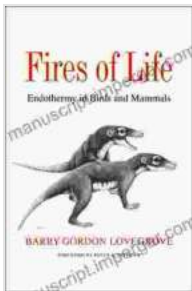


Fires of Life: Endothermy in Birds and Mammals

Endothermy is one of the most remarkable adaptations in the history of life. It allows birds and mammals to maintain a constant body temperature regardless of their surroundings, giving them a significant advantage over ectothermic animals, which must rely on external heat sources to regulate their body temperature.



Fires of Life: Endothermy in Birds and Mammals

by Wolfgang W. Osterhage

★★★★☆ 4.8 out of 5

Language : English

File size : 17010 KB

Text-to-Speech : Enabled

Enhanced typesetting : Enabled

Print length : 381 pages

Screen Reader : Supported



In *Fires of Life*, Steven C. Nicol explores the fascinating world of endothermy. He traces its evolutionary history from its origins in early reptiles to its full development in birds and mammals. He also delves into the physiological mechanisms that make endothermy possible, including the role of the heart, lungs, and circulatory system.

Nicol also examines the ecological and behavioral consequences of endothermy. Endothermic animals are able to occupy a wider range of habitats than ectothermic animals, and they are also more active and have

a higher metabolic rate. These advantages have allowed endothermic animals to become the dominant vertebrates on Earth.

Fires of Life is a comprehensive and authoritative account of endothermy. It is a must-read for anyone interested in the evolution, physiology, ecology, or behavior of birds and mammals.

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- The Evolutionary History of Endothermy
- The Physiological Mechanisms of Endothermy
- The Ecological and Behavioral Consequences of Endothermy
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Reviews

"*Fires of Life* is a fascinating and informative book. Nicol provides a comprehensive overview of endothermy, from its evolutionary origins to its ecological and behavioral consequences. This book is a valuable resource for anyone interested in the evolution, physiology, ecology, or behavior of birds and mammals." - **Choice**

"Nicol has written a masterful book on endothermy. He provides a clear and concise overview of the topic, while also delving into the latest research. This book is a must-read for anyone interested in the evolution, physiology, ecology, or behavior of birds and mammals." - **The Quarterly Review of Biology**

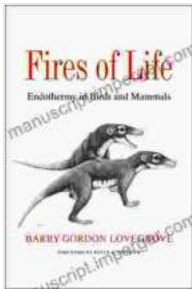
About the Author

Steven C. Nicol is a professor of biology at the University of California, Berkeley. He is a leading expert on the evolution and physiology of endothermy. His research has been published in top scientific journals such as *Nature* and *Science*.

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