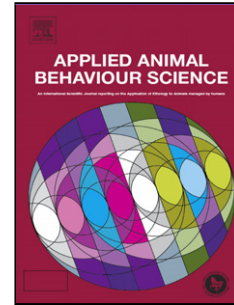


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Effects of enrichment on boredom-like states in mink and their behavioural correlates: a replicate study

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Highlights

- Mink in suboptimal environments exhibited elevated interest in diverse stimuli
- This replicates previous work, suggesting they experience boredom-like states
- Lying still but awake correlates with boredom symptoms in enriched mink
- Stereotypic behaviour was not associated with reduced boredom symptoms

Abstract

Scientists and laypeople have long expressed concern that animals in non-enriched, unchanging environments might experience boredom. However, this had attracted little empirical study: the state is difficult to assess without verbal self-reports, and spontaneous behavioural signs of boredom can vary in humans, making it hard to identify signs likely to be valid in other species.

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