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DESCRIPTION

*Animal Reproduction Science* publishes results from studies relating to **reproduction** and **fertility** in **animals**. This includes both fundamental research and applied studies, including management practices that increase our understanding of the **biology** and **manipulation** of reproduction. Manuscripts should go into depth in the mechanisms involved in the research reported, rather than give a mere description of findings. Results and conclusions should contribute to improving the management of an animal species or population, with regard to its fertility or reproductive efficiency. Results and conclusions should contribute to improving the management of an animal species or population, with regard to its fertility or reproductive efficiency. The focus is on animals that are useful to humans including food- and fibre-producing; companion/recreational; captive; and endangered species including zoo animals, but excluding laboratory animals unless the results of the study provide new information that impacts the basic understanding of the biology or manipulation of reproduction.

The journal's scope includes the study of reproductive physiology and endocrinology, reproductive cycles, natural and artificial control of reproduction, preservation and use of gametes and embryos, pregnancy and parturition, infertility and sterility, diagnostic and therapeutic techniques. The Editorial Board of *Animal Reproduction Science* has decided not to publish papers in which there is an exclusive examination of the **in vitro** development of oocytes and embryos; however, there will be consideration of papers that include **in vitro** studies where the source of the oocytes and/or development of the embryos beyond the blastocyst stage is part of the experimental design.

Submission is encouraged of manuscripts that are focused on reproduction in aquatic animals. Manuscripts focused on reproduction in insects, however, do not fit the scope of the Journal and will be rejected without peer review.

Authors with any concerns are encouraged to contact the Editor-in-Chief to enquire about the suitability of the content of their paper for submission. There are no page charges for manuscripts published in *Animal Reproduction Science* and publication of papers only takes place after rigorous peer review.

AUDIENCE

ABSTRACTING AND INDEXING

Biological Abstracts
Current Awareness in Biological Sciences
PubMed/Medline
Animal Breeding Abstracts
Bibliography of Reproduction
Current Contents - Agriculture, Biology & Environmental Sciences
Scopus
Elsevier BIOBASE
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INTRODUCTION

Types of Paper
1. Original Research Papers (Regular Papers)
2. Review Articles

For Original Research Papers (Regular Papers), a reporting of research results that comprise one or a series of experiments is required. The paper should contribute to increasing understanding of the biology and/or manipulation of reproduction in animals. The material should not have been previously published elsewhere, except in a preliminary form. Original Research Papers should not be longer than 8,000 words (including Introduction, Materials and Methods, Results, Discussion and Conclusions). Figures and Tables should not exceed eight items.

The authors may provide additional data, especially with regard to a detailed methods section, and large datasets as supplementary materials.

Review Articles should fit within the scope for the journal and be of current interest in the realm of animal reproduction in those species on which the journal focuses. Submission of Review Manuscripts to Animal Reproduction Science is encouraged. The manuscripts may be submitted without invitation or be invited reviews and should be submitted using the same process as that for Original Research manuscripts. Review Articles developed by conducting a systematic research review including those resulting from meta-analyses are encouraged; however, high quality review articles developed not using this approach will also be considered for publication. Review Articles should be no longer than 10,000 words and contain no more than eight Figures and Tables. The use of illustrations explaining the mechanisms referred to in the Review is strongly encouraged.

All manuscripts must be written in proper English. Attention must be given not only to correct spelling and grammar, but also to the narrative, which should be appropriate for a scientific article. Manuscripts not fulfilling this requirement will be immediately rejected without peer review.

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**Multiple Corresponding Authors:**
Please note that only one Corresponding Author can be responsible for the submission in Editorial Manager. If your article is accepted, however, multiple Corresponding Authors can be listed on the final published article. If multiple Corresponding Authors are required, please include this in your corrections at author proof stage.

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**Important formatting to which all manuscripts should adhere**

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2. The abbreviation "et al." in the text of the manuscript should be in regular font and never be italicized
3. The letter "n" indicating number and letter "g" representing relative centrifugal force should always be lower case and italicized and the letter "P" indicating probability values needs to be upper case and italicized throughout the manuscript.
4. There should be indentation of the first line of all paragraphs except for the Abstract of the manuscript
5. There should not be a line spacing between paragraphs
6. Proper *Animal Reproduction Science* format has been used for all headings and subheadings throughout the manuscript

**BEFORE YOU BEGIN**

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Authors should include a statement in the manuscript that informed consent was obtained for experimentation with human subjects. The privacy rights of human subjects must always be observed.

