

Special Issue

Nutritional Interventions in Young Ruminants

Message from the Guest Editors

In recent decades, a substantial research effort has been focused on the development of nutritional interventions to modulate the gastrointestinal (GI) microbiota and increase their productivity in adult animals. Recent research suggests that the mature GI microbiota are highly redundant and resilient to changes, making it difficult to persistently modify them in the adult animal. On the contrary, much less research has been dedicated to exploring the GI microbiota in young animals. This research topic aims to provide a key breakthrough to help us understand the factors that shape the GI microbiome in the young ruminant, its implications on animal digestive physiology and health, and to test whether nutritional interventions in early life can boost animals' productivity and adaptability to nutritional challenges later in life. Innovative papers from different research areas including nutrition, microbiology, physiology and immunology are invited to this Special Issue, with the aim of bringing together the latest findings in the nutrition of young ruminants.

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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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