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## Maternal Influence on Animal Health and Performance

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Deadline for manuscript  
submissions:

**closed (31 January 2022)**

### Message from the Guest Editor

Dear Colleagues,

The pre- and post-natal environment can have a marked impact on the growth and development of young animals. Maternal nutrition, the reproductive microbiome, hormonal dynamics, gene expression patterns, and the degree of innate immune protection across the placental barrier all differ by species, breed, and animal. Some, such as innate immune protection, are driven by the physiology of the uterus and placenta.

For ruminants, consumption of high-quality colostrum is the only way for neonates to acquire antibodies through passive transfer of immunity. Not doing so will likely result in death. Though the majority of research has focused on immune components in colostrum, there are many additional components in colostrum that are integral to gut development and health that have yet to be fully explored. The purpose of this special issue is to explore the environmental influences that impact conception, gestation, parturition, and the periparturient period and the subsequent effects on neonatal health and performance.



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# Special Issue



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## Message from the Editor-in-Chief

*Animals* is an on-line open access journal that was first published in 2011. *Animals* adheres to rigorous peerreview and editorial processes and publishes only high quality manuscripts that address important issues in the many varied disciplines that involve animals, with a focus on animal science, animal welfare and animal ethics. *Animals* is covered in the Science Citation Index Expanded (SCIE) in Web of Science, with the latest Impact Factor: 3.0 (2022, ranks 12 /62 (Q1) in ‘Agriculture, Dairy & Animal Science’; 13/143 (Q1) in ‘Veterinary Sciences’), 5-Year Impact Factor: 3.2.

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