## **Special Issue**

# The Role of Wild Birds in the Global Spread of Avian Influenza Viruses

#### Message from the Guest Editor

- Wild birds and avian influenza viruses have a long common history. Originally, wild waterbird reservoirs of the orders Anseriformes and Charadriiformes hosted the low pathogenic form of the virus. More recently, wild birds have been found to host the highly pathogenic form of the virus.
- Both the low pathogenic and highly pathogenic virus are carried by wild birds over large distances and can spread globally along the migratory flyways. This Special Issue aims to present novel research that further defines the role of wild birds in the global spread of avian influenza viruses.
- We encourage submissions that address the presence of avian influenza virus in historical wild bird hosts, as well as in novel wild bird host species. We are particularly interested in studies that investigate national and international surveillance efforts and the geographic spread of the virus, including spillover events among avian populations. Furthermore, we seek contributions that explore the drivers of infection, the factors that influence disease severity, and the potential for zoonotic transmission.
- We look forward to receiving your contributions.

#### **Guest Editor**

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#### Deadline for manuscript submissions

10 December 2025



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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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