

Special Issue

Impact of Climate Change on Animal Welfare, Health, and/or Product Quality of Livestock Species

Message from the Guest Editor

Climate change, with predicted temperatures increasing by up to 3 °C by 2050, impacts livestock production systems, challenging animals' thermoregulatory mechanisms. During production and marketing, environmental conditions exceeding the upper critical temperature of the thermal comfort zone result in severe heat stress, affecting livestock welfare and productivity. Ensuring the thermal comfort zone is respected during an animal's life can improve performance and curb losses due to poor health, death, non-ambulatory conditions, clinical signs of deterioration, carcass condemnations, and product quality defects. This Special Issue welcomes original research articles and reviews showing evidence of the effects of heat stress on performance, losses, animal-welfare indicators, and/or product quality of livestock species throughout production phases (from farm to slaughter, including transport). It also welcomes research validating the efficiency of mitigating strategies to ensure animal thermal needs are met under warmer environmental conditions, aiming to improve the sustainability of the livestock production sector.

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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