



## ***Dumerilia*: a new start**

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The journal *Dumerilia*, launched in 1994, is published by the Society of the Friends of the Laboratory of Herpetology of the Paris Museum (AALRAM). It now has a double function: that of a journal of herpetology and that of a journal dealing with zoological taxonomy and nomenclature.

The name of this journal is a tribute to the memory of André-Marie-Constant Duméril (1774–1860), eminent zoologist, one of the founders of herpetology, author with Gabriel Bibron (1805–1848) of the masterpiece *Erpétologie générale* (1834–1854).

As a herpetological journal, *Dumerilia* publishes the results of original researches concerning all aspects of the study of Amphibians and Reptiles, from biology to zoogeography, systematics (including nomenclature), evolution, ecology, ethology or conservation biology. The works based on the herpetological collections of the Paris national Museum of natural History are particularly welcome.

Since 2015, *Dumerilia* accepts for publication articles dealing with general questions of zoological taxonomy and nomenclature, not limited to herpetology. It accepts papers providing preliminary diagnoses of new zoological taxa and making their nomina available, in particular in the case of nomina or nomenclatural acts already published online but not respecting the conditions of nomenclatural availability required by the 2012 Amendment of the *International Code of Zoological Nomenclature* (Anonymous 2012; Dubois *et al.* 2013).

Finally, starting in 2016, a special section *Zoologos* of *Dumerilia* is dedicated to the publication of the works of the Linz Zoocode Committee, devoted to the proposal of improvements for the *International Code of Zoological Nomenclature*.

*Dumerilia* is open to papers in English and French. It publishes texts of very variable length, from short notes to long monographs.

The journal *Dumerilia* has an international Editorial Board. Referees often provide very useful pieces of information or suggestions to authors of articles, which fully justifies the practice of an external review, sometimes anonymous, of papers, but, in

the end, the author alone is responsible of the content of an article. We are hostile to an editorial policy which would consist in imposing to authors the points of view or opinions of editors or referees which are not shared by the authors (Bour & Dubois 1994).

However, the comments of reviewers belong in two categories (Bour & Dubois 1994): objective criticisms, pointing to factual errors in the manuscript (incomplete or erroneous bibliographical information, methodological mistakes, obscure writing, etc.); and subjective criticisms, the referee expressing an opinion different from or complementary to that of the author. Objective criticisms are transmitted to the author(s), asking him/her/them to correct the manuscript in order to solve the problem. If not, the paper will not be accepted for publication in *Dumerilia*. On the other hand, the author can refuse to follow the subjective criticisms of the reviewers. In some cases, these comments will be published in appendix of the paper, signed by their authors who will thus assume their responsibility, and will therefore be liable to be later cited as ‘normal’ bibliographical references.

*Dumerilia* is published under two editions, a paper edition and an electronic edition as pdfs. Both editions are strictly identical and final, and are published on the same day. *Dumerilia* does not practice ‘pre-publication’ (‘early view’) of pdfs before paper publication: the pdfs become available online only after expedition of the paper edition to subscribers. The journal commits itself not to bring any modification to the pdfs after publication. In case of discovery of errors in the published text, they will be the matter of corrigenda in a subsequent issue of the journal. *Dumerilia* does not either practice the publication of ‘electronic supplements’ to the papers it publishes: the content of the paper and electronic versions is exactly the same.

Electronic versions of the papers published in *Dumerilia* can be ordered by readers from the website of the journal (<http://dumerilia.wifeo.com/>). Authors also have the possibility to choose the Open Access version, through paying an inclusive price per page.

Publication in *Dumerilia* is free of charge, including that of black and white figures and tables. Colour photos are published free in the online version of the journal but charged to the authors in the paper version—otherwise these figures will be printed in black and white.

### **Instructions for authors**

*Dumerilia* accepts for publication papers in English or in French. Manuscripts should be submitted as electronic documents and presented as follows.

The title of the paper should be followed by the name, address and <electronic address> of the author(s). The text should be double-spaced. It will preferably be organised as follows: English abstract, introduction, material and methods, results, discussion, conclusion, (abstract in a second language), acknowledgements, literature cited, appendices.

Figures, tables and appendices will be cited in the text as follows: fig. 2, tab. 4, app. 1. Figures will not be larger than 16 × 24 cm. The size of letters will allow their reading after reduction. The legends of figures and tables will be presented separately.

Please do not use straight simple (') or double (") quotation marks or apostrophes, but curved ones (‘, ’, “, ”). The sign ‘n-dash’ (–) means ‘from... to...’, so the expression ‘from seventeen to twenty-four’ may be written ‘17–24’ or ‘from 17 to 24’ but never ‘from 17–24’ which is meaningless.

Upon its first mention in the text, each name of taxon will be followed by the name(s) of its author(s), followed by a comma and then by its date (*Rana* Linnaeus, 1758; *Eleutherodactylus* Duméril & Bibron, 1841; *Gracixalus* Delorme *et al.*, 2005). In contrast, references cited in the text will be written in small capitals, not followed by commas (Gray 1831; Sarasin & Sarasin 1890; Fregin *et al.* 2012). In both cases, the abbreviation ‘*et al.*’ will be used for three authors or more. All references, including those of all the works where the taxa cited in the text were described, should be provided in the ‘References’ section of the paper, where they will be presented as follows:

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Manuscripts should be sent to the Chief Editor. They will be submitted by the Editorial Board to two reviewers at least, members of the international scientific community.

### References

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