Message from the editor

Alan Hastings

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Theoretical Ecology continues to grow and thrive, as many numerical indicators show. The impact factor of the journal in 2012 increased to 2.012. The number of submissions in 2013 increased by 65 % over the previous year and the average time to first decision in 2013 was reduced to 43 from 55 days the previous year. The journal continues to publish papers ranging over the breadth of ecology with varying levels of mathematical sophistication. A special issue on “Regime Shifts and Tipping Points in Ecology” emphasized one emerging and growing area.

The first two papers in this current issue represent a new idea for the journal. The first paper is a review of approaches to modeling predator–prey relationships. The second short paper is a comment on the first. As this pairing demonstrates, the journal is open to novel ways to stimulate advances in theoretical ecology.

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