

Special Issue

Advances in Small Ruminant Welfare

Message from the Guest Editor

Increased public attention to animal welfare issues and consumer demand for products from humanely treated animals requires the scientific community to keep refining animal welfare assessment methods through research. These findings are expected to bring about the desired changes in production methods, when necessary, further improving animal welfare and farm sustainability. In addition to the conventional methods of assessing animal well-being using behavioral observations and physiological stress responses, researchers have explored various other means in recent years, such as thermal imaging, facial cues, product quality, artificial intelligence and machine learning, and multi-omics technology, to name a few.

For this Special Issue, we invite original research articles or review articles addressing small ruminant welfare, particularly those exploring novel methods of assessing and improving well-being. Papers on any small ruminant species raised for any purpose are invited. Studies relating animal welfare to health, productivity, product quality, economics, and sustainability will also be within the scope of this Special Issue.

Guest Editor

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About the Journal

Message from the Editor-in-Chief

Animals is an on-line open access journal that was first published in 2011. *Animals* adheres to rigorous peerreview and editorial processes and publishes only high quality manuscripts that address important issues in the many varied disciplines that involve animals, with a focus on animal science, animal welfare and animal ethics. *Animals* is covered in the Science Citation Index Expanded (SCIE) in Web of Science, with the latest Impact Factor: 2.7 (2024, ranks 15/86 (Q1) in 'Agriculture, Dairy & Animal Science'; 21/170 (Q1) in 'Veterinary Sciences'), 5-Year Impact Factor: 3.2.

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