Special Issue

Beef Cattle: Advances for Sustainable Intensification

Message from the Guest Editors

Livestock production accounts for ~15% of greenhouse gas emissions globally, with cattle representing 65% of livestock emissions. However, cattle allow human food production from the world's 50 million square kilometers of grasslands, which account for 40% of the terrestrial area. Sustainably utilizing grasslands for human food production requires the sustainable intensification of beef cattle production systems. Areas fruitful for sustainable intensification include genetic enhancements of forage and feed crop production to reduce input use and improve animal utilization, genetic and nutritional strategies to enhance reproductive efficiency, genetic selection to improve the energetic efficiency of animals, technologies to enhance feed utilization and animal health, and the genetic enhancement of animals to reduce the impacts of biotic and abiotic stressors. The aim of this Special Issue is to present recent research and reviews in the diverse disciplines influencing sustainable beef cattle production in order to stimulate cross-disciplinary research on this important topic.

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Deadline for manuscript submissions

closed (31 May 2022)



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Impact Factor 2.7
CiteScore 5.2
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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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