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Microbiology in Animal Products

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Message from the Guest Editors

Microorganisms play a key role in animal farming since they can affect both animal performance and the quality of animal products. Intestinal and rumen microbiota are strictly connected with animal physiology and are responsible for feed efficiency and final product quality. For example, rumen microbiota has a crucial role in the degradation of dietary fibers, and its activity can be modulated to improve the productive performances of the animal and increase production sustainability (CH_4 emission reduction). Furthermore, the activity of rumen and intestinal microbiota can be modulated to enrich animal products with functional molecules, such as conjugated linoleic acid, and improve their quality. Moreover, autochthonous microorganisms or microorganisms added as starters also have an important technological role, being responsible for several biochemical and physicochemical transformations occurring during the processing of animal products, such as sausages and yogurt. In addition, microorganisms, particularly lactic acid bacteria, can improve the sensory, safety, and nutritional features of the final products, for instance, producing antimicrobial substances.

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Message from the Editor-in-Chief

As the world of science becomes ever more specialized, researchers may lose themselves in the deep forest of the ever increasing number of subfields being created. This open access journal Applied Sciences has been started to link these subfields, so researchers can cut through the forest and see the surrounding, or quite distant fields and subfields to help develop his/her own research even further with the aid of this multi-dimensional network.

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