

Special Issue

Improving Animal Welfare: A Key Factor in a Shift Towards More Sustainable Animal Agriculture—2nd Edition

Message from the Guest Editor

Animal welfare science has rapidly evolved toward integrated, data-driven approaches. Livestock production is under growing pressure to enhance sustainability, efficiency, and social acceptability while ensuring high animal welfare, which has become central to sustainable animal agriculture. Animal welfare assessment helps understand animal responses to environmental and management constraints, and welfare indicators act as benchmarks and early-warning tools to reduce losses and improve system resilience. This Special Issue aims to advance evidence-based, measurable approaches to animal welfare assessment and management. Topics include objective assessment methods, reduced antimicrobial use, production efficiency, health, husbandry, and emerging technologies such as AI, automation, precision farming, and sensor-based monitoring across the production chain. We invite original research and reviews on integrating welfare with production performance, economics, and knowledge transfer. Studies on technology adoption, field validation, cost–benefit analyses, and practical implementation are particularly welcome.

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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