

Special Issue

Genomic Conservation of Local Ruminant Breeds

Message from the Guest Editors

Local ruminant breeds, including cattle, sheep, and goats, are vital components of a country's animal genetic resources (AnGR). Today, genomics provides powerful tools to discover and better understand the processes and patterns of such genetic groups through some strategies, such as the following: (1) Genetic Characterization and Risk Assessment: Genomic data accurately measure genetic diversity within and between breeds, assess inbreeding levels, and detect introgression from exotic breeds. (2) Identifying Adaptive Traits: Genomic analyses can pinpoint selection signatures, which are specific regions of the genome associated with adaptation to local conditions. (3) Informing Conservation Strategies: Genomic information guides both in situ (on-farm) and ex situ (gene banks) conservation efforts. These three items will be the main scope of this Special Issue of *Animals*. This Special Issue will provide an open opportunity for new research results, reviews, and expert perspectives on these themes. We look forward to receiving your contributions.

Guest Editors

Dr. Danielle Assis De Faria

Faculdade de Agronomia e Medicina Veterinária, Instituto Central de Ciências, Campus Darcy Ribeiro, Universidade de Brasília, Asa Norte, Brasília 70910-900, DF, Brazil

Dr. Samuel Rezende Paiva

Embrapa Recursos Genéticos e Biotecnologia, Final W5 Norte, Brasília 70770-917, DF, Brazil

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Animals
Editorial Office
MDPI, Grosspeteranlage 5
4052 Basel, Switzerland
Tel: +41 61 683 77 34
animals@mdpi.com

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About the Journal

Message from the Editor-in-Chief

Animals is an international, peer-reviewed, open-access journal established in 2011 and published semimonthly online by MDPI. The journal is dedicated to high-quality research across a broad range of animal-related disciplines, including zoology and veterinary sciences, and upholds rigorous peer-review and editorial standards to ensure the publication of impactful work. Indexed in the Science Citation Index Expanded (SCIE) within Web of Science, *Animals* has a 2025 Impact Factor of 3.2 (ranks 13/87 (Q1) in 'Agriculture, Dairy & Animal Science'; 15/170 (Q1) in 'Veterinary Sciences'), 5-Year Impact Factor: 3.5.

Editor-in-Chief

Prof. Dr. Clive J. C. Phillips

1. Curtin University Sustainable Policy (CUSP) Institute, Curtin University, Kent St., Bentley, WA 6102, Australia
2. Former Foundation Professor of Animal Welfare, University of Queensland and Foundation Director, Centre for Animal Welfare and Ethics, University of Queensland, Brisbane, Australia

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