

HERPETOLOGICAL BULLETIN REPORT

March 2022

At the end of December, Sarah Berry retired as Managing Editor of both The Herpetological Bulletin and The Herpetological Journal. Sarah joined us in 2014 and was The Bulletin's first ever professional, production manager. She has ensured that we have kept up to schedule and that our outputs have met high standards. Indeed, the very successful and attractive current format of the Bulletin is the work of Sarah. Sarah is based in France where she has a publishing business and leaves us to spend more time with her art work. In Sarah's place, we are very pleased to welcome Julie Tee to The Bulletin team.

In the last twelve months, all four issues of The Bulletin were published on time. However, we are now working to ensure that the electronic version of The Bulletin and the hardcopy, which subscribers received through the post, are released at the same time - roughly 1st March, 1st June, 1st September and 1st December.

There were 118 manuscripts submitted in 2021, a fall of 40 (-25%) from the previous year (Table 1). Most of this reduction was in the number of shorter articles whereas the number of full papers actually increased and over twice as many of them were accepted for publication. The overall acceptance rate for all types of article improved from 43% to 52% so that although the absolute number of articles submitted to The Bulletin decreased the amount of publishable material has continued to increase. Consequently, all four issues in 2021 have been a full 48 pages (indeed Issue 155 was exceptionally extended to 52 pages) but the proportion of articles published within 3 months of acceptance fell to 25% (56% in 2020) although the remainder was still published within 6 months.

Table 1. Submission and acceptance rates for manuscripts received in 2021 (2020)

	No. submitted	No. accepted	% accepted
Full Papers	21 (17)	15 (7)	71 (41)
Short Notes	9 (19)	6 (11)	67 (57)
Short Communications & Natural History Notes	88 (122)	40 (50)	46 (41)
Totals	118 (158)	61 (68)	52 (43)

The BHS is very grateful to the following people who gave their time and expertise reviewing manuscripts for The Bulletin in 2021: Roger Avery, Cesar Ayres, Karina Banci, Lee Brady, Richard Brown, Ashok Captain, Felipe Coelho, Carolyn Cray, Jenny Daltry, Roger Downie, Andrew Durso, Xavier Gludas, Richard Griffiths, Lee Grismer, Joanna Hedley, Anthony Herrel, Rick Hodges, Victor Jimenez, Jim Labisko, Steve Langham, James McCranie, Konrad Mebert, Roger Meek, Chris Michaels, Nitya Mohanty, Stephen Mohony, Anna Muir, John Murphy, Kanto Nishikawa, Cristiano Nogueira, Andrius Pasukonis, Anthony Plattenberg Laing, Max Ringler, Mauricio Rivera-Correa, Sean Rovito, Raul Sales, Brian Smith, Mario Solis, Ben Tapely, Christine Tilley, Luis Vera-Pérez, John Wilkinson, Mark Wilkinson, and Wolfgang Wüster.

Rick Hodges
Editor