

Topical Collection

Application of Antibiotic Alternatives in the Poultry Industry

Message from the Collection Editor

In-feed antibiotics have been used to enhance performance, improve gut health, reduce sub-clinical infection, anti-inflammatory, control diseases, and support intestinal health in chickens by inhibiting proliferation of pathogenic bacteria. Nevertheless, due to concerns around bacterial resistance and residues in animal products, the use of in-feed antibiotics has been banned, prompting the global poultry industry to look for antibiotic alternatives to enhance the health, welfare, and performance of chickens. Indeed, scientists have proposed various promising alternatives to animal production to mimic antibiotic growth promoters, and many have been successfully applied in the poultry industry. These include prebiotics, probiotics, organic acids, essential oils, exogenous enzyme, hyper-immune IgY antibodies, bacteriophages, antimicrobial peptides, and phytogetic feed additives, which are now being used commercially.

This Topical Collection aims to gather original research articles including reviews investigating conventional and novel feed additives to improve the welfare and health of chickens.

Collection 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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