

Introduction

- Presents appropriate and relevant background/conceptual material to frame the study drawn from the primary literature
- Sequence of statements in the introduction lead to the purpose of the study
- Hypothesis(es) and/or prediction(s) clearly stated and logically derived from background material

Methods

- Provides a thorough explanation of the study methodology and experimental design (i.e. a reader unfamiliar with this study could exactly replicate the study based on provided description)
- Are all methods relevant to the hypothesis(es)? (i.e. factors not assessed in the stated hypothesis(es) can be excluded from description of methodology/experimental design)

Results

- Appropriately summarized data (i.e. no raw data included in text, figures or tables)
- Were variables quantified/estimated/calculated correctly?
- Reported only the data relevant to hypothesis(es) or prediction(s) stated
- Correct and appropriate use of figures and/or tables (i.e. they supplement, not 'replace' the text)
 - Are the data organized for easy comparison?
 - Are legends, axes, labels, etc. properly labeled?
 - Figure/table caption accurately describes the content

Discussion

- Clear explanation of how findings support or refute your hypothesis(es) and/or prediction(s)
- Are the interpretations and conclusions drawn justified given the data presented? Are there perhaps other mechanisms, processes, etc. that might provide a better (or alternative) explanation(s)?
- Present good use of literature to support interpretations and conclusions
- Brings the study results into a broader context (i.e. how does this study increase our knowledge or understanding of more general biological or ecological processes?)

References

- *References must be from the primary literature*
- Cited correctly in the text and in the References section following ESA format

ESA Format and General Presentation

- All scientific names italicized (i.e. *Daphnia*, *Daphnia magna* or *D. magna* should be italicized)
- Margins, fonts, spacing
- Page numbers, line numbers, running head
- Sections in correct order within the body of the paper
- SI units of measurement