WORLD ASSOCIATION for ANIMAL PRODUCTION

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The World Animal Science News

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EDITORIAL

Livestock and biodiversity.

The importance of species extinction is now recognized worldwide and even if its full consequences on human societies remain largely unknown, we all understand that our lives as human beings are in danger over the long or even medium term. The planet has known several mass extinctions during its history and some may argue that the next one, resulting from excess pressure of human societies on nature, will have major consequences for the planet. The planet has survived in the past, but generally not the most populous or dominant species at that time. Preservation of biodiversity is not only an ethical question, but also a survival question for humanity. Agriculture, as the main user of lands, and fisheries as the main users of oceans, are generally designated as those that are responsible of this rapid degradation. But the truth is that we all, consumers and citizens as well as farmers and fishermen, bear a large part of the responsibility for the upcoming mass species extinction.

From an ethical point of view, I recognize that humans have the choice to discard various species they have defined as "pests" or even to kill some of them in the agricultural systems when they completely impair production, but certainly not to eradicate completely the considered species from the surface of the globe. As Darwin taught us, the creation of a species is a complex phenomenon that originates from the selection in a specific environment, of individuals better adapted to that environment. This means, and this is the irony and the poetry of Life, that we absolutely need to have a species in order to create, better to obtain, a new one. When considering livestock species and breeds, humans also have a very strong ethical responsibility to preserve their biodiversity. We have a moral imperative to preserve livestock biodiversity. This biodiversity was developed as much as 10 000 years ago for most of these animals and should be valued and preserved by Society as is done for the old pyramids of ancient Egypt, or of Yucatan, or of Angkhor. This preservation of biodiversity of livestock species has been understood and advocated by international organizations such as FAO for many years.

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Editorial (continues)

But this moral duty is also strongly associated with our immediate, medium and long-term interest in animal production, which means that this is critical for the common good of humanity as well as a socio-economical interest for farmers. As with the historical sites mentioned above, the process must start with a precise inventory of the various breeds existing around the world and of their main characteristics which may be of interest in the future. We should not consider that this preservation is expensive. This is because first, it is not expensive when compared to the cumulative income that genetic progress has brought to farmers, and second because it allows the maintenance of a large pool of genes and alleles which may be of interest to future generations. This is not only theoretical as we have good examples in pigs where the genes for high prolificacy in Chinese breeds were introduced into modern lines to improve productivity or where genes for intramuscular fat were re-introduced into modern lines to improve meat quality.

The best way to preserve these local breeds is to maintain them in their initial environment where they have been selected and bred for millennia, which means that the farmers who raise them should continue their livelihood from these species. In many of these systems, the main problem in maintaining these lines of animals is the economic competition from animal products coming from industrial farms implanted in nearby areas. If the products coming from the local breeds are not sufficiently competitive, then it would be reasonable to financially support those farmers maintaining breeds or species of interest for the preservation of livestock biodiversity. And it also seems reasonable to me, that the funding for farm animal species preservation come as a portion of the income from those industries which profit from that genetic biodiversity. This would provide a sort of insurance for future programs aimed at preserving critical domestic animal biodiversity. Thankfully, this preservation of our domestic livestock breeds is underway and my purpose here is to encourage policy makers and farmers, as well as the industry, to increase their efforts.

The second main domain where livestock is involved in the preservation of biodiversity and which is actually at the forefront of the work, is the interaction between livestock systems and natural biodiversity. This is also a theme that is ongoing due to the links between natural biodiversity and potential zoonoses and reinforced by the recent COVID-19 crisis. As an example, intensive production systems are accused of being responsible, in part, for deforestation, especially on the borders of the Amazonian forest where livestock feeds are produced in lands reconverted from the tropical forest. This is partly true and one of the solutions, instead of importing and consuming soya cakes in intensive pig, poultry or beef farms of western countries, is probably to develop the cultivation of proteaginous plants in these same countries to feed these animals. This may also allow these systems to close the Nitrogen cycles locally and reduce Nitrogen pollution, instead of wasting this useful element, and reduce their Carbon footprint by using local feeds. On the contrary, extensive systems that use pasture may be a positive key element for preservation of natural biodiversity if it is integrated in these systems. In that case, natural biodiversity should be included as one of the "products" of these livestock systems, first by measuring the impact on biodiversity and second, by asking local authorities to fund biodiversity initiatives in order to insure preservation of critical species. This is not easy, of course, and will take a while to be incorporated into such extensive systems on a large scale. But we also have very good examples where flowers, insects, birds and wildlife are better preserved when livestock are integrated with crops and forestry. Moreover, this promotes Carbon neutrality at the same time by storing Carbon in soils and wood.

