

Special Issue

Genetics and Genomics of Small Ruminants Prolificacy

Message from the Guest Editor

Prolificacy in ruminants is an important trait in both meat and wool production. In meat production systems, multiple gestations are required, while an excess of prolificacy limits wool production due to the high expenditure of maternal resources on breeding rather than on fiber generation. Since genetics have a fundamental impact on prolificacy, knowledge of the genetic predisposition of herds regarding the size of the offspring could help in achieving the production objective: the management and feeding of the animals. Genetic and genomic methodologies allow the detection of new variants related to prolificacy that could be used as a criterion for selection in small ruminants. The aim of this Special Issue is to present original papers and/or reviews on the genetics and genomics of small ruminant prolificacy focused on the search for genes that could be used as selection tools or focused on the improvement of prolificacy using classical selection with the use of new genetic evaluation methodologies. Other topics regarding the economic, health or production impacts of prolificacy will also be considered.

Guest Editor

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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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