

Special Issue

Training, Welfare, and Rehabilitation of Thoroughbred Racehorses

Message from the Guest Editor

Thoroughbred racehorses represent one of the most intensively trained and managed equine populations. Their physical and mental wellbeing are critical for athletic performance, ethical and sustainable equine sports practices. This Special Issue aims to collect current research and practical insights on the training methods, welfare assessments, and rehabilitation approaches used in thoroughbred racehorses across different stages of their lives. We welcome submissions focusing on innovative and evidence-based strategies to enhance welfare, minimize injury risk, and optimize recovery and rehabilitation. Topics may include, but are not limited to, the following: the role of exercise physiology in training regimens, behavioral indicators of welfare, stress and pain evaluation, the use of diagnostic imaging and other advanced technologies, injury prevention, rehabilitation protocols, and transition to post-racing careers. Studies that integrate veterinary, behavioral, and management perspectives are encouraged. This SI seeks to foster interdisciplinary dialogue and contribute to improving the standards of thoroughbred horse management in both racing and non-racing contexts.

Guest Editor

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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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