Preserving biodiversity is thus a challenge for our societies but I am convinced that preserving livestock biodiversity for future generations will be very helpful on a global scale as livestock have been heavily integrated into our natural world since their domestication some millennia ago.

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From WAAP Members

American Dairy Science Association® (ADSA®)

2020 ADSA Virtual meeting 22-24 June

The 2020 ADSA Virtual Annual Meeting took place in homes and offices around the world. It was a completely new experience organized in a very short time after the Corona outbreak forced to do so. Over 2,300 individuals registered for this year's meeting making it one of the largest scientific dairy meetings ever. Registration gave access to live stream sessions, prerecorded oral and poster presentations, virtual exhibits and post-meeting access to recordings of all the sessions.
This year's meeting featured more than 100 hours of programming delivered through nearly 900 scientific presentations, panel discussions with live Q&A, live roundtable discussions available in several time zones, an exhibit hall, additional networking opportunities, and student competitions. It focused on meaningful and interesting discussions about the latest dairy science and its applications. An evaluation of this first virtual annual meeting as a new experience will take place.

Rich Erdman, PhD, named President of ADSA

Rich Erdman, retired professor and former chair of the Animal and Avian Sciences Department at the University of Maryland, assumed the role of president of the American Dairy Science Association® during the 2020 ADSA Virtual Annual Meeting held in June for one year. Erdman served as vice president of the organization for the past year. He was born and raised on a dairy farm near Fort Atkinson, Wisconsin. Erdman's research focus has been on nutrition of the lactating dairy cow and the influence of diet on milk composition. He succeeded Dr. Rafael Jimenez-Flores, who was ADSA President for the period 2019-2020.

Announcing the launch of a new journal, JDS Communications



JDS Communications, a new gold open access journal from the American Dairy Science Association®, invites you to submit your research. An official publication of ADSA®, JDS Communications is being launched in response to the rapid growth of Journal of Dairy Science® (JDS) over the past decade.
JDS Communications is an open access, peer-reviewed journal that publishes short, concise original research that relates to the production and processing of milk or milk products intended for human consumption. As incoming editor in chief Matthew Lucy, said ": I'd like to welcome you to submit papers to our new journal. It will offer a fresh and different publication option for dairy scientists. We are interested in high-quality research studies that are focused, hypothesis-driven, and designed to answer a specific question on the production or processing of milk or milk products intended for human consumption. We aim for rapid turnaround and a short time to publication".

As of **August 18, 2020**, the Journal of Dairy Science® (JDS) will no longer receive new submissions for short communications, hot topics, or technical notes. Instead, these article types will go to JDS Communications. Authors who have an article submitted to JDS and in review will be offered the opportunity to publish their article with JDS or move it to JDS Communications. JDS Communications is waiving the open access charges for the first 25 articles published in JDS Communications as an incentive to our inaugural authors.

The initial editorial team will consist of Matthew Lucy (University of Missouri), editor in chief and Physiology section editor; MaryAnne Drake (North Carolina State), Dairy Foods section editor; Pam Ruegg (Michigan State), Health, Behavior, and Well-Being section editor; Jennie Pryce (Agriculture Victoria & La Trobe University), Genetics section editor; and John Roche (NZ Ministry for Primary Industries), Animal Nutrition and Farm Systems section editor.

Journal of Dairy Science® Impact Factor increases to 3.333

According to new statistics released in Clarivate Analytics' Journal Citation Reports®, the Impact Factor for the Journal of Dairy Science (JDS) increased eight percent compared with last year. As a measure that quantifies the average number of citations over a specific period, the Impact Factor gives authors one tool to assess the quality of scientific journals. As such, the increase in JDS's Impact Factor from 3.082 to 3.333 is significant for the journal. An Impact Factor of 3.333 places JDS fifth out of 63 journals in the Agriculture, Dairy, and Animal Science category, where the median Impact Factor is 1.333. The journal published 20 percent of all articles in the category and had more than 53,000 citations in 2019 to content published in 2017 and 2018. The journal also received its highest 5-year Impact Factor (3.432), indicating that articles in JDS continue to be cited well beyond the immediate 2-year period following publication. In the Food Science and Technology category, where the median Impact Factor is 2.095, JDS is ranked 37th out of 139 journals.

