

Special Issue

Animal Welfare: Laws, Policy and Alternative Approaches to Drive Improvements across Animal Industries

Message from the Guest Editors

Animal welfare is a key issue today as a result of our understanding around animal sentience, as well as an increased public concern about how animals are treated. A multifaceted approach to safeguarding and improving welfare is generally needed. The tools to achieve this can include legislation, quasi-legislative documents, and market- or consumer-driven approaches such as assurance schemes. In our globalized economy, there is increasingly a role for change resulting from international drivers such as the advent of free-trade agreements. Besides these more formal approaches, real welfare improvements likely need a holistic approach encompassing animal welfare education, awareness campaigns, and public engagement activities. In this Special Issue, we encourage both original and secondary research around animal welfare laws and policies that may apply to individual animal industries or across many. We also encourage research that examines other facets that may influence welfare, such as consumer-led initiatives, media or public interest, and education programs.

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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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