

SYSTEMATIC BIOLOGY

PUBLISHER'S REPORT

MARCH 2012



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SOCIETY BUSINESS

AWARDS

The 2011 Ernst Mayr award was won by Matt Ogburn of Brown University.

The 2011 Publisher's award was won by Richard Fitzjohn of University of British Columbia for his paper *Quantitative Traits and Diversification* Syst. Biol. 59(6):619–633, 2010

PRICING 2013

We would be grateful if the 2013 institutional prices for *Sys Bio* could be agreed at the mid-year meeting. I have also included information about membership prices, although these are largely a matter for SSB and can be decided as late as the Evolution meeting in July if necessary.

PROPOSALS FOR INSTITUTION PRICES

Appendix 1 shows pricing information of related journals

- As last year, we are using the online price as the baseline for price calculations: we are proposing a 5% increase in the baseline online price.
- We are continuing to honour an undertaking that we made to libraries when we first implemented our optional open access system to discount the baseline online price in proportion to the amount of open access in the journal the previous year.
- We set the print price 10% higher than the basic online price and the combined print and online price 20% more than the basic online price.

	Online price	Proposed online price (w oa discount)	Increase in online price 2012-2013	Proposed print price	Increase in print price 2012-2013	Proposed print and online price	Increase in print and online price 2012-2013
	2012	2013		2013		2013	
US\$	\$235	\$263	12%	\$295	5%	\$322	5%
£ sterling	\$156	£175	12%	£197	5%	£215	5%
Euro	\$235	€ 263	12%	€ 295	5%	€ 322	5%

PROPOSALS FOR MEMBERSHIP PRICES

These are largely a matter for the Society and can be decided in July if necessary. I have put in a 5% price rise as a starting point for discussion for the ordinary member, emeritus, and sustaining member price increases, and then followed the proposal adopted by the Society in 2010 'to have the student rates fixed at half the full rate (Ordinary Member - print+online) and a 25% discount for the Green Membership Rate', then rounded to the nearest whole number.

Subscription type and currency	2012 price	Increase in price	2013 price
Ordinary members + print and online jnl			
US\$	£60	5%	£63
£ Sterling	£40	5%	£42
Euro	54	5%	€ 57
Student Green + online only (50% ordinary)			
US\$	£23		£24
£ Sterling	£12		£16
Euro	€ 18		€ 21
Emeritus membership + print and online			
US\$	£15	5%	£16
£ Sterling	£10	5%	£11
Euro	€ 11	5%	€ 12
Green Membership + online only (75%*ordinary)			
US\$	£45		£47
£ Sterling	£28		£32
Euro	€ 32		€ 43
Lifetime Membership + print and online			
US\$	£1,075	5%	£1,129
£ Sterling	£671	5%	£705
Euro	€ 767	5%	€ 805
Sustaining membership + print and online			
US\$	£75	5%	£79
£ Sterling	£47	5%	£49
Euro	€ 53	5%	€ 56

EDITORIAL

CITATION ANALYSIS

IMPACT FACTOR

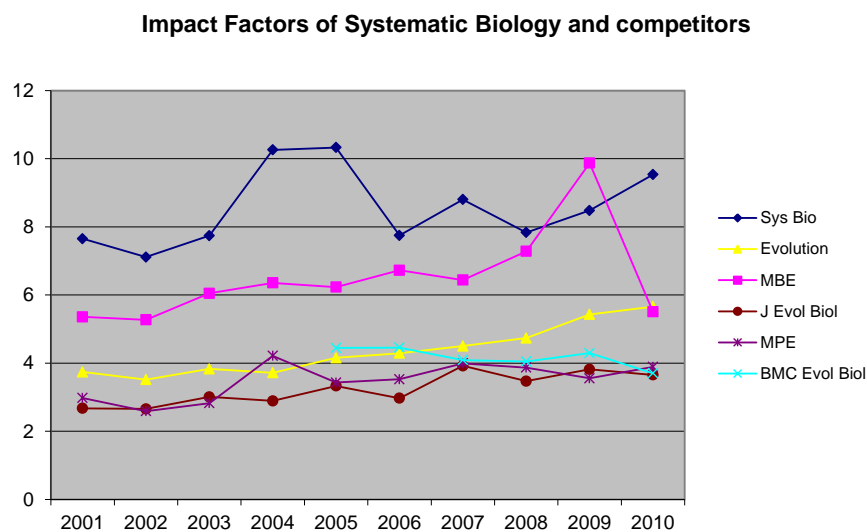
Sys Bio's 2010 IF, released in June, went up to **9.532**, ranked third in the Evolutionary Biology category, ahead of *Cladistics* and *Molecular Ecology*, and behind *Trends in Ecology & Evolution* and *Annual Review of Ecology Evolution and Systematics*. *Sys Bio*'s 5-year IF is 11.159, higher than MBE. Both types of IF are published on *Sys Bio*'s journal website.

