Special Issue

Ovine Genetics: Utilizing OMIC Tools to Design Ovine Breeds for the Future

Message from the Guest Editor

Over the last decade, the overall amount of sheep production has grown worldwide. To improve the sustainability and competitiveness of sheep livestock systems through breeding, new phenotypes linked to sustainable animal productivity can be developed and integrated into breeding schemes to allow for the selection of animals that are resilient and adaptable to current and future environmental challenges. In the last few decades, novel measures targeting economically important traits through phenotypes linked to physiological processes of animals such as body reserve utilization, feed efficiency, metabolic diseases, thermo-tolerance, methane emissions, disease resistance, and reproductive efficiency have been developed. These new phenotypes are costly and difficult to collect and generally have low heritability. Current genomic tools may help to provide information about genetic loci involved in the phenotypic variation of these complex traits and may be integrated into traditional breeding programs in order to improve their ability to cope with new selection objectives.

Guest Editor

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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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