Cognition, Emotion, and Personality in Pigs—Implications in Welfare Issues

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Message from the Guest Editors

Dear Colleagues,

Somewhere in the Middle East, 9000 to 10,000 years B.C., humans and pigs began to interact and cooperate. Our relationship with this fascinating animal has greatly varied over time. The pig became a pariah species where it was first domesticated, whereas it underwent intensive breeding in other countries. Even there, most people associate pigs with dirtiness, thus allowing to treat this animal as a thing. This commodification of a sensitive living being is, nowadays, unbearable. One of the ways to make people more conscious about animals is certainly to make them aware of their sensitivity, emotions, and cognition. Our understanding of the pig's world—the pig's way to detect, understand, and classify it—and sophisticated social life has dramatically improved over the last 25 years. The goal of this Special Issue is to merge all recent research in the abovementioned fields so to effectively present lesser-known features of pigs and make a significant contribution to support the improvement of pigs' breeding conditions and thus of their welfare.

Special Issue

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Message from the Editor-in-Chief

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