

Editorial

Spixiana – the one and only?

Every editor of a scientific journal who reads this might be quite familiar with challenges of making a journal like Spixiana: reviewers who accept a review who never hand in their comments or only after ages; authors who try to circumvent reviewer's comments with almost all means; angry authors whose articles just did not make it into the next issue and have to wait some months until the next-but-one is published; stubbornness of editors, authors and publishers who all think they are the greatest graphic designers of all time; etc. pp. Moreover, we the editorial team at Spixiana are three curators and a librarian, and we have plenty of other things to do.

However, we are deeply fond of our journal, of the team of Pfeil Verlag (Munich) who does an incredibly good job, of our reviewers for their dedication, and finally of our authors for their great and inspiring articles. When we flip through a new issue fresh from the press we say "Look at this, how beautiful. A great job again!".

Hence, everything is good, one might think. However, a new challenge arose, one unheard of before, one of the unimaginable type. Someone stole our baby! One of our authors found a webpage of a journal that named itself "Spixiana Journal", publishes content that is totally different from ours, and uses even *our* International Standard Serial Number (ISSN) (as of 10/11/2024). And as we have learnt from our national ISSN centre: We can not do much about it!

Yet, we think we can. We can write about it to ease our pain, we can tell the community to avoid that the two different journals are mixed up, that we stand aloof from its content and clearly say: "That's not us!".

Dear colleagues of "Spixiana Journal", what are you intending to do by using our journal's name as part of the name of yours? Is it meant as a compliment? We think there would have been better ways to honour our work, really! Of course, there is no principal ban on using words in a journal name that are used by other journals. For example, if you look at the names of the big scientific tabloids and alike, you will find various other journals that use

permutations of words like "nature" or "science" in their names. Admittedly, in some cases this looks a bit funny, but nevertheless, these words are so unspecific that you can not really raise complaints about their usage.

However, dear colleagues, is Spixiana not a bit too specific? Do you at least know what Spixiana means? Well, we will tell you. Spixiana, "our" Spixiana, is named after Johann Baptist Spix (1781–1826), an eminent German 19th century zoologist, who was the first head of Bavaria's zoological collections. With a groundbreaking expedition to South America (1817–1820) he gave the starting signal to the substantial collections we are housing, enlarging and studying until today at the Bavarian State Collection of Zoology. Our house journal's name was chosen to honour Spix and his achievements decades ago (we work on issue 47), and since that time we have our Spixiana. What makes Spixiana? On the one hand, we are very traditional: we work non-profit, our authors publish free of charge (except for offprints and colour plates in the print version), and we are proud of our high-quality layout and print thanks to Pfeil-Verlag, our dedicated publisher. We offer our print version in exchange for several hundred zoological journals all over the world and keep them in our library for all times. On the other hand, we are very modern, since we make all articles openly accessible for everyone on our webpage. Moreover, our scope is Zoology, with a central focus on taxonomy and all its aspects. We are peer reviewed; our editors and editorial board are real persons and we do our best to make a journal open to the whole spectrum of researchers from amateurs to professionals.

This is what *we* call Spixiana.

Dear readers, dear authors! If you think this can't be true, this text must be a squid, a nightmare, believe us: it's not. It's all true. Hence, if you have articles about zoology, be it uncommon observations, species records, thorough revisions, complex molecular taxonomies, whatever. Make sure that you submit to Spixiana, our Spixiana.

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