The following table shows *Sys Bio*'s historical Impact Factors and rankings.

Year	Impact Factor	Ranking: (Evolutionary Biology)
2010	9.532	3/45
2009	8.480	3/44
2007	7.833	3/39

Year	Impact Factor	Ranking: (Evolutionary Biology)
2007	8.802	3/35
2006	7.748	3/35
2005	10.327	2/33
2004	10.257	2/33
2003	7.740	2/32
2002	7.112	2/30
2001	7.651	2/30

The graph below shows the changing impact factor of *Sys Bio* and some of its competitors.



CITING AND CITED JOURNAL

Cited Journal (journals which most cited Systematic Biology in 2010)	Citing Journal (journals which most cited Systematic Biology in 2010)
<i>Molecular Phylogenetics and Evolution</i>	<i>Systematic Biology</i>
<i>BMC Evolutionary Biology</i>	<i>Molecular Biology and Evolution</i>
<i>Systematic Biology</i>	<i>Evolution</i>
<i>PLoS One</i>	<i>Bioinformatics</i>
<i>Molecular Biology and Evolution</i>	<i>Proceedings of the National Academy of Sciences of the United States of America</i>
<i>Journal of Biogeography</i>	<i>Science</i>
<i>Cladistics</i>	<i>Molecular Phylogenetics and Evolution</i>
<i>Taxon</i>	<i>Nature</i>
<i>Zootaxa</i>	<i>Molecular Ecology</i>
<i>Molecular Ecology</i>	<i>American Naturalist</i>

OPEN ACCESS UPTAKE

Systematic Biology authors have the option, at an additional charge, to make their paper freely available online immediately upon publication, under the Oxford Open initiative. After a manuscript is accepted, as part of the mandatory license form required of all corresponding authors, the author is asked to indicate whether or not they wish to pay to have their paper made freely available immediately. If they do not select the Open Access option, the paper will be published with standard subscription-based access and the author is not charged. For those selecting the Open Access option, the charge for *Systematic Biology* is £1000/\$1800/€1300.

In 2009, **3** open access manuscripts were published, in 2010, **6** open access manuscripts were published, and in 2011, **11** open access manuscripts were published, against a total of **97** papers; this is an uptake of **11.3%**. So far in 2012, there have been **2** manuscripts published in Oxford Open out of 16 sent to production.

PRODUCTION

Production has run smoothly since the last report (June 2011), and the adoption of a new publication model (details below) has been a success.

SCHEDULE

The table below shows publication of online and print issues against schedule.

