

Special Issue

Positive Welfare Indicators for On-Farm Welfare Assessment

Message from the Guest Editor

There is growing evidence that good welfare is more than just the absence of states of suffering. Whereas most approaches to welfare assessment are based on indicators of reduced welfare, it seems promising to put more emphasis on indicators of good welfare in the future. To date, little effort has gone into the study of animal pleasure or in developing measures of pleasure in animals. Currently, there is no clear or agreed consensus within the literature on what positive welfare should entail or what makes a valid or reliable indicator of positive animal welfare. The aim of this Special Issue is to present recent research and reviews on meaningful and practical positive welfare indicators for on-farm welfare assessment, such as affiliative behaviour, maternal care, play activity, as well as some blood parameters, e.g. dopamine, oxytocin and serotonin, to help animals to have lives worth living.

Guest Editor

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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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