



The Pros and Cons of Innovation in Agriculture for Safeguarding Animal Health and Welfare

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Message from the Guest Editor

Precision livestock farming (PLF) is a rapidly developing field, whereby automatization plays a key role. With PLF, farmers are able to directly target the needs of each individual in a herd or flock. Data collection of animal parameters takes place automatically and the promise of detecting changes in patterns or activity could indicate an upcoming disease or other welfare issues. This is the positive view, but what about the human–animal connection or the integrity of the animal when wearing a man-made sensor device? In this Special Issue, we target these questions by paying special attention to whether or not PLF can be applied in very large systems, extensive systems, or by different operators, as well as the reliability and dependency risks of PLF. Empirical, ethical, or opinion papers are invited to critically examine the pros and cons of this type of innovation. With the gained knowledge from these studies, we can make a better judgement on how to implement PLF in an animal-welfare-friendly way for the agriculture of the future.





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Message from the Editor-in-Chief

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