

Special Issue

Innovative Methods for Assessing the Welfare of Domestic Animals

Message from the Guest Editors

Globally, there are billions of domestic animals being raised for food production, kept as pets or for research, testing and teaching, used in sporting events or other types of entertainment, or in other systems where they are dependent on human management. Interest in how the welfare of these animals can be better understood and protected has significantly increased in recent years and is continuing to do so. There are several challenges associated with assessing animal welfare, including the invasive nature of some measures and techniques we use and the differences in physiological and behavioural thresholds to wild counterparts or between different breeds. In addition, animal welfare assessment is inherently an activity of indirect measurement that often requires significant time and resources impractical for use in many scenarios. Therefore, there is an ongoing need for innovative methods for assessing the welfare of domestic animals that are practical to use and adaptable to many species in a range of scenarios, using novel measures of welfare and emerging technology. This Special Issue will focus on recent research or reviews that investigate this topic.

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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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