



Guidelines for Book Reviewers

GENERAL INFORMATION

These guidelines are to aid the preparation of book reviews for *The Linnean*. The majority of botanical works will still be reviewed in the *Botanical Journal of the Linnean Society of London* but some popular botanical books, and all other books received for review, will be shortlisted for inclusion in *The Linnean Newsletter & Proceedings*. With only two issues a year reviews will need to be concise and reflect the potential interest likely from the Fellows. Very short reviews may also, when space permits, be included in our magazine *PuLSe*.

Books which fail to find a reviewer will be listed on our website as having been received, giving just bibliographic information. Copyright of any review submitted and published in *The Linnean* or *PuLSe* will automatically be transferred to The Linnean Society of London.

WORD COUNTS

Please use the following word counts for all book reviews:

- ☞ A brief notice should be around 350 words
- ☞ A more in depth notice should be around 850 words

(Please note: The editorial team reserves the right to edit any reviews not adhering to these word counts.)

CONTENT OF THE REVIEW

Please focus on the content of the book, rather than your own views on the book's subject. Start with the key bibliographic information (full title and authorship, page length, publisher, date, ISBN and price):

The Origin of Higher Taxa: Palaeobiological, Developmental and Ecological Perspectives
By TS Kemp. 201pp, Oxford University Press, 2016, paperback.
Mono or halftone illustrations. £32.50 (Hardback £75)
ISBN 978-0-19-969189-0

Bearing in mind the word counts, your review should address the following questions:

- ☞ **CONTENT:** Why was the book written?
- ☞ **READERSHIP:** Who is the book written for and does it achieve its objective?
- ☞ **OVERVIEW:** What is the book about? Summarise the main themes only.
- ☞ **AUTHORSHIP:** Do the author(s) have the appropriate background to give an authoritative account?
- ☞ **COMPARISON:** Are there other books on the same subject to compare it with?
- ☞ **PRACTICALITIES:** If appropriate, reference the design, pictures, index or value for money.
- ☞ **APPRAISAL:** Is it interesting, readable, and a useful contribution to the subject?
- ☞ **CONCLUSION:** Overall assessment of best and worst features, recommendations or otherwise.

CONTACT

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