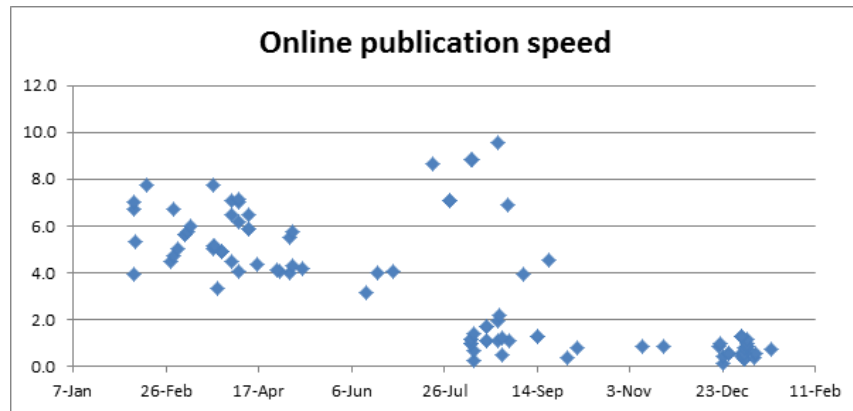
Vol/ Iss	Online			Print		
	Scheduled	Actual	Variance	Scheduled	Actual	Status
60/1	09-Dec-10	04-Dec-10	-5	16-Dec-10	10-Dec-10	-6
60/2	22-Feb-11	11-Feb-11	-11	01-Mar-11	21-Feb-11	-8
60/3	15-Apr-11	16-Apr-11	+1	26-Apr-11	02-May-11	+6
60/4	17-Jun-11	14-Jun-11	-3	24-Jun-11	20-Jun-11	-4
60/5	18-Aug-11	18-Aug-11	0	26-Aug-11	26-Aug-11	0
60/6	18-Oct-11	15-Oct-11	-3	28-Oct-11	24-Oct-11	-4
61/1	19-Dec-11	20-Dec-11	+1	28-Dec-11	29-Dec-11	+1

All issues in volume 60 published on or ahead of schedule online and in print, save issue 3, which went online a few hours late due to delays in the upload process, and was printed six days late due to a delay in obtaining approval from the FSC for logo placement.

The first issue of 2012 was online and in print a day late due to the cover image and caption being supplied late to production.

SPEED

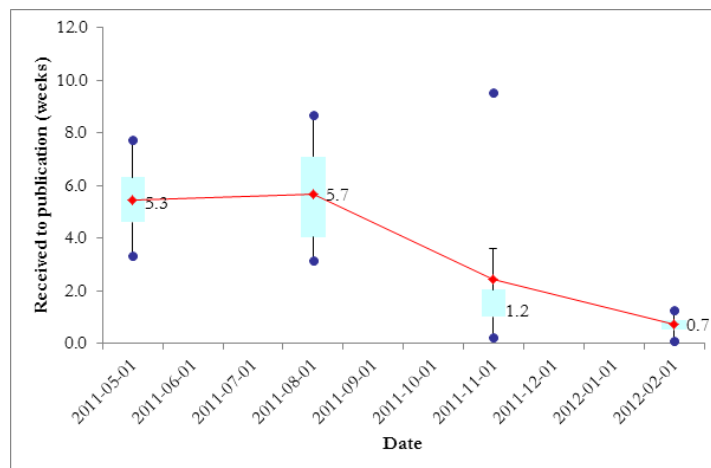
In August 2011 a new publication model ('Model C') was adopted. Accepted manuscripts, once sent to Production, would be published online in an uncorrected state as soon as the author signs a licence form; the uncorrected manuscript would later be replaced online by the corrected proof, as soon as that is ready.



The graph above shows the speed of first online publication (in weeks) for papers published in the past 12 months.

Prior to the introduction of model C, the average speed of publication for a corrected proof was between 5 and 6 weeks. Since the introduction of Model C, the average speed of online publication has been within our target of 1 week; corrected proofs continue to take on average **5–6** weeks.

The graph below shows this information as a trend, with average speeds indicated:



Note - most papers published in the third period were published as Model C. The outlying blue dot in that period was one of the final papers to be published under Model B.

PAGE BUDGET

Volume 60 was **233** pages within page budget.

Vol/Iss	Page budget	Actual pages	Variance
60/1	188	115	-73
60/2	188	127	-61
60/3	188	148	-40
60/4	188	172	-16
60/5	188	170	-18
60/6	188	163	-25
Total	1128	895	-233

Progress so far in 2012 indicates that volume 61 will be closer to budget:

Vol/Iss	Page budget	Actual pages	Variance
61/1	192	178	-14
61/2	192	188	-4
61/3	192		
61/4	192		
61/5	192		
61/6	192		
Total	1152	366	-18

COLOUR

In volume 60, the managing editor waived 6 figures from her discretionary colour waivers fund. So far in 2012, **2** figures have appeared in print with colour charges waived, and a further **2** figures are in production with a waived charge.