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Research conducted that includes cruelty in animal experimentation will not be considered for publication in *Animal Reproduction Science*.

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All authors must disclose any financial and personal relationships with other people or organizations that could inappropriately influence (bias) their work. Examples of potential competing interests include employment, consultancies, stock ownership, honoraria, paid expert testimony, patent
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**Reporting sex- and gender-based analyses**

**Reporting guidance**

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**Definitions**

Sex generally refers to a set of biological attributes that are associated with physical and physiological features (e.g., chromosomal genotype, hormonal levels, internal and external anatomy). A binary sex categorization (male/female) is usually designated at birth ("sex assigned at birth"), most often based solely on the visible external anatomy of a newborn. Gender generally refers to socially constructed roles, behaviors, and identities of women, men and gender-diverse people that occur in a historical and cultural context and may vary across societies and over time. Gender influences how people view themselves and each other, how they behave and interact and how power is distributed in society. Sex and gender are often incorrectly portrayed as binary (female/male or woman/man) and unchanging whereas these constructs actually exist along a spectrum and include additional sex categorizations and gender identities such as people who are intersex/have differences of sex development (DSD) or identify as non-binary. Moreover, the terms "sex" and "gender" can be ambiguous—thus it is important for authors to define the manner in which they are used. In addition to this definition guidance and the SAGER guidelines, the resources on this page offer further insight around sex and gender in research studies.

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PREPARATION

Editorial Structure and Preliminary Assessment

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Manuscripts should have numbered lines (continuous numbering across pages) with wide margins and double spacing throughout (i.e., also for abstracts, footnotes and references). Every page of the manuscript, including the title page, references, tables, etc., should be numbered. In the text no reference should be made to page numbers; however, if necessary, one may refer to sections. Avoid excessive usage of italics to emphasize part of the text. The structure of the manuscript must be Abstract, Introduction, Materials and Methods, Results, Discussion, Conclusions, Acknowledgements, Author Contribution Statement, Competing interests statement, References, Figure legends and Tables (if the latter are provided with the Main text file).

Tables and Figures should be inserted separately at the end of the manuscript. Furthermore, the format used for the Table and Figure legends should be consistent with that of manuscripts published in this journal.

Abstract
The ABSTRACT can be no longer than 250 words in length and details about what should be included in the ABSTRACT are described subsequently in this document.

Introduction (labelled with the number 1)
State the objectives of the research and provide an adequate background, avoiding a detailed literature survey or a summary of the results. The introduction "sets the scene" for the research. Do not over-reference statements; two or three key references should suffice unless each adds something specific. The introduction should not normally be more than 500 words (approximately two manuscript pages).

Materials and Methods (labelled with the number 2)
Provide sufficient details to allow the research to be reproduced by an independent researcher. Methods that are already published should be summarized, and indicated by a reference. If quoting directly from a previously published method, use quotation marks and also cite the source. Any modifications to existing methods should also be described.

Description of analytical methods
The description of analytical methods (e.g., hormone analysis, immunohistochemistry) must include information on quality assessment and method validation for the respective laboratory where sample analysis has been performed.

Gene names
Authors must use standard gene names, as provided by HGNC. Gene names must be italicized. If the case of mammalian species and if gene names refer to rodent species, they must be upper case (i.e. HspA1A); if they refer to non-rodent species they must be written in capitals (e.g., HSPA1A). If they refer to other species, they must written lower case (e.g., hspa1a). Protein names are written in capitals and are not italicized.

Quantitative PCR
If authors have used quantitative PCR, the Methods section must be written following Bustin et al. The MIQE Guidelines: Minimum Information for Publication of Quantitative Real-Time PCR Use of terminology - relative abundance of mRNA transcripts as compared with the abundance of mRNA for a reference gene(s).

