



Effect of Microplastics and Plastics on Aquatic Animals

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Deadline for manuscript
submissions:

closed (15 August 2023)

Message from the Guest Editors

Dear Colleagues,

Microplastic pollution is a threat to marine environments worldwide, from the tropics to the polar regions. Microplastics ingested by aquatic animals can induce toxic effects, including reduced food intake, delayed growth, oxidative damage and abnormal behaviour. Microplastics with the potential to absorb harmful pollutants from the surrounding environment such toxic compounds can lead to carcinogenesis, endocrine disruption and neurotoxicity. The microorganisms adsorbed on microplastics may also act as pathogen spreaders, as the presence of bacteria such as *Vibrio spp.*, *Escherichia coli*, *Stenotrophomonas maltophilia*, *Bacillus cereus* and *Aeromonas salmonicida* has been reported on microplastics' surface.

However, microplastics' environmental and health impacts are not yet entirely known, and it is still not possible to fully evaluate the risk they represent. This Special Issue will thus present the latest studies investigating the effect of MP pollution on the health of marine animals with the aim of developing a more comprehensive understanding of its consequences.

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Message from the Editor-in-Chief

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Journal Rank: JCR - Q2 (*Marine & Freshwater Biology*)

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