Special Issue

Novel Insights in Horse Breeding and Genetics

Message from the Guest Editors

The aim of horse breeding programs is to attain genetic improvement of the breeding stock, but its application is challenging because of some equine particularities, such as long generation interval, difficulties for the early prediction of breeding values, low heritability traits, and consequent low selection intensity. The selection objectives in these programs, as in other species, have evolved together with traditional sport performance and conformation to other characters related to fertility, health, longevity, and behavior. Modeling horse performance using genetic–statistical approaches to design the best model to carry out the genetic assessment is difficult because of specific environmental factors, the existence of crossbreeds or the nature of the traits. Optimized selection strategies with appropriate methodology that may combine genealogical and genomic information in a selection or conservation scenario could help to address these specific issues. To promote the application of novel research in this species, original manuscripts that address recent research and novel insights into horse breeding and genetics are invited for this Special Issue.

Guest Editors

Dr. Isabel Cervantes

Departamento de Producción Animal, Universidad Complutense de Madrid, Avda. Puerta de Hierro s/n, E-28040 Madrid, Spain

Dr. María Dolores Gómez Ortiz

E.T.S. de Ingeniería Agronómica, Universidad de Sevilla, Ctra. de Utrera, 41013 Sevilla, Spain

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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

Prof. Dr. Clive J. C. Phillips
1. Institute of Veterinary Medicine and Animal Sciences, Estonian University of Life Sciences, Kreutzwaldi 1, 51014 Tartu, Estonia
2. Curtin University Sustainability Policy (CUSP) Institute, Kent St., Bentley 6102, Australia

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