

**Selection criteria**

Theme Issue topics are selected from proposals submitted to the journal. Each issue is guest edited by one or more experts in the field who invite all contributions (the journal does not accept unsolicited stand-alone papers). The criteria for selection of topics are scientific excellence, originality and interest across disciplines within biology. The Editor is responsible for all decisions on proposals and makes these decisions based on the reports received from the referees and/or Editorial Board members.

**Publishing format**

*Phil. Trans. R. Soc. B* articles are published regularly online and in print issues twice a month. Along with all Royal Society journals, we are committed to archiving and providing perpetual access. The journal also offers the facility for including Electronic Supplementary Material (ESM) to papers. Contents of the ESM might include details of methods, derivations of equations, large tables of data, DNA sequences and computer programs.

However, the printed version must include enough detail to satisfy most non-specialist readers. Supplementary data up to 10Mb is placed on the Society's website free of charge. Larger datasets must be deposited in recognised public domain databases by the author.

**Conditions of publication**

Articles must not have been published previously, nor be under consideration for publication elsewhere. The main findings of the article should not have been reported in the mass media. Like many journals, *Phil. Trans. R. Soc. B* employs a strict embargo policy where the reporting of a scientific article by the media is embargoed until a specific time. The Editor has final authority in all matters relating to publication.

**Electronic Submission details**

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