



Recent Advances in Marine Mollusca: Evolutionary Biology and Molecular Phylogeny

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Message from the Guest Editors

Dear Colleagues,

The immense plasticity of molluscs' body shape, with no other animal equivalent, offers an infinite number of possibilities for evolutionary and adaptive patterns. They have been used to establish fundamental principles of evolutionary biology mechanisms, global biogeography, and past mass extinctions. The eight distinct living taxonomic classes of molluscs are each unambiguously monophyletic; however, significant debate remains about the topology of the phylogenetic relationships among those eight branches. More intensive work within specific clades of molluscs, and more broadly in other organismal groups, has repeatedly reaffirmed that insufficient taxon sampling can lead to inaccurate phylogenetic reconstruction, especially for complex groups.

We hope that the articles in this Special Issue will show the latest advances in the large group represented by marine molluscs, with the hope of giving the reader an opportunity to achieve a global update on how phylogeny and evolutionary biology are progressing in this group, hopefully to get a glimpse of where it is headed.



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Message from the Editor-in-Chief

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