DESCRIPTION

Animal Feed Science and Technology is a unique journal publishing scientific papers of international interest focusing on animal feeds and their feeding.

Papers describing research on feed for ruminants and non-ruminants, including poultry, horses, companion animals and aquatic animals, are welcome.

The journal covers the following areas:

- Nutritive value of feeds (e.g., assessment, improvement)
- Methods of conserving and processing feeds that affect their nutritional value
- Agronomic and climatic factors influencing the nutritive value of feeds
- Utilization of feeds and the improvement of such Metabolic, production, reproduction and health responses, as well as potential environmental impacts, of diet inputs and feed technologies (e.g., feeds, feed additives, feed components, mycotoxins)
- Mathematical models relating directly to animal-feed interactions
- Analytical and experimental methods for feed evaluation
- Environmental impacts of feed technologies in animal production

The journal does not encourage papers with emphasis on animal products, molecular biology, genetics or management, or the regulatory or legal aspects of feeds as well as animal production studies with a focus on animal nutrition that do not have a direct link to a feed or feed technology.

Manuscripts must be prepared in accordance with the journal's Guide for Authors. Before preparing their manuscript, it is suggested that authors examine the following editorials by the Editors-in-Chief:


For an example of a sample manuscript click here.
AUDIENCE
Animal Scientists, Crop Scientists, Feed Manufacturers, Feed Additive Producers.

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Herbage Abstracts
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GUIDE FOR AUTHORS

INTRODUCTION

Types of article
1. Original Research Papers (Regular Papers)
2. Review Articles
3. Short Communications
4. Book Reviews

Original Research Papers should report the results of original research. The material should not have been previously published elsewhere, except in a preliminary form.

Review Articles should cover subjects falling within the scope of the journal which are of active current interest.

A Short Communication is a concise but complete description of a limited investigation, which will not be included in a later paper. Short Communications should be as completely documented, both by reference to the literature and description of the experimental procedures employed, as a regular paper. They should not occupy more than six printed pages (about 12 manuscript pages, including figures, tables and references).

Book Reviews will be included in the journal on a range of relevant books which are not more than two years old. Book reviews will be solicited by the Book Review Editor. Unsolicited reviews will not usually be accepted, but suggestions for appropriate books for review may be sent to the Book Review Editor:

Professor G. Flachowsky
Federal Research Centre of Agriculture
Institute of Animal Nutrition
Bundesallee 50
D-38116 Braunschweig
Germany

Manuscripts describing the use of commercial feed products are welcome, but should include the following information: major components, contents of active ingredients (for example enzyme activities). Independent verification, as opposed to a manufacturers guarantee, is always desirable and often avoids difficulties in the review process, especially where there are no, or few, treatment impacts. The Editors reserve the right to reject any manuscript employing such products, wherein this information is not disclosed.

Submissions concerning feedstuff composition are welcome when published and/or accepted analytical procedures have been employed. However, unusual feedstuffs and/or a wide range of data are pre-requisites.

Submissions concerning NIRS may be suitable when more accurate, precise or robust equations are presented. Mathematical, technical and statistical advancement, may constitute the foundation for acceptance. For more details see the editorial in Vol. 118/3-4.

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- Include keywords
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**Supplemental files (where applicable)**

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- Manuscript has been 'spell checked' and 'grammar checked'
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- A competing interests statement is provided, even if the authors have no competing interests to declare
- Journal policies detailed in this guide have been reviewed
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**BEFORE YOU BEGIN**

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**Reporting sex- and gender-based analyses**

**Reporting guidance**

For research involving or pertaining to humans, animals or eukaryotic cells, investigators should integrate sex and gender-based analyses (SGBA) into their research design according to funder/sponsor requirements and best practices within a field. Authors should address the sex and/or gender dimensions of their research in their article. In cases where they cannot, they should discuss this as a limitation to their research's generalizability. Importantly, authors should explicitly state what definitions of sex and/or gender they are applying to enhance the precision, rigor and reproducibility of their research and to avoid ambiguity or conflation of terms and the constructs to which they refer (see Definitions section below). Authors can refer to the Sex and Gender Equity in Research (SAGER) guidelines and the SAGER guidelines checklist. These offer systematic approaches to the use and editorial review of sex and gender information in study design, data analysis, outcome reporting and research interpretation - however, please note there is no single, universally agreed-upon set of guidelines for defining sex and gender.

**Definitions**

Sex generally refers to a set of biological attributes that are associated with physical and physiological features (e.g., chromosomal genotype, hormonal levels, internal and external anatomy). A binary sex categorization (male/female) is usually designated at birth ("sex assigned at birth"), most often based solely on the visible external anatomy of a newborn. Gender generally refers to socially constructed roles, behaviors, and identities of women, men and gender-diverse people that occur in a historical and cultural context and may vary across societies and over time. Gender influences how people view themselves and each other, how they behave and interact and how power is distributed in society. Sex and gender are often incorrectly portrayed as binary (female/male or woman/man) and unchanging whereas these constructs actually exist along a spectrum and include additional sex categorizations and gender identities such as people who are intersex/have differences of sex development (DSD) or identify as non-binary. Moreover, the terms "sex" and "gender" can be ambiguous—thus it is important for authors to define the manner in which they are used. In addition to this definition guidance and the SAGER guidelines, the resources on this page offer further insight around sex and gender in research studies.

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Use past tense for current findings, and the present tense for "truths" and hypotheses.

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Manuscripts should have numbered lines, with wide margins and double spacing throughout, i.e. also for abstracts, footnotes and references. Every page of the manuscript, including the title page, references, tables, etc., should be numbered continuously. However, in the text no reference should be made to page numbers; if necessary, one may refer to sections. Avoid excessive usage of italics to emphasize part of the text.

**Introduction**

State the objectives of the work and provide an adequate background, avoiding a detailed literature survey or a summary of the results.
Material and methods

Provide sufficient details to allow the work to be reproduced by an independent researcher. Methods that are already published should be summarized, and indicated by a reference. If quoting directly from a previously published method, use quotation marks and also cite the source. Any modifications to existing methods should also be described.

If reference is made to AOAC, ISO or similar analytical procedure(s), the specific procedure identification number(s) must be cited. A number of references for neutral and acid detergent fibre (NDF, ADF) assays exist, and an alternative reference to the now out-of-print USDA Agriculture Handbook 379 must be used. There are many options for NDF and ADF assays (e.g. sodium sulfite, alpha amylase, residual ash), which must be specified in the text. For more details see the editorial in Vol. 118/3-4.

The following definitions should be used, as appropriate:

a. aNDFom-NDF assayed with a heat stable amylase and expressed exclusive of residual ash.
b. NDFom-NDF not assayed with a heat stable amylase and expressed exclusive of residual ash.
c. aNDF-NDF assayed with a heat stable amylase and expressed inclusive of residual ash.
d. NDF-NDF assayed without a heat stable amylase and expressed inclusive of residual ash.
e.ADFom-ADF expressed exclusive of residual ash.
f. ADF-ADF expressed inclusive of residual ash.
g. Lignin (sa)-Lignin determined by solubilization of cellulose with sulphuric acid.
h. Lignin (pm)-Lignin determined by oxidation of lignin with permanganate.

While expressions of NDF and ADF inclusive of residual ash will continue to be acceptable (i.e., the terms aNDF, NDF and ADF above), the Editors-in-Chief highly recommend reporting all fibre values