## **Special Issue**

# Functional Prebiotics and Probiotics: Impact on Animal Growth, Development and Health

#### Message from the Guest Editors

From an animal health perspective, ongoing global health challenges and the growing issue of antibiotic resistance highlight the urgent need to promote the study of innovative strategies that contribute to preserving the health of various animal species. In this context, prebiotics and probiotics stand out as promising tools, offering sustainable solutions and positioning themselves as alternatives to the excessive use of antibiotics. Thus, this Special Issue will focus on exploring novel topics related to the impact of functional nutraceuticals applied to companions, livestock, and wildlife animals. Its scope will encompass research on the modulation of gut microbiota, their impact on the immune system, optimization of key physiological functions, prevention of infectious diseases, and their effects on zootechnical parameters. In addition, cuttingedge advances in personalized product design will be also covered, with a focus on encapsulated additives delivery systems, along with supplementary biotechnology strategies using circular economy principles.

#### **Guest Editors**

Prof. Dr. Ricardo Pinheiro de Souza Oliveira

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#### Deadline for manuscript submissions

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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.

#### Editor-in-Chief

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