Special Issue

Livestock Production Systems: Towards Sustainability Fit for the 21st Century

Message from the Guest Editors

Demand for animal-derived products is a tale of two worlds. On the one hand, demand and consumption in developed countries has slowed down and will continue to decrease. On the other hand, demand for animal products continues to increase in developing countries at present.

Intensive animal production systems were developed with a focus on economic aspects of animal-derived products, to maximise production and profit, but not much regard for animal or worker/farmer welfare or environmental impact. It is of paramount importance that livestock production systems adopt a sustainable approach, including better welfare for livestock. In recent years, efforts across the world have shown that alternative methods of production are possible that incorporate environmental services and animal welfare aspects, increase resource-use efficiency towards carbon-neutral production, and improve social aspects of farming communities. The potential is there and this Special Issue aims to gather current research from across the world that will drive livestock production systems towards the new paradigm of sustainability that is essential for the 21st century.

Guest Editors

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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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