

3. *Italics*

- 3.1** Genus and species names should be italicized:

Acipenser spp. *Esox lucius*

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

L_t *L₁* *r*² *F*-value *P* ≤ 0.05

but β Δ

- 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 *Seth Gordon*

- 3.6** Foreign words should be italicized:

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

However, words of foreign 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 foreign 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