

Special Issue

Beyond the Hunt: Ethical Issues and Food Safety in Game Meat Consumption

Message from the Guest Editors

Game meat consumption—humans eating wild species—is growing within global food systems, especially in regions with abundant wildlife. This trend brings ethical and food safety challenges amid wildlife conservation concerns and zoonotic disease risks. Key ethical questions involve wildlife management, harvesting, and animal welfare, which affect the nutritional quality and safety of game meat. As game meat moves along supply chains, integrity and safety issues emerge, emphasizing the need for sustainable practices to protect human and animal health.

This Special Issue explores the ethical and safety dimensions of game meat, focusing on production practices, the One Health approach, and local value chain integration to enhance sustainability and benefit communities involved in wildlife economies. By compiling multidisciplinary research, the issue aims to foster dialogue on ethical wildlife management, sustainable food practices, and public health. Topics include game meat production ethics, animal welfare, food safety, local economies, regulatory frameworks, and innovations in safety tracking.

Guest Editors

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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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