

Numerical expressions written with figures must be represented avoiding the separation of thousands, millions, etc., by means of a point, and as follows: dates and in general thousand units without space (e.g. 1967, 3000 m); tens of thousands onwards must be separated every three positions by a comma (e.g. 27,000 kg; 3,276,000 ha). The period must be used, instead of the comma, to separate the integer part of the decimal place and the number of decimal values will be limited to a maximum of 3 positions (e.g. 0.426 mm). This rule must be applied both in the bulk of the text and in the tables and legends of attached figures.

Units and abbreviations. For weights and measurements, the units of the International System of Units should be used. Such units should be used in the text, tables and figures. Common abbreviations are: "n" (sample size), "Nº." (number), "SVL" (snout-vent length, but define the first time it is used), "P" (probability), "gl" (degrees of freedom), "DE" and "EE" (standard deviation and standard error, respectively), "l" (liters), "g" (grams), "m" (meters), "cm" (centimeters), "mm" (millimeters) and " $^{\circ}$ C" (degrees centigrade). Note that " $^{\circ}$ n" and " $^{\circ}$ P" should be written in italics, as well as all statistical symbols for values (e.g. Student  $^{\circ}$ t test, Mann-Whitney  $^{\circ}$ U). Greek letters (e.g.  $^{\circ}$ 9) should not be written in italics. No dates, or undefined terms should be abbreviated. Geographical coordinates must be provided in decimal degrees: 32.33851° N, 116.25645° W. Time: use a 24-hour clock and not AM and PM.

Personal communication will be abbreviated as "pers. com." in italics. There must be a space between the = sign and the numbers (e.g. p = 0.01). These standards must be applied both in the bulk of the text, as in the tables and figure legends attached.

**Appendices.** Detailed non-essential information in the text (e.g. list of specimens examined) may be located in an Appendix. These should appear after the figures and have headings: Appendix 1, 2, etc, which must to be cited in the text.

**Ethical aspects and in accordance with the laws of each country.** The authors must include in the text or in the acknowledgments the collection permits from competent organizations for each country, regarding the collection of specimens, this must be fulfilled in all publication formats (articles and notes). Likewise,

in the event that the manuscript refers to manipulation of organisms (e.g. experiments), the authors must state that they followed the ethical standards of their respective institutions and countries.

#### STRUCTURE OF MANUSCRIPTS

#### Scientific articles

Scientific articles must be written in Spanish/Portugues and English; in both cases, they must include a summary in Spanish and another in English (abstract). There is no limit of words and / or figures. Manuscripts must contain the following sections, those marked with an asterisk are optional:

Introduction
Materials and methods
Results
Discussion
Conclusions
\*Appendix

#### **Scientific Notes**

**These** must include abstract and key words. The format is the same as that of the articles, except that only the heading for the Literature Cited should be used.

#### **Distribution Notes**

These are short contributions. In the case of the title, only the scientific name and the family to which the species belongs will be included in parentheses. The content will include Country, State, Municipality, Locality (coordinates in decimal degrees; datum; elevation). Collection / observation date. Record details (e.g. how many km from the known distribution, if it is the first record for the state or municipality, etc.), citations on the closest reference record. Brief description of the event (time, age of the specimen, habitat, etc.). Collector(s), scientific collection/museum where the voucher was deposited (including the name of the collection, institution, catalog number, and city where the museum is located).

The above may be replaced by reference photos deposited in a photographic collection, including catalog numbers. Species verifier name (preferably a curator or species expert). In a separate line include the cited literature.

# **Natural history notes**

**These** notes have the same format as the articles and should include abstract and key words. In the case of the title, the scientific name and the family to which the species belongs will be included in parentheses.

"PREDATION OF THE LIZARD Aspidoscelis communis (Teiidae) BY THE BEJUQUILLO SNAKE Oxybelis microphtalmus (Colubridae) IN MICHOACÁN, MEXICO"

The content will include a brief introduction and background on the type of observation being reported. Results should include: date of collection / observation, locality (coordinates in decimal degrees; datum; elevation), municipality, state and country. Brief description of the methodology used (if applicable). Brief description of the event (e.g. diet, mortality, habitat use, malformations, etc.). Include time, age of the specimen, habitat, etc. Brief discussion. In case the specimen has been collected, include the name (s) of the collector (s), scientific museum where the specimen (s) was deposited, or reference photos. In subsequent lines the cited literature. Reference images of the observed event may also be included.

**Book Reviews** 

Book Reviews will not be divided into sections. Authors are encouraged to be thorough in their reviews, including chapter-specific comments. Likewise, they are asked to attach a photograph of the cover of the reviewed book.

**Perspectives** 

The perspectives will not be divided into sections. Authors are encouraged to be thorough in the literature to support their comments. They are also asked to attach images that may be supportive of the perspective.

**Obituaries** 

Obituaries will not be divided into sections. Authors are urged to make manuscripts short. Likewise, they are asked to attach at least a photograph of the person referred.

**Cover photos.** Authors may submit their best photographs of the species that the manuscript is about. These will be selected and published on the cover of the journal. Send the images in JPEG format in high resolution (300 dpi).

Last update: January 2022

