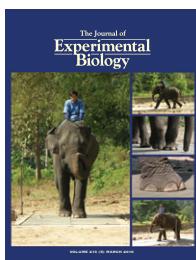


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Cover: Elephants moving across a force platform at the Thai Elephant Conservation Centre in Lampang, Thailand. Despite the elephant's great size, J. J. Genin, P. A. Willems, G. A. Cavagna, R. Lair and N. C. Heglund (pp. 694–706) have shown that the centre of mass of an elephant only goes up and down 1 (high speed) to 3 cm (walking) each step, limiting the work done against gravity. This 'smooth ride' contributes to the minimization of the work done by the elephants during locomotion ($J \text{ kg}^{-1} \text{ m}^{-1}$), which is only 1/3 to 1/5 that of other animals. Photos by N. C. Heglund.

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