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EDITORIAL NOTE

In the *Brazilian Journal of Biology* for February 2005, features of the contents will be highlighted through comments of the Editorial Board. This new initiative is designed to call attention in every issue to subjects of particular relevance treated therein. In addition, it will provide an overview of the general content presented.

This month's number contains 24 papers on several categories within basic biology, taxonomy, and ecology. Geographic distribution is considered in studies on species diversity, habitat spectra in birds, and effects of contaminants on fishes. Use of tools such as macroinvertebrate diversity of lotic ecosystems for characterizing streams for water uses are presented. Finally, in notes and comments, new techniques are described.

Editorial Board