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Environmental Sustainability of Dairy Animal Systems

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Deadline for manuscript submissions:
closed (25 June 2023)

Message from the Guest Editor

Dear Colleagues,

Public opinion around environmental issues related to livestock systems has been receiving increasing attention in recent years, with consumers becoming increasingly sensitive to the environmental sustainability of products of animal origin. The main environmental impacts attributable to the dairy sector, mainly associated with farming operations, concern the release of pollutants into water and air and the consumption of natural resources such as water and soil.

One of the main, and most debated, impacts concerns the emissions of greenhouse gases (GHG) into the atmosphere. Methane (CH4) is the main greenhouse gas emitted from dairy farming as a consequence of rumen fermentation and manure management. Nitrous oxide, ammonia, and nitrates are nitrogen-based pollutants contributing to environmental issues.

In the last decade, several studies have already highlighted solutions to mitigate these impacts; however, in the face of a growing demand for dairy products as a result of increased global population and changes in food habits, research is needed to further reduce environmental pressure and improve the sustainability of dairy systems.

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Message from the Editor-in-Chief

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