32 print colour figures were published in volume 60—two fewer than in the previous volume. So far in volume 61, **14** print colour figures have appeared. The number of figures appearing in colour online only is roughly equivalent to the number appearing in colour online and in print.

QUALITY

Indicators of quality remain fair. Since the start of 2011 we have published six online versions, two corrigenda and one erratum. Four of the versions and both corrigenda resulted from author errors in scientific data; two versions and the erratum were errors introduced during the production process.

Analysis of author corrections shows that on average there are **0.26** errors per page resulting from inappropriate intervention or inaction on the part of the copyeditor. This is within our benchmark of 0.3 errors per page as a general indicator of copyediting quality.

SYSTEMATIC BIOLOGY ONLINE

Sys Bio is hosted online by HighWire Press. Oxford Journals is HighWire's largest customer and is therefore in a unique position to offer a wide range of functionality. All the items listed below are provided without additional charges to *Sys Bio*.

DEVELOPMENTS

'THE ARTICLE IS THE NEW HOME PAGE'

Sys Bio migrated to the new HighWire platform, H2O, in September 2010. H2O provides a great deal more flexibility for transmitting content in different media than previously; for example, *Sys Bio* web pages translate clearly and accurately to the iPad. H2O is also designed to ensure that users who arrive at individual papers from outside the journal – as is increasingly the case – still see the main features of the journal.

Direct access to papers rather than journal home pages has also led to our addition of a device that dynamically adds the date and source of every article PDF that is downloaded from our site. This provides journal branding to standalone PDFs and also lets the user know that they are using the version of record.

ONLINE CHARGING

Sys Bio authors no longer have to download, print, fax and post their copyright licences or wait to be invoiced for open access charges. Authors can now 'sign' their licences and pay for open access online, and are directed to do so as soon as their manuscript reaches Production to minimize delays to publication.

MARKETING

ELECTRONIC MARKETING

CALL FOR SYMPOSIA FOR THE 2011 ANNUAL MEETING EMAIL CAMPAIGN

An email campaign was sent out inviting people to propose symposia for the Evolution meeting in 2011. It was sent to **888** contacts, and opened by **348**. This equates to an 'open rate' of **39%**. **25** people clicked on links within the email campaign. The majority of clicks were to the Society of Systematic Biologists website.

TWO NEW OFFERINGS FROM PLOS EMAIL CAMPAIGN

This email campaign was sent to **981** contacts with **28%** of them opening the email (**278**). Of these 278, **278** clicked through to links within the email which represents a Click Through Rate (CTR) of **100%**. This is very high.

ANNUAL MEETING EMAIL CAMPAIGN

The email about the Annual Meeting was sent to **797** individuals. **61** opened this campaign (7.7%) and, as with the PLoS campaign, all of those who opened the email clicked through to links within it. This equates to another CTR of **100%**.

