



Exaggerated Traits in Arthropod

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Message from the Guest Editor

Dear Colleagues,

The exaggerated morphologies of insects, such as elongated mandibles and horns in beetles, the forelegs of mantises, and the hindlegs of grasshoppers, have long attracted biologists. These disproportionately enlarged characters are the morphological adaptations to diverse ecological contexts.

On the other hand, the traits related to predation and defense, including forelegs in Mantis and spikes in Daphnia, are the result of natural selection. The ecological significance of these exaggerated traits is revealed by morphological and behavioral considerations with reference to sex-, environment-, and -species specific functions and expression. Additionally, the evolutionary process of these exaggerated traits is beginning to be revealed by eco-evo-devo approaches based on developmental, transcriptomic, and genomic studies. This Special Issue wishes to cover all aspects, ranging from DNA to ecological, of all kinds of exaggerated traits in arthropod. Both original research articles and review papers are welcome. I look forward to receiving your contributions.

