

Special Issue

Waste Valorization via *Hermetia illucens*: Potential Applications of Insect Biomass

Message from the Guest Editors

In the last five years, the volume of scientific articles focusing on the Black Soldier Fly (BSF) *Hermetia illucens* has grown almost exponentially, reaching more than 700 papers published on different international peer reviewed journals (data updated to February 2021, Scopus). The increasing interest of the scientific community has arisen from the particularly fascinating key role of the BSF in waste valorization during the larval bioconversion of organic wastes into valuable alternative sources of nutrients, mainly fats and proteins. The urgent need to meet the growing global demand for nutrients requires scientific research to clarify the enormous potentialities of bioconversion by BSF through a multidisciplinary approach involving expertise in waste treatment, microbial safety, animal nutrition, biodiesel and bioactive compounds production, as well as regulations thus implementing this innovative solution within a context of circular economy. Original research papers and review articles reporting on all these aspects are welcome. Keywords

- *Hermetia illucens*
- bioconversion
- waste valorization
- feed
- aquaculture
- BSF meals

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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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