



Human-Animal Interactions and Their Relationships with Animal Welfare, Emotions, and Personality

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Message from the Guest Editors

Human–animal interaction (HAI) involves any contact between humans and animals, and includes different aspects such as tactile, visual, olfactory, and auditory perception. These interactions can take place, even with domesticated and wild animals, in a myriad of environments such as farms, residences, laboratory, and zoos. The HAI can be categorized as positive, neutral, or negative in nature by the way humans perform their contact with animals. Animals may react spontaneously to human characteristics, or they may learn to associate the human presence and behavior with the type of practices used toward them. Moreover, HAIs can result in physiological and behavioral changes in animals, thereby influencing animal welfare, fitness, and, in the case of farm animals, the productive performance. The interfaces between HAI and animal welfare may also be explored under the scope of the mental states and emotions of both animals and humans.





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Message from the Editor-in-Chief

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