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Effect of Genetic and Nongenetic Factors on Functional and Milk Production Traits in Livestock

Guest Editors:

Dr. Mehdi Bohlouli

Institute of Animal Breeding and Domestic Animal Genetics,
Justus-Liebig-Universität Gießen,
Giessen, Germany

Dr. Katharina May

Institute of Animal Breeding and Domestic Animal Genetics,
Justus-Liebig-Universität Gießen,
Giessen, Germany

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Message from the Guest Editors

Understanding the nature of the genetic associations between production, health and fertility traits considering nongenetic factors (e.g., production systems, regions and weather conditions) is essential to optimize the genetic selection in livestock. Several phenotypes derived from milk (e.g., SCC, casein, lactose, β -hydroxybutyrate, and saturated and UFA) are very useful as indicator traits to improve functional traits. On the other hand, recent advancements in genomic tools offer new opportunities for animal breeders to incorporate functional traits along with milk production traits. In the context of genomic studies, areas fruitful for genetic improvement of dairy productivity also include genome-wide association studies (GWASs) and post-GWAS analyses with a growing emphasis on the role of gene \times environment interaction. Such studies identify genomic regions and candidate genes for functional and milk production traits. This Special Issue aims to present original research or reviews related to genetic and environmental factors affecting livestock performance, with particular focus on health and milk production traits.



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Special Issue



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Editor-in-Chief

Prof. Dr. Clive J. C. Phillips

1. Institute of Veterinary Medicine
and Animal Sciences, Estonian
University of Life Sciences,
Kreutzwaldi 1, 51014 Tartu,
Estonia
2. Curtin University Sustainability
Policy (CUSP) Institute, Kent St.,
Bentley 6102, Australia

Message from the Editor-in-Chief

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Contact Us

Animals Editorial Office
MDPI, Grosspeteranlage 5
4052 Basel, Switzerland

Tel: +41 61 683 77 34
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