

Guidelines for authors

The *Northern Territory Naturalist* publishes scientific articles concerning any aspect of the natural history and ecology of the Northern Territory or adjacent areas of northern Australia. It is a registered, peer-reviewed journal (ISSN 0155-4093) for original research and is recognised as a Category C publication by the Australian Research Council. The journal is sent to Thomson Reuters Science for abstracting, and electronic versions are indexed and distributed through Informit (<http://www.informit.com.au/>) plus Elsevier/Scopus, as well as being included on the international EBSCO research database.

Submission of manuscripts

Contributors to the *Northern Territory Naturalist* include a range of field naturalists and scientists. Contributors do not have to be members of the Northern Territory Field Naturalists Club Inc. (NTFNC), but membership is strongly recommended.

Articles are considered on the understanding that the work is original, the results and content have not been published before, and are not presently being considered for publication elsewhere. The *Northern Territory Naturalist* requires that all authors of a multi-authored paper agree to its submission. The author warrants that the manuscript does not violate any intellectual property right of any person or entity, does not contain any subject matter that comprises defamatory, misleading or deceptive material, and meets ethical standards applicable to the research discipline. Please click on the following link (http://ntfieldnaturalists.org.au/site/assets/files/1070/publication_ethics_form-june_2013.pdf) to download a publication ethics form. This form must be printed, signed and returned in hard copy to the Chief Editor. All manuscripts are refereed. The editors reserve the right to require modification of manuscripts to eliminate ambiguity and repetition and improve communication. There are no page charges. The editors welcome suggestions for colour plates, which may be included at no charge at the NTFNCs discretion provided the material contributes substantially to the manuscript and enhances the journal. A PDF copy of the published manuscript will be provided to the primary author.

Upon acceptance, copyright becomes the property of the NTFNC. The NTFNC will grant authors an unrestricted licence for non-commercial use.

Authors may submit articles in the form of Reviews, Research Articles, Short Notes, Species Profiles or Book Reviews. **Reviews** (up to 10000 words) generally emphasise the synthesis of existing (published) data or knowledge rather than presenting new primary data or results. The choice and number of subheadings is optional, but an abstract must be included. A **Research Article** (up to c. 5000 words, though longer papers will be considered at the discretion of the Editorial Board) is a succinct scientific paper describing the findings of original research written in the traditional format, including abstract, introduction, methods, results, discussion, acknowledgements, references and appendices. Up to five additional keywords should be included after the abstract for Reviews and Research Articles. **Short Notes** (up to c. 1500 words) will be considered where the contribution significantly increases current knowledge of natural history, such as describing new or unusual field observations, or summarising survey methods. Subheadings are optional, but an abstract is essential. A **Species Profile** consists of an overview of a particular animal or plant. Subheadings are not required, but an abstract must be included. Figures (e.g. distribution map) and other illustrative material are welcome. Unsolicited **Book Reviews** (up to c. 1000 words) of natural history works (books and CDs) that are relevant and of major importance to the Northern Territory or northern Australia are encouraged; they should be

reasonably short, concise, balanced and objective. Note that the NTFNC does not currently receive complimentary copies of books or CDs from publishers for prospective authors preparing Book Reviews. Obituaries are also acceptable.

Reviews, Research Articles, Short Notes, Species Profiles and Book Reviews should be written to be intelligible to readers without specialist knowledge of the subject. Authors should consult the most recent edition of the journal as a guide to layout, including headings, table format, and references.

Manuscripts should be sent to: The Chief Editor, *Northern Territory Naturalist*, c/o NT Field Naturalists Club Inc., PO Box 39565, Winnellie NT 0821 or emailed to: richard.willan@nt.gov.au

Preparation of manuscripts

Please follow these guidelines closely to ensure a smooth editorial process. A current issue of *Northern Territory Naturalist* can be used as a guide, but please note that there are format changes from time to time. It would be helpful to the Editorial Board if authors could indicate the category into which their manuscript falls at the time of submission.

Submission of your manuscript must be electronic. Submitted manuscripts should include the title of the manuscript, authors' names and affiliations or address, and e-mail address of the corresponding author (underlined). The manuscript should be typed, with a minimum font size of 11 pt, double-spaced and with generous margins. It is preferred that figures and diagrams be supplied digitally. Good quality digital photographs that illustrate the main subject matter of the manuscript are also welcome. Manuscripts should be in Microsoft Word or rich-text (RTF) format, preferably as a single file. Figures should be inserted at the end of the text. Higher resolution figures (e.g. JPEG or TIFF files) should be submitted after acceptance.

Use bold only for headings and in the titles of Tables and Figures. Use italics only for subheadings, species names, *et al.*, journal references and book titles; otherwise use plain text throughout. Except for well-established acronyms avoid starting sentences with abbreviations, such as scientific names, or Arabic numerals. Acronyms should be spelled out in full on their first occasion.

Prior to submission, ensure that as many errors as possible have been removed – the manuscript should be a *final* draft.

Tables and Figures

For Tables and Figures, use bold for column headings. For Tables, use the Insert/Table function in Microsoft Word, but do not use vertical lines. Please ensure that the arrangement of the Table is appropriate to the layout and page size of the journal. Figure captions should contain sufficient detail to be interpreted without reference to the text. Please use the following style, leaving two spaces after the bold full stop in the title. For example:

Figure 1. Number of larvae per plant.

