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Animal Behaviour: Evolution and Mechanisms

By H. Jane Brockmann

Springer. Hardcover. Book Condition: New. Hardcover. 707 pages. Dimensions: 9.3in. x 6.4in. x 1.4in. The study of animal behaviour has become one of the fastest growing biological disciplines in recent decades. This development can be easily -ferred, for example, from the steady increase in the total number of publications on any aspect of animal behaviour, in particular also in journals with a more general readership (e. g. Nature, Proceedings of the Royal Society or Current Biology), the ever-increasing number of participants at international conferences (e. g. IEC or ISBE), and from the growing numbers of students choosing courses in this field. This development has several causes, of which I find three particularly compelling. First, it is increasingly being appreciated that behaviour is the crucial level at which an individual's genotype and phenotype interface with the environment. Recognising behaviour as the main mechanism animals employ to ascertain their homeostasis, growth, survival and reproduction therefore provides a deep understanding of organismal integration and adaptation. Second, the astonishing success of the study of animal behaviour also has importantly to do with the intellectual flexibility and methodological inter-disciplinarity required for comprehensive analyses of behaviour. Today,...



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