eTOC SUBSCRIBERS UPDATE

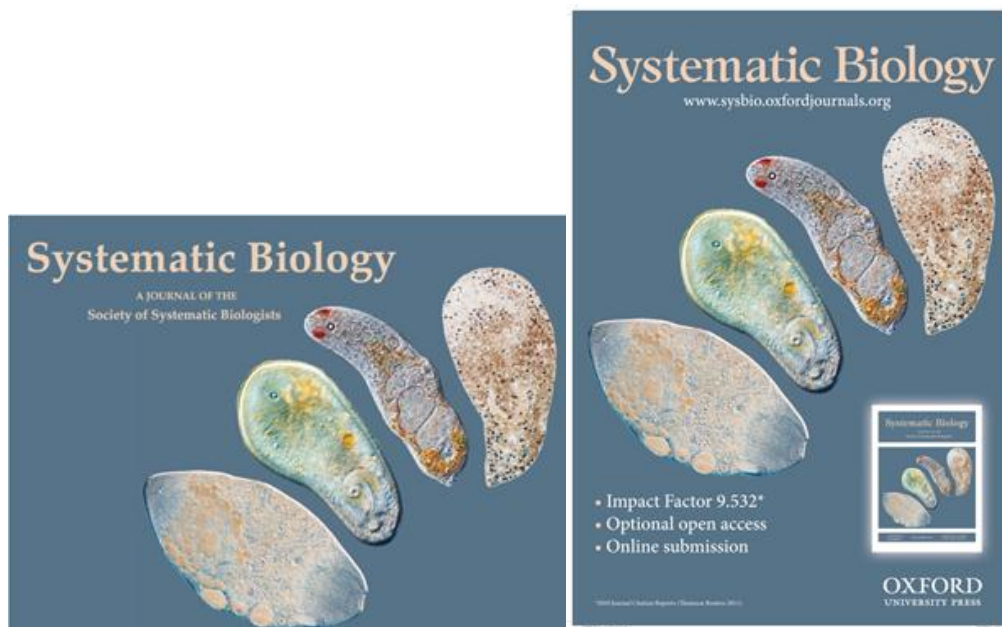
There are currently **2,002** individuals signed up to receive eTOC alerts for *Systematic Biology* and 732 registered for Advance Access alerts.

FREE ONLINE SAMPLE COPY

43 people registered to view the free online sample copy during 2011.

PRINTED PUBLICITY

- Bookmarks promoting a free trial were sent for inclusion at the BioSystematics conference in Berlin in February 2011.
- Notepads were produced for distribution at conferences
- Journal branded pens were produced for give-away at conferences.
- Post-it pads based on a recent cover design were produced for distribution at conferences. The cover design of these is shown below:



- A show card was printed for display at conferences including the Society of Integrative and Comparative Biology meeting in January. The design of this is shown above:

CONFERENCES

Systematic Biology has had /will have a presence at the following conferences:

Conference	City	Start Date	Type of Presence
Society for Integrative and Comparative Biology	Salt Lake City, USA	03-Jan-11	Manned
American Society of Limnology and Oceanography	San Juan, USA	13-Feb-11	Manned
Canadian Society for Ecology and Evolution	Banff, Canada	12-May-11	Manned
International Marine Conservation Congress	Victoria, Canada	14-May-11	Manned
Evolution	Norman, USA	17-Jun-11	Manned
Society for Experimental Biology Annual Conference	Glasgow, UK	01-Jul-11	Manned
Botany	St. Louis, USA	09-Jul-11	Manned
XVIII International Botanical Congress	Melbourne, Australia	23-Jul-11	Manned
Animal Behavior Society / International Ethological Conference	Bloomington, USA	25-Jul-11	Manned
Society for Molecular Biology and Evolution	Osaka, Japan	26-Jul-11	Manned
Ecological Society of America	Austin, USA	07-Aug-11	Manned
British Ecological Society Annual Meeting	Sheffield, UK	12-Sep-11	Manned
ICES Annual Science Conference	Gdansk, Poland	19-Sep-11	Manned
World Conference on Marine Biodiversity	Aberdeen, UK	26-Sep-11	Manned
International Congress of Human Genetics/ASHG Annual Meeting	Montreal, Canada	11-Oct-11	Manned
Entomological Society of America	Reno, USA	13-Nov-11	Manned
Molecular Biology Society of Japan	Yokohama, Japan	13-Dec-11	Manned
Society for Integrative and Comparative Biology	Charleston, USA	03-Jan-12	Manned
PopGroup - The Population Genetics Group	Nottingham, UK	04-Jan-12	Un-manned
American Society of Limnology and Oceanography / The Oceanography Society / The American Geophysical Union	Salt Lake City, USA	19-Feb-12	Manned
Society for Molecular Biology and Evolution	Dublin, Ireland	23-Jun-12	Manned

CIRCULATION

Paid access to *Systematic Biology* content is possible to individuals via a number of routes, as follows:

- Membership of SSB
- Institutions with conventional subscriptions
- OUP library consortial agreements with academic institutions
- OUP multi-site agreements with academic institutions
- ‘Ovid’ and EBSCO, content aggregators – organizations that gather content from multiple publishers and resell as a bundle to medical libraries and organizations like municipal libraries that would not otherwise take journal subscriptions
- OUP multi-site agreements with commercial organizations
- Pay-Per-View delivery of single articles
- OUP’s developing countries’ initiatives, which provide free access to the journal to individuals at institutions in about 40 of the world’s poorest countries, and in a further 31 countries which are entitled to greatly reduced rates.