Table 2. List of butterfly species at Robin Falls.

Names

On first introduction and in subheadings, a species should have its common name, with first letters capitalised, followed by its scientific name (italicised in brackets), e.g. Purple-crowned Fairy-wren (*Malurus coronatus macgillivrayi*), Tape Vine (*Stephania japonica* var. *timorensis*). Where there is no accepted or appropriate common name, use just the scientific name. For subsequent usages, only one name or the other is acceptable, but be consistent.

Units and Abbreviations

The International System of Units (SI units) should be used for exact measurements. Use the formats in the following examples for abbreviations where required, and note spacing: sample size, e.g. $n = 12$; mean, e.g. $\bar{x} = 10$; standard deviation, e.g. 22.5 ± 1.3 s.d.; probability, e.g. $P < 0.001$. Note that the symbol \bar{x} is not easily obtained but the production editors can apply it during the production process; it is acceptable to use x in the interim.

References

Please ensure that sources of information are clearly identified. This is especially important in reviews and obituaries, which are often based on both personal observations and published information. In the text, citations should include author and year, e.g. (Sanderson 1978) or Sanderson (1978). For two authors, use the ampersand when in parentheses, e.g. (Woinarski & Fisher 1995), otherwise Woinarski and Fisher (1995). For three or more authors, use '*et al.*' in italics, e.g. (Jones *et al.* 1967). Multiple citations should be in chronological order, separated by semicolons, e.g. (Jones *et al.* 1967; Sanderson 1978; Woinarski & Fisher 1995; Franklin 2004, 2005). Unpublished data should be cited as (J Smith unpubl.), and personal communications as (J. Smith pers. comm.).

All references should be listed in alphabetical order at the end of the text under the heading **References**. References should be in double line spacing, but do not insert a separate line between each reference. Book and journal titles should be typed in Upper Case (i.e. capitals used for first letter of each main word), and titles of papers and book chapters are in sentence case (i.e. capitals used only for first letter of first word or for proper nouns). Journal titles should be quoted in full and not abbreviated. Please use the following style for books, book chapters, journals, theses and websites.

Book

- Beehler B.M., Pratt T.K. and Zimmerman D.A. (1986) *Birds of New Guinea: The Wonderful Avifauna of a Remarkable Island*. Princeton University Press, New Jersey.
- Wightman G. and Andrews M. (1989) *Plants of Northern Territory Monsoon Vine Forests*. Conservation Commission of the Northern Territory, Darwin.

Book Chapter

- Archer M., Hand S.J. and Godthelp H. (1994) Patterns in the history of Australia's mammals and inferences about palaeohabitats. In *History of the Australian Vegetation: Cretaceous to Recent* (ed Hill R.S.), pp. 80–103. Cambridge University Press, Cambridge.
- Begg R.J. (1988) Sandstone Antechinus. In *The Australian Museum Complete Book of Australian Mammals* (ed Strahan R.), pp. 30–32. Angus & Robertson, Sydney.
- McDonald N.S. and McAlpine J. (1991) Floods and droughts: the northern climate. In *Monsoonal Australia. Landscape, Ecology and Man in the Northern Lowlands* (eds Haynes, C.D., Ridpath M.G. and Williams M.A.J.), pp. 19–29. A.A. Balkema, Rotterdam.

Journal

Franklin D.C. (2007) Sulphur-crested Cockatoo *Cacatua galerita* feeds on nectar. *Northern Territory Naturalist* 19, 46 –47.

Menkhorst K.A. and Woinarski J.C.Z. (1992) Distribution of mammals in monsoon rainforests of the Northern Territory. *Wildlife Research* 19, 295 –316.

McCay M.G. (2003) Winds under the rain forest canopy: the aerodynamic environment of gliding tree frogs. *Biotropica* 35, 94 –102.

Thesis

Bedford G.S. (2003) *Ecology and physiology of pythons from the Northern Territory of Australia*. Unpublished PhD Thesis, Northern Territory University, Darwin.

Website

Citations for websites should be in the following form: Author Surname, Initials. (Year) *Title*. URL address (accessed date). The URL is underlined. For example:

Bureau of Meteorology (2009) *Climate statistics for Australian sites. Northern Territory*. http://www.bom.gov.au/climate/averages/tables/ca_nt_names.shtml (accessed 12 March 2010).

Supplementary material

Supplementary material for longer papers may be posted on the NTFNC website in the form of Appendices. The Appendix is listed at the end of the paper after references in the following form:

Appendix. Caption title.

Supplementary data associated with this appendix may be viewed at:

<http://ntfieldnaturalists.org.au/publications/>

EndNote

For EndNote users, the style macro may be downloaded from the NTFNC website as follows:

1. Go to website
<http://ntfieldnaturalists.org.au/site/assets/files/1070/endnotestylefileinstructions.pdf>
2. Click on the link to a Style Macro
3. Save the file to C:\Program files\Endnote\Styles
4. Unzip the file
5. Open Endnote
6. Open Style Manager (>Edit>Output Styles>Open Style Manager)
7. Tick "NT Naturalist"
8. Close Style Manager
9. Select "NT Naturalist" as the active style (>Edit>Output Styles>NT Naturalist)