

### 3. *Italics*

- 3.1** Genus and species names should be italicized, but not those at other taxonomic levels:

*Acipenser* spp. *Esox lucius*

but Ictaluridae Salmoniformes

- 3.2** Single-letter mathematical and statistical terms should be italicized unless they are Greek letters:

*L<sub>t</sub>* *L<sub>1</sub>* *r*<sup>2</sup> *F*-value *P* = 0.05  
but  $\beta$   $\Delta$

Multiple-letter terms may be italicized or not, provided that the treatment is consistent throughout the paper.

- 3.3** All elements of gene and allele designations (but not those for the enzymes for which they code) should be italicized:

*mAAT\** *EST-1\** *\*150* *GPI-A\*1/2*

Note that the asterisks in these terms are italicized as well.

All elements of microsatellite designations except Greek letters should be italicized:

*Ssa85* *Oneμ3*

- 3.4** Certain other technical terms and abbreviations should be italicized:

*Taq* [a restriction enzyme] chlorophyll *a* *g* [gravity] *F* [fishing mortality]

See Chapter 11 and Appendix B for other such terms and abbreviations.

- 3.5** The names of ships and aircraft should be italicized (but not type designators such as “USS” and “RV”):

RV [research vessel] *Seth Gordon*

- 3.6** Non-English words should be italicized:

In French, the brook trout is known as the *omble de fontaine*.

However, words of non-English origin that have been incorporated into English should not be italicized:

barranca thalweg in vitro

All of the words in the main section of *Merriam-Webster's Collegiate Dictionary* should be treated as English words; those in the section called "Foreign Words & Phrases" should be treated as non-English words.

**3.7** Italics may be used for emphasis provided that the use is sparing:

However, we observed this in *small* streams too. [i.e., where it was not expected]

**3.8** Words used as words should be put in quotation marks rather than italics:

In this context, the term "recruitment" means. . . .

However, letters used as letters are generally italicized:

The letter *X* marks the location of the study site.

*but* U-shaped valley