INSTITUTIONAL AND CONSORTIAL ACCESS

Migration from conventional subscriptions to inclusion in consortial agreements continued in 2010. Although many libraries and consortia reported that budget constraints in 2010 restricted their purchasing and renewals, we succeeded in renewing all our consortial agreements and negotiating new ones. Librarians tell us that our policies of fair pricing and high quality journals lie behind this success. We have been particularly concentrating our expansion on areas less affected by recession, and where there has not been much history of subscriptions or consortia: India, China, Korea, and South America.

2012 renewal notices were sent out in December 2011, with final reminders sent by email on 21st February and hard copy on 22nd February. SSB envelopes and an SSB branded paper template were used for mailing. Currently subscribers can renew for up to three years by contacting our customer services team - this option is not yet available for online renewals.

The following table shows circulation numbers:

	UK	RoEurope	N. America	Japan	RoWorld	Total
CONVENTIONAL SUBSCRIBERS						
2006 total	Geographical breakdown not available					648
2007 total	Geographical breakdown not available					656
2008 total	29	94	29	18	98	617

	UK	RoEurope	N. America	Japan	RoWorld	Total
2009 print	1	15	20	8	30	74
2009 online	5	16	119	4	10	154
2009 combined	15	59	164	6	27	271
2009 total	21	90	303	18	67	499
2010 print	0	17	19	7	30	73
2010 online	6	14	113	5	10	148
2010 combined	12	46	89	6	21	174
2010 total	18	77	221	18	61	395
2011 print	0	13	16	7	19	55
2011 online	5	13	111	6	10	145
2011 combined	11	42	76	6	22	157
2011 total	16	68	203	19	51	357
CONSORTIA						
Migrated subs** 2009	1	20	84	0	22	127
Migrated subs** 2010	7	27	131	3	50	218
Migrated subs** 2011	5	33	133	7	78	256
Additional academic consortial sites†† 2009	36	822	377	1	538	1,774
Additional academic consortial sites†† 2010	54	674	406	74	636	1,844
Additional academic consortial sites†† 2011	66	643	447	92	721	1,969

*2006 and 2007 data taken from Schedule 2 of Journal Publishing Agreement

†2008 data supplied by T&F

**'Migrated' subs are existing subscriptions that have become part of a consortial agreement; they continue to pay at least the full online price

†† 'Additional' sites are sites at which the journal is now available under a consortial agreement but that did not previously have any sort of journal subscription

MEMBERS

	UK	RoEurope	N. America	Japan	RoWorld	Total
2006						
2006 total						1408
2007						
2007 total						1465
2008†						
2008 total	44	164	939	25	157	1329
2009						
Ordinary members	27	122	458	25	92	724
Additional Family membership	0	0	11	0	2	13
Emeritus membership	1	1	40	1	1	44
Green membership	1	1	38	1	4	45

	UK	RoEurope	N. America	Japan	RoWorld	Total
Lifetime membership	3	1	10	0	0	14
Student membership	9	26	287	0	28	350
Sustaining membership	0	3	5	0	0	8
Honorary membership	1	1	5	0	1	8
2009 total	42	155	854	27	128	1206
2010						
Ordinary members	25	119	393	24	78	639
Additional Family membership	0	0	8	0	1	9
Emeritus membership	1	2	34	1	1	39
Green membership	1	6	53	1	6	67
Lifetime membership	2	3	11	0	0	16
Student membership	10	31	267	0	22	330
Sustaining membership	1	4	6	0	0	11
Honorary membership	1	1	5	0	1	8
2010 total	41	166	777	26	109	1119
2011						
Ordinary Members	20	103	315	20	62	520
Student Green membership	3	1	74	1	5	84
Emeritus membership	0	2	25	1	1	29
Green membership	2	9	54	1	7	73
Lifetime membership	2	3	11	0	0	16
Student membership	8	17	162	0	15	202
Sustaining membership	1	4	6	0	0	11
Honorary membership	1	1	5	0	1	8
2011 total (report run on 22nd Feb 2012)	37	140	652	23	91	943

