

Editorial

It is a great pleasure on behalf of David Poole (North American Editor), the Editorial Board and CABI Publishing to be able to introduce you to the first issue of *Equine and Comparative Exercise Physiology* (ECEP). The field of exercise physiology continues to grow, and sounding out international players concerning the possibility of a new exercise journal resulted in a very positive response, and so here we are at the first issue. There is clearly a niche for publication of material that does not appeal to the classical veterinary or human orientated journals, which we believe ECEP will fill.

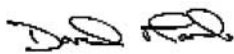
A glance down the editorial list reads as a who's who of equine exercise physiology and this really underlines the support for ECEP and the breadth of expertise available to support the Journal. The title of the Journal has been chosen recognising that the majority of the initial contributions are likely to come from those working with the horse. However, we certainly do not want to exclude, and in fact positively encourage, submissions from those working with, for example, humans, dogs, camels, or indeed any animal. We seem to have succeeded as this issue contains papers on exercising horses, dogs and even pigs.

The ethos of ECEP is to provide an outlet for good science related in the very broadest sense to the field of exercise physiology. ECEP is certainly not intended to be the receptacle for papers rejected from other journals on the grounds of poor science. However, ECEP certainly should be seen as a route for publication of papers which may not fit easily within the clinical orientation of the majority of existing veterinary journals. Similarly, physiology journals may often reject work in a species on the basis that the principle has already been demonstrated in another species, even if subtle and perhaps even important differences are present.

At present we have a simple e-mail based system for rapid submission of manuscripts, without the need for uploading to a website. All correspondence with authors and reviewers is via e-mail. On receipt of a manuscript potential reviewers are sent the abstract and given 48 hours to respond, if no response is received within this time other reviewers are invited. The condition of acceptance is that the review is returned within 14 days. This current system allows a rapid turnaround of manuscripts.

To date we have been very pleased with the number of submissions to ECEP, with authors of 90% of papers submitted receiving a response to review within 6 weeks. We will ensure that these response times are maintained. We are convinced that ECEP has a great future and look forward to the continued support of the Editorial Board, the reviewers and the authors. In getting to this stage with the first issue, I would especially like to acknowledge the wise counsel of Hilary Clayton and Bob Colborne who have been invaluable in their contribution in assisting with the biomechanics submissions and David Poole for sharing the editorial workload.

Finally, please consider submitting to ECEP so that we may build it into an important and high quality journal in the field of comparative exercise physiology.



David Marlin
Editor-in-Chief