39th ADSA Discover Conference - The Transition Period - From Physiology to Management October 26-29, 2020 Eaglewood Resort & Spa

This 39th ADSA Discover Conference will focus on scientific advancements made in the last 10 years and feature discussion of unanswered questions and controversies about the transition period. Small group discussions will be woven into the program, including focused discussions with the speakers. The program will bridge from the fundamental science to its application.
Conference Topics include: Physiology; Inflammation and Immune Function; Management and Feeding; Monitoring and Analysis; Health.
Registration postmarked by September 28, 2020 is $375 for ADSAARPAS members and $425 for non-members, which includes sessions and most meals.

40th ADSA Discover Conference - NASEM Nutrient Requirements of Dairy Cattle, June 1-4, 2021, Eaglewood Resort & Spa

The National Academies of Sciences, Engineering, and Medicine (NASEM, previously known as NRC) anticipates the 2021 release the 8th revised edition of the "Nutrient Requirements of Dairy Cattle".
This 40th ADSA Discover Conference will focus on the scientific advancements in dairy cattle feeding used in revising the 2001 edition. NASEM subcommittee members will address the substantive changes in the nutrient requirements and the conceptual approaches used to make those changes.
Conference Topics Include: Feed Intake, Fats, Carbohydrates and Energy; Proteins and Amino Acids; Minerals, Vitamins and Water; Dry Cows, Calves and Replacement Heifers; Application of the New Requirements
Registration postmarked by April 30, 2021 is $375 for ADSA-ARPAS members and $425 for non-members, which includes sessions and most meals.

41st ADSA Discover Conference - Health management of calves: from intrauterine life to successful weaninga

This 41st ADSA Discover Conference will explore the many changes in dairy calf management practices, and research conducted over the last decade. A poster session will be included to allow participants to share and discuss research findings. Further details will be announced in the near future.

2021 ADSA Meeting

Part of the ADSA symposia planned at the West Palm Beach meeting 2020 was the EAAP / ADSA Symposium: Limits in Production Growth on Level of Cow, Farm, and Industry, concerning physiological, genetic, management, and environmental aspects. Because of cancelling of the live meeting, this symposium is moved to the ADSA 2021 meeting. Next ADSA Annual meeting will be held in Louisville, Kentucky on July 11-14th 2021. The meeting has been scheduled to partly overlap with the American Society of Animal Science (ASAS). Meeting overlap day with some joint programming is planned to be July 14th, 2021. Details will be available in the meeting area of the website as they are finalized.

European Federation of Animal Science (EAAP)

Stay tuned with EAAP for the 2020 on-line annual meeting

The registration for the first EAAP on-line annual meeting will be open soon and then you will be able to participate to full 4 days (December 1st – 4th) programme of inspiring sessions in the framework of animal science. EAAP will provide enhanced digital contents that will give participants greater access to learning, sharing and networking. All accepted papers at the virtual EAAP conference will be presented in the safest and enjoyable modes. Questions and Answers sessions will follow each paper presentation. Virtual Poster Presentation Sessions will also be held. Networking Opportunities will be organized, as well as special opportunities for exhibitors. All accepted papers will be included in the Book of Abstracts. Please follow the news about the EAAP virtual meeting in our website, social media, newsletter, emails to get updated about how to participate to this exciting virtual meeting. Stay tuned!

Animal open access



'animal' the monthly international journal of animal bioscience, is delighted to announce they have entered into a partnership with leading global publisher Elsevier, to move to a Gold Open Access model. This means that from the 1st January 2021 all future published articles and all archived articles, once re-digitised, will be shared worldwide. Read the full announcement here.

Insects New website

EAAP Insects Study Commission new website online! We are proud to announce that the new website of EAAP Insects Study Commission is online! Keep yourself constantly updated about news and events from the world of Animal Science! Have a look here: http://insects.eaap.org/

Latin American Association of Animal Production (ALPA)

Updates from Latin American Association of Animal Production (ALPA)

Carta Aérea: the information strategy is resumed

through a Carta Aérea with N° 6 for this period; sharing at LATAM level and of all the Associations that comprise it (16 in total).

Postponed meeting: the XXVII ALPA Meeting that was going to take place in Bogotá, Colombia was suspended; due to the pandemic, and it is expected to provide a webinar as a substitute in October 2020.

