

Special Issue

Breeding Soundness Examinations of Rams: Semen Collection and Evaluation

Message from the Guest Editors

Ram fertility is a crucial characteristic that affects the production and economic efficiency of sheep herds. Previous studies have revealed that 70–75% of rams in a flock are reproductively optimal; therefore, the management of rams is fundamental. Breeding soundness examination (BSE) refers to the overall assessment of a ram's ability to service and impregnate ewes. In this Special Issue, we invite researchers focusing on breeding soundness examinations of rams, with a special emphasis on semen collection and evaluation, to submit their work on the following topics:

- Factors affecting BSE and semen collection and evaluation;
- Use of artificial intelligence in BSE and semen collection and evaluation;
- Culling of rams after BSE and semen collection and evaluation;
- Artificial insemination following BSE and semen collection and evaluation;
- Semen storage following BSE and semen collection and evaluation;
- Use of contemporary or innovative techniques for BSE and semen collection and evaluation.

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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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