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Authors must be responsible by the content of the submitted manuscripts. Papers should be written in clear English (preferred), Spanish or Portuguese. Sentences must not start with an abbreviation. Acronyms must be written in full on their first occurrence and SI units should be used. Scientific names should be italicized (not underlined) and their first mention after the Abstract should be followed by the authority, except where reference is made to a work in which the authority appears.

Authors are also responsible in obtaining the consent of their co-authors in order to use their names in the publication. Only the authors would be responsible for any disagreement arising after its publication is published online at PanamJAS. Once published, it will not be accepted any request from any of the co-author to delete his/her name from the publication, or any sort of modification in the publication's content. In order to avoid these or related co-authorship issues, authors must submit, along with the manuscript, a signed letter explaining that all co-authors in the paper were informed and agreed with the manuscript content and with the submission to PanamJAS.

Following submission, the manuscript will be pre-reviewed by the Editors and forwarded to three reviewers according to the scope and specific area. The anonymity of the authors and the reviewers will be preserved.

Acceptance will be based on the quality of the science and the appropriateness of the manuscript for our journal. Each manuscript must stand on its own merits and be a substantial contribution to the field.

Language quality also matters. Authors may have to submit the manuscript to a native speaker or translator before submitting it to PanamJAS.

Original manuscripts must be electronically submitted in a document attached to a formally sent e-mail to the Editors. Text in "ODT", "SXW", "DOC" or "RTF" file formats are preferred. Authors are suggested to use Times New Roman 12 font and 1.5 lines as paragraph spacing. Figures can be formatted as "JPEG", "BMP", "TIFF", with high quality to allow electronic ("PDF") viewing with enough details.

Submitted files must not exceed 2 MB in total to allow e-mailing. If high quality images are to be included in the article and this increases the size of the file too much, authors may send it separately to the Editors who will create a draft version with enough quality to be sent to the Referees. Full quality pictures will be included in the article when editing the final (corrected) version.

Please submit, along with the manuscript, the names and e-mail addresses of 3 potential Referees.

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Manuscripts arrangement:

1) Research articles:

Title page should contain:

Title: concise and informative, in English and in the language of the second abstract or the manuscript itself. The higher taxa containing the taxa dealt with in the paper should be indicated in parentheses: e.g. A taxonomic revision of the genus *Atlantoraja* (Elasmobranchii, Rajidae).

Author(s): first names, middle names/initials, last names; postal addresses and e-mail addresses (Telephone/Fax number is no required).

Abstract: (in English) plus one Resumen (in Spanish) or Resumo (in Portuguese). It must concisely outline the scope of the manuscript, informing the main findings and conclusions without methodologies or discussions. Any new names or new combinations proposed in the paper should be mentioned. The second language abstract must include the corresponding language title of the article.

Key Words: up to five 5, that do not appear in the title, in English and in the language of the second abstract or the manuscript itself.

Following pages should include: Introduction, Materials and Methods, Results, Discussion, Acknowledgments* (optional) and References, as usual.

*Acknowledgments: identify individuals by first initial and full surname (do not list professional titles), and institutions. Author may include collecting permits, institutional animal care protocols, and accession numbers for molecular data, if required to effect research in the manuscript, acknowledgments and any additional information concerning research grants, etc.

If used, voucher-specimens must be identified with catalog number and name of the institution.

Tables: Should be numbered consecutively in Roman numerals and preferably embedded in the manuscript. If sent as a separate file (ex. in a spreadsheet file) consider that either the length or the width must fit an A4 page with 2 cm margins. Avoid abbreviations, except in the case of units. Each table must have its own title on the top. In the text, tables should be referred as Table I, Tables II and III, Tables II-V, etc.

Figures: as for Tables, all figures can be embedded in the text or sent in separate files. In both cases choose high resolution pictures. Prefer figures with the following extensions: jpg, tiff, bmp, gif. Other formats may be accepted if previously requested. Please, try not to exceed 1 MB per file during reviewing process. High quality color or black and white photographs, or computer-generated figures (e.g. maps) will be accepted. After the article's acceptance authors may be asked to send original, higher resolution figures. Figures should be referred to in the text as Figure 1, Figures 1 and 2, Figures 1-4, Figure 2a, (Fig. 1), etc. Use a bar scales to indicate the size of photographed items. The legends must be concise but informative.

Formulas: Formulas may be written in a single line even if they require special fonts (Symbol, Courier New or Wingdings) or may be part of the text. Ex: $E=mc^2$ or H₂O, etc. We strongly recommended the use of an appropriate equation editor for better results.

