

Special Issue

Innovations in Meat Science: Quality Optimization, Sensory Assessment and Sustainable Processing Technologies

Message from the Guest Editors

Recent advances are transforming the field by combining cutting-edge technology with traditional practices to address modern challenges. Breakthroughs in genomic selection and nutritional interventions are improving meat quality traits, including tenderness, marbling, and nutritional content, while novel processing methods such as high-pressure processing are being adopted to extend shelf life. Meanwhile, emerging tools in sensory science, including AI-driven flavor profiling and hyperspectral imaging, are also providing deeper insights into consumer preferences and enabling data-driven product development. At the same time, sustainability is being redefined through innovations in waste valorization, where byproducts are transformed into high-value ingredients, and through energy-efficient systems that reduce the environmental impact of meat production. These multifaceted approaches collectively aim at cost reduction, sensory experience authenticity, nutritional fortification and minimizing environmental footprint through hybrid product development, with the goal of reshaping a diversified and sustainable protein supply chain in the future.

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Deadline for manuscript submissions

20 April 2026



Foods

an Open Access Journal
by MDPI

Impact Factor 5.1
CiteScore 8.7
Indexed in PubMed



mdpi.com/si/251812

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Message from the Editor-in-Chief

Foods (ISSN 2304-8158) is an open access and peer reviewed scientific journal that publishes original articles, critical reviews, case reports, and short communications on food science. Articles are released monthly online, with unlimited free access. Currently, *Foods* has been indexed by the Science Citation Index Expanded (SCIE - Web of Science), PubMed, and Scopus. Our aim is to encourage scientists, researchers, and other food professionals to publish their experimental and theoretical results as much detail as possible. We therefore invite you to be one of our authors, and in doing so share your important research findings with the global food science community.

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