ALPA Website Change: due to the operational difficulties of the server in Venezuela, and with the support of the Uruguayan Association of Animal Production (AUPA), ALPA was able to have a server in that country. The page is now at http://www.alpa.uy

Appointment of Editor-in-Chief of ALPA Journal: appointment of Dr. Ali Saadoun, PhD, as Editor-in-Chief of the Journal Latin American Archives of Animal Production.

Creation of Dr. Paul F. Randel Award: the Board of Directors to tribute Dr. Paul F. Randel, who in life dedicated himself to teaching at the University of Puerto Rico, Mayagüez Campus, and who was the founding Editor-in-Chief of the ALPA journal, created an award on his name for the best student research-work presented at these meetings.

ALPA participation in the 71st EAAP Annual Meeting: in accordance with the agreed EAAP-ALPA and due to change the date of EAAP, the original speaker will not be able to appear. The Board of Directors presents two speakers for consideration: Tamara Tadich Gallo, PhD (Chile), specialist in animal welfare and Pablo Chilibroste Symonds, PhD (Uruguay), specialist in sustainable animal production, dairy.

Next book presentation: under the auspices of ALPA and with the support of the Chief Editor of Editorial Universitaria of Universidad de Colima (Mexico), the book "Tecnologías sociales en producción pecuaria de América Latina y el Caribe" (Social Technologies in Livestock Production in Latin America and the Caribbean) has been prepared. In this book they participated, as Latin American authors, adding their research experience in livestock, consolidated efforts to generate this book.

Direct link with National Associations: to reactivate direct relations with each association, including in work management, advertising information, among others.

Nigerian Society for Animal Production (NSAP)

2021 NSAP Conference Host

Federal University Dutsin-MA (FUDMA) Katsina in Katsina state North west Nigeria will be hosting the 2021 annual conference of the Nigeria Society for Animal Production. The conference will be supported and co-hosted by organizations and institutions such as TETFUND, Hassan Usman Katsina Polytechnic, Federal College of Education Katsina and Isa Kaita College of Education Dutsin-Ma. The conference is billed to come up from 14th to 18th March, 2021.

Conference Theme: "Animal Production: a panacea for revamping Nigeria's ailing economy and insecurity in the post pandemic era"

Prof. L.A. Saulawa and **Dr M. G. Garba** of the Animal Science Department Federal University Dutsin-Ma Katsina will serve as the Chairman and Secretary of the local organizing committee.

Conference Address
Dutsin-Ma 2021 NSAP Conference
Department of Animal Science
Federal University Dutsin-Ma, Katsina

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South African Society for Animal Science (SASAS)

52nd SASAS Annual Congress postponed

Because of the national state of disaster announced by the President Cyril Ramaphosa, the 2020 SASAS Congress that was to be held at the CSIR International Convention Centre in Pretoria, South Africa from 20–21 July this year will be postponed to 2021. Please keep an eye on the official congress website for updates.

News from Science

How pasture access impacts cow welfare



Access to pasture or an alternative outdoor area is important - and scientists from Canada note that this can be an aspect of welfare that may be overlooked. Read the full article on DairyGlobal.

Gene editing offers avenues to end castration



New gene editing developments could be moving the global pork industry closer to the end of pig castration. Especially in the European Union, this leads to an interesting discussion as gene editing is still not permitted. Will the possibility of 'solving' the boar taint issue change that? Read the full article on PigProgress.

News from Industry

Farm visit South Africa: Staying positive in times of challenges



Battling power cuts and poor national pork consumption rates are just two of the challenges South African pig farmer CP Kriek faces each week on his farm. However, maximising efficiency by investing in new technology and modernising ageing pig housing is helping Kriek control his costs in the constant fight for profit. Read the full article on PigProgress.

Chicken buyers most open to meat alternatives



Poultry farmers are facing increasing pressure from vegetarians and vegans, particularly among the health and environmentally-aware younger generation. Poultry World looks at the issues and the response of the poultry sector. Read the full article on PoultryWorld.

Global methane levels soar to record high

Annual emissions of the greenhouse gas have risen by almost 10% in the past two decades, driven by agriculture and the gas industry. Global methane emissions have risen nearly 10% over the past two decades, resulting in record-high atmospheric concentrations of the powerful greenhouse gas. Read the full article on Nature.