Citations: Author citations in the text must follow the pattern: Garcia et al. (2004) or (Garcia et al. 2004), Velasco et al. (2007), (Loebmann & Vieira 2006). Several publications must be cited in chronological order; e.g. (Bertalanffy 1938, Kinas 2000, Christensen & Walters 2004). Two or more publications by the same author must be cited as (Haddad 2004, 2005) or (Haddad 2004a,b, 2005).

References Format: see examples below. Grey literature must be avoided. If included (for example, being the only publication of a particular subject), Monographs and Thesis must include the full name of the institution. Please do not cite symposia abstracts.

Books:

Margalef, R. 1995. **Ecología**. Omega, Barcelona, 951 p.

Seeliger, U., Odebrecht, C. & Castello, J. P. (Eds.). 1997. **Subtropical Convergence Environments: The coastal and sea in the Southwestern Atlantic**. Springer, Berlin, 380 p.

Book chapters:

Chao, L. N., Vieira, J. P. & Pereira, L. E. 1985. Estuarine fish community of the dos Patos Lagoon, Brazil: A Baseline Study. Pp. 429-450. In: Yañes-Arancibia. (Ed.). **Fish community ecology in estuaries and coastal lagoons: Towards an ecosystem integration**. UNAM Press, Mexico, 654 p.

McDiarmid, R. W. 1994. Diversidad e historia natural de los anfibios: Una síntesis. Pp. 5-15. In: Heyer, W. R., Donnelly, M. A., McDiarmid, R. W., Hayek, L. A. C. & Foster, M. S. (Eds.). **Medición y monitoreo de la diversidad biológica: Métodos estandarizados para Anfibios**. Editora Universitaria de la Patagonia, Chubut, 348 p.

Journal papers:

Araújo, J. N., Mackinson, S., Stanford, R. J., Sims, D. W., Southward, A. J., Hawkins, S. J., Ellis, J. R. & Hart, P. J. B. 2006. Modelling food web interactions, variation in plankton production and fisheries on the Western English Channel ecosystem. **Marine Ecology Progress Series**, 309: 175-187.

Calliari, D. & Antezana, T. 2001. Diel feeding rhythm of zooplankton size-fractions from Coliumo Bay, Central Chile. **Scientia Marina**, 65(4): 269-274.

Workshop and Symposium Proceedings:

Castello, J. P. 1990. Synopsis on the reproductive biology and early life history of *Engraulis anchoita* and related environmental conditions in Brazilian waters. **Annex VII. IOC Workshop on Sardine/Anchovy Recruitment Project (SARP) in the Southwest Atlantic**, UNESCO, 65: 1-5.

Piola, A. R., Campos, E. J. D., Möller, O. O., Charo, M. & Martinez. C. 1999. Continental shelf water masses off eastern south America – 20° to 40° S. **10th Symposium on global change studies**, Dallas, 9-12.

Thesis and Monographs:

Reis, E. G. 1992. An assessment of the exploitation of the white croaker *Micropogonias furnieri* (Pisces, Sciaenidae) by the artisanal and industrial fisheries in coastal waters of southern Brazil. **PhD. Thesis**. University of East Anglia, Norwich, England, 223 p.

Electronic publications:

Oddone, M. C., Marçal, A. S. & Vooren, C. M. 2004. Egg capsules of *Atlantoraja cyclophora* (Regan, 1903) and *A. platana* (Günther, 1880) (Pisces, Elasmobranchii, Rajidae). **Zootaxa**, 426: 1-4. Accessible at <http://www.mapress.com/zootaxa/2004f/z0426f.pdf>.

Electronic resources:

Froese, R. & Pauly, D. 2007 (Eds.). **FishBase** - World Wide Web electronic publication, accessible at <http://www.fishbase.org>. (Accessed MM/DD/YYYY).

2) Scientific notes (Short communications):

Must include the title page as the regular papers (see above), the two abstracts, and the text written without sections. Acknowledgments, References, Tables and Figures must follow just as in the Research articles.

3) Original scientific illustrations *:

Our Journal also publishes original scientific illustrations. The article must include author's full information, specimen information and scientific data, with comments from the artist (one page).

*Obs.: These images cannot be used by other people without direct authorization from the artist.

4) Original scientific photographs *:

Scientific photos including author's full information, specimen and site information and scientific relevant data, with comments from the photographer (one page).

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The latter two items (original illustrations and photographs) will not have neither the "full article" nor the "short note" status but will be considered as scientific diffusion material, only.

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5) Short Videos attached:

In the case of behavior studies, for instance, authors may need to associate short video files to the articles. If so, a compacted AVI, MPEG or MOV file must be attached to the text and a proper link included on it (when clicking on the link in the text, readers should be able download the related movie). After publication of the article, the video could be available at the author's web-site (preferred) or the Journal's. If the movie file is particularly small, it could be available with the PDF file (both compacted in a unique package).