*2006 and 2007 data taken from Schedule 2 of Journal Publishing Agreement

†2008 data supplied by BurkInc

PAY PER VIEW

13 people paid to view a single article in *Sys Bio* in 2009, 21 in 2010, and 13 in 2011.

CONTACTS

Name and title	Key responsibilities	Email address
Cathy Kennedy	Overall responsibility for the journal.	Cathy.kennedy@oup.com
Peter Jones	Production of the journal, from acceptance to publication	sysbio@oup.com
Linda Hann	Developing and implementing marketing strategy for the journal.	Linda.hann@oup.com

APPENDIX 1: PRICING AND MEMBERSHIP INFORMATION

INSTITUTIONAL PRICING OF RELATED JOURNALS

Journal	2012 prices - Publisher US instit. print + online (USD)	Page Charges	Colour Charges	Issues per year 2011	Price/ issue	Pages per year 2011	Price per page	Impact factor 2010	Price per point of IF
Systematic Biology	306 OUP	None	Free online, \$600 per print	6	\$51.00	897	\$0.34	9.532	\$32
J Heredity	492 OUP	AGA members: first	\$600 per print figure	6	\$82.00	786	\$0.63	2.249	\$219
Evolution & Development	599 Wiley-Blackwell	\$40 per page	First page free, second	6	\$99.83	569	\$1.05	3.075	\$195
Cladistics	922 Wiley-Blackwell	None	First figure: £150, subse	6	\$153.67	656	\$1.41	6.74	\$137
Molecular Biology and Evolution	873 OUP	\$50 per page	\$300 per figure	12	\$72.75	3409	\$0.26	5.51	\$158
Evolution	921 Wiley-Blackwell	\$55 per printed page	\$500 per figure	12	\$76.75	3644	\$0.25	5.659	\$163
Evolutionary Ecology	1150 Springer	None	None	6	\$191.70	1426	\$0.81	2.398	\$480
Heredity	1102 Nature	None	~ \$2877 (\$260 per additi	12	\$91.83	1622	\$0.68	4.569	\$241
RNA	1245 Cold Spring Harbor	RNA members: \$25	RNA members: \$225 for	12	\$103.75	2269	\$0.55	6.051	\$206
Genome Research	1675 Cold Spring Harbor	\$40 per page	Author pay	12	\$139.58	2253	\$0.74	13.588	\$123
Development Genes and Evolution	1124 Springer	None	None	6	\$187.33	364	\$3.09	2.008	\$560
Genes and Development	1760 Cold Spring Harbor	None	Author pay	24	\$73.33	2695	\$0.65	12.889	\$137
Behavior Genetics	2093 Springer	None	None	6	\$348.88	955	\$2.19	3	\$698
Genomics	2542 Elsevier	None	Free online, print - receiv	12	\$211.83	872	\$2.92	3.327	\$764
Journal of Evolutionary Biology	3283 Wiley-Blackwell	None	First figure: £150, subse	12	\$273.58	2758	\$1.19	3.656	\$898
Journal of Molecular Evolution	3130 Springer	None	Free online	12	\$260.83	925	\$3.38	2.311	\$1,354
Journal of Molecular Biology	8735 Elsevier	None	Free online, print: receiv	50	\$174.70	9730	\$0.90	4.008	\$2,179
Molecular Ecology	11266 Wiley-Blackwell	None	First figure: £150, subse	24	\$469.42	5358	\$2.10	6.457	\$1,745
Gene	11444 Elsevier	None	Free online, print: receiv	21	\$544.95	1902	\$6.02	2.266	\$5,050

MEMBERSHIP NUMBERS OF SSB AND RELATED SOCIETIES