Experiments. Clin Chem 2009; 55: 611-622. The authors should also ensure that the following information is provided:
Protocol for DNA/RNA extraction, including quantitation and determination of purity; Reverse transcription: amount of RNA, concentration of all reagents: primers concentration (either random primers or oligonucleotides), reverse transcriptase and master mix components; For qPCR: sequence of Forward and Reverse primers, amplicon size, accession number of Genebank; Thermocycler parameters (i.e. denaturation, annealing and extension steps, number of cycles, melting curves); Validation of PCR products; Non-template controls for Reverse Transcription and qPCR should be included in all reactions; and Data analysis: details for the quantitative or relative determination.

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Sperm motility must be evaluated with a computer-assisted sperm analysis - failure to do so will result in the rejection of manuscripts. Also sperm membrane integrity should be assessed using double-fluorochrome staining and fluorescence microscopy or flow cytometry. Acrosome integrity should also
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**Flow cytometry**
When performed, the Methods section should provide technical details for flow cytometry experiments, following the recommendations set by the International Society for Advancement of Cytometry (Lee J et al. MIFlowCyt: The minimum information about a flow cytometry experiment. Cytometry A 2008; 73: 926-930). Amongst others, the following information should be provided: technical specifications of the equipment, laser wavelength, BP and LP for filters, sheath rate, how populations have been gated, concentration of cells during analysis, calibration of the equipment, linear or logarithmic representation, number of technical replicates, data compensation and software used to analyze histograms. The Editorial Board may request, at any point, the authors to provide the original files (.FCS/.LMD) or the histograms and dot-plots.

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Validation of antibodies through peptide blocking experiments is required when immunoblotting (Western blot), immunofluorescence, immunohistochemistry or immunocytochemistry are performed. The authors may cite a previous reference in which the specificity of the antibody used for the species reported in the submitted Manuscript has been validated and published.

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Authors must provide enough details on how data were evaluated and which statistical package was used to conduct that evaluation. If linear models are used, authors should have previously confirmed that parametric assumptions (normal distribution and homogeneity of variances) are not violated and, when applicable, indicate whether linear transformations of data or non-parametric tests have been conducted. Authors are also encouraged to consult with biometricians and determine which the most suitable statistical test before conducting the study (e.g., GLM, mixed model, linear regression).

**Results (labelled with the number 3)**
Results should be clear and concise.

**Discussion (labelled with the number 4)**
In this section, there should be an exploration of the significance of the results of the research, not a repeating of the results. For Research Papers, there needs to be a separate Results and Discussion section. Avoid extensive citations and discussion of published literature. Discussion should range between 1,000 and 1,250 words (approximately 4-5 pages).

**Conclusions (labelled with the number 5)**
The main conclusions of the study should be presented in a separate, short Conclusions section.

**Essential Title Page Information**

**Title.** Concise and informative. Titles are often used in information-retrieval systems. Avoid abbreviations and formulae where possible. Only the first letter of titles should be capitalized unless using words that need to be capitalized (e.g., breed name - Cashmere goats, Holstein cows Author names and affiliations. Please clearly indicate the given name(s) and family name(s) of each author and check that all names are accurately spelled. You can add your name between parentheses in your own script behind the English transliteration. Present the authors' affiliation addresses (where the research was conducted) below the names. Indicate all affiliations with a lower- case superscript letter immediately after the author's name and in front of the appropriate address. Provide the full postal address of each affiliation, including the country name and, if available, the e-mail address of each author. Corresponding author. Clearly indicate who will manage correspondence at all stages of refereeing and publication, also post-publication. This responsibility includes answering any future queries about Methodology and Materials. Ensure that the e-mail address is provided and that contact details are current for the corresponding author. Present/permanent address. If an author has relocated since the research described in the article was conducted, or was visiting at the time, a 'Present address' (or 'Permanent address') may be indicated as a footnote to that author's name. The address at which the author actually conducted the research must be retained as the main, affiliation address. Superscript Arabic numerals are used for such footnotes.
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Highlights are mandatory for this journal as they help increase the discoverability of your article via search engines. They consist of a short collection of bullet points that capture the novel results of your research as well as new methods that were used during the study (if any). Please have a look at the examples here: example Highlights.

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