

## Research Report 2 Checklist

### Ecology

#### Abstract

- \_\_\_ less than 250 words
- \_\_\_ includes background, \_\_\_ hypotheses, \_\_\_ treatments, and \_\_\_ main results
- \_\_\_ results are related to the goals &/or hypotheses

#### Introduction

- \_\_\_ organized from general to specific
- ... addresses the following:
  - \_\_\_ what is the general ecological concept and \_\_\_ why is it important in ecology?
  - \_\_\_ what is the specific phenomenon and \_\_\_ why is it important in ecology?
  - \_\_\_ previous studies that are relevant to the concept or the phenomenon
- \_\_\_ references are appropriate, \_\_\_ paraphrased, and \_\_\_ cited correctly \*\*
- \_\_\_ clearly explains the general goals (why we did the study) \*\*
- \_\_\_ clearly introduces the specific hypothesis or prediction of your study \*\*

#### Methods

- \_\_\_ includes details on the study system (types of species, location, why appropriate for study)
- \_\_\_ treatments are explained in detail
- ... explains procedures for \_\_\_ data collection, \_\_\_ replication, \_\_\_ control of extraneous variables
- \_\_\_ explains how the analyses address the goals of the experiment \*\*
- ... details procedures for \_\_\_ data analysis
- \_\_\_ avoids extraneous detail

#### Results

- \_\_\_ includes observed results, \_\_\_ data analysis
- \_\_\_ uses data analysis to interpret observed results
- \_\_\_ relates results to the goals of the experiment \*\*
- \_\_\_ results are accurate
- \_\_\_ tables and/or figures report all relevant information \_\_\_ without redundancy
- \_\_\_ tables and/or figures have useful, appropriately-positioned captions, and are \_\_\_ cited correctly
- \_\_\_ figures include labeled axes and legends

#### Discussion

- \_\_\_ includes a summary of the main results \*\*
- \_\_\_ addresses the general goals and specific hypothesis or prediction presented at the end of the introduction \*\*
- \_\_\_ at least one aspect of the study is discussed intelligently and in depth \*\*
- \_\_\_ references are appropriate, \_\_\_ paraphrased, and \_\_\_ cited correctly \*\*
- \_\_\_ at least two limitations of the study are explained in detail \*\*

#### Style

- \_\_\_ grammar and spelling
- \_\_\_ ideas are communicated clearly
- \_\_\_ ideas are presented in a logical order, and \_\_\_ similar ideas are kept together
- \_\_\_ avoids unnecessary wordiness and GETS TO THE POINT!!
- \_\_\_ literature cited in format used by the journal *Ecology*

**\*\* these points are especially important**