Job Offers

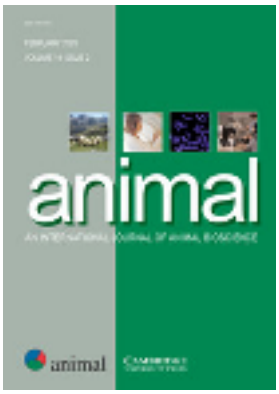
Research Associate III -Gender at ILRI in Hanoi, Vietnam

The International Livestock Research Institute (ILRI) is looking for a Research Associate -Gender to coordinate the design and implement gender components of various projects in ILRI, Hanoi Office, Vietnam. Deadline: **30th July 2020**. For more information and application read the job vacancy.

Publications

1. Cambridge University Press

Animal:Volume 14- Issue 7 – July 2020
Article of the month "Metabolic hormones, grazing behaviour, offspring physical distance and productive response of beef cow grazing at two herbage allowances"



2. New technical articles have been recently published on Engormix:

"Pulses and their by byproducts as animal feed". Sherasia et Al., 2017

3. New technical articles have been recently published on Engormix:

I. "Pellet Quality and Nutrient Segregation on the Farm"

II. "Management of Mycotoxins in Raw Materials Intended for Pet Food"

III. "Robotic Automation and Its Role in Milk Production"

Meetings and Conferences

EAAP invites you to check the validity of the dates for every single event **published below and in the Calendar of the website**, due to the state of sanitary emergency that World is currently dealing with.

December 1st – 4th, 2020

EAAP 2020 Virtual Meeting

The COVID-19 pandemic did not stop our determination to disseminate knowledge on the latest discoveries related to Animal Science! The EAAP 2020 Annual Meeting will be held virtually from December 1st to 4th. More information coming soon. Stay tuned!

September 23rd – 25th, 2020 in Padova, Italy

28th International Symposium "Animal Science Days" – Virtual Meeting

The 28th International Symposium "Animal Science Days" (ASD2020) – "Future Perspectives in Animal Production" will be held virtually from 23rd to 25th September 2020. For more information, including the invited speakers, please visit the ASD2020 website.

Third week of June 2021 in Bled, Slovenia

Joint meeting EAAP Mountain Livestock Farming & FAO-CIHEAM Mountain Pasture

The Joint Meeting of EAAP Mountain Livestock Farming Working Group & FAO-CIHEAM Mountain Pasture Sub-Network "Mountains are agroecosystems for people" has been postponed due to the COVID-19 outbreak. The meeting will take place during the third week of June 2021. The location (Bled, Slovenia) and the meeting formula (three days between Monday 14 and Friday 18 June) will not change. The exact date of the meeting, as well as the new deadlines, will be published during autumn on the meeting website and in the EAAP Newsletter.

CHANGE DATE: October 27th – 28th, 2020 in Frankfurt, Germany

7th International Akademie Fresenius - Feed Conference

The Feed Conference "Feed Additives, Animal Nutrition, Gut Health, Antimicrobial Resistance" organized by Die Akademie Fresenius, has been postponed and will take place on 27th - 28th October 2020 in Frankfurt, Germany. The complete program is available here. For more information visit the Akademie Fresenius website.

CHANGE DATE: October 21st – 22nd 2021, Paris, France

2nd Aminoacid Academy Workshop

The 2nd Amino Acid Academy, organized by EAAP and Ajinomoto Animal Nutrition Europe, has been postponed due to the COVID-19 pandemic. The Academy will take place on the 21st and 22nd October 2021 in Paris, France. The location remains the same – the Grand Amphitheatre of the National Museum of Natural History. Stay tuned for more information in the upcoming months and save the date!

September 23rd – 24th 2021 in Balotesti, Romania

16th International Symposium of Animal Biology and Nutrition

The 16th edition of the International Symposium of Animal Biology and Nutrition, organized by the National Institute for Research Development in Biology and Animal Nutrition (IBNA), will be held in Balotesti on September 23rd and 24th 2021. More information is available on IBNA symposium webpage.

More conferences and workshops are available on EAAP website.

The **World Animal Science News** is the Official WAAP Newsletter. This interesting update about activities of the global animal science community presents information on leading research institutions in the entire world and also informs on developments in the industry sector related to animal science and production. The Newsletter is sent to all WAAP member organizations and to their associates. You are all invited to submit information for the newsletter. Please send information, news, text, photos and logo to waap@waap.it .

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