

Editorial note

Science matters

In this difficult moment in which we are facing a pandemic, we have learned to relativise what is important, and the hope that this learning lingers in the so-called developed human societies has grown. In the past few months we have realized the value of health, education and compassion. We have also learned to recognise science as a vital part for solving this problem. And for science, all knowledge is valid and unaware of its future importance. As a result, this pandemic has strengthened the desire to keep alive the only peer-reviewed scientific journal in the country.

In this issue we have two articles and a short note. The first article, entitled '*Body condition of loggerhead turtles *Caretta caretta* nesting in Cabo Verde is independent of their reproductive output*', summarizes the variation in body mass and size of females of this species over four nesting seasons. This study shows the need to deepen studies on this Endangered subpopulation given the several possible explanations for the non-linear relationship between body condition and the size of the females, as well as for the increase in body mass during the nesting season. Additionally, the relationship between body condition and reproductive success seems to be lacking, making it doubtful, at least, the widespread use of these body condition indices.

The second article refers to '*Ethics and Biodiversity: theoretical framework of the its disciplinary relevance for the PALOP countries*' and reveals the need for the integration of this curricular unit in postgraduate courses in Portuguese-speaking African countries in order to achieve the Sustainable Development Goals of the United Nations 2030 Agenda. This study, one of the first in the field to be published in this journal,

indicates a significant lack of training in environmental ethics in the PALOPs, required for the mental structure that gives prominence to the intrinsic value of natural ecosystems to be established.

The brief note describes the '*First confirmed sighting of pygmy killer whale *Feresa attenuata* off Cabo Verde*'. Given the difficulty in distinguishing this species from the melon-headed whale at sea, and the lack of photographic records of the past strings of cetaceans in the archipelago, this is the first official record of the pygmy killer whale in the country. It is also one of the few records of this scarcely known whale in this region of the Atlantic.

Finally, I would like to thank to the 14 authors, six reviewers and two fellow editors who believe that science published in small journals matters and who allowed this issue to be published. To them and to you, my best wishes!

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Editor-in-chief of *Zoologia Caboverdiana*