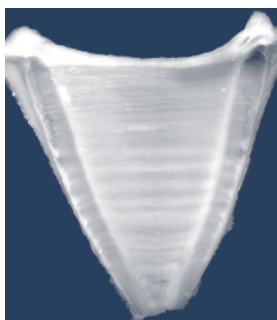




Cover

The gummy shark, *Mustelus antarcticus*, the subject of an important paper by Walker (pp. 67–97), showcases the Chondrichthyan Special Issue. Three Lead Essays preface 12 research papers that represent research undertaken in the Atlantic, Pacific and Indian Oceans on a diverse collection of chondrichthyan species and across ecology, physiology and fisheries.



Francis, Campana and Jones (pp. 10–23) reveal that in porbeagle sharks, under-estimates of the age of older animals may be as much as 50% from vertebral band counts. Their study therefore has important implications for growth studies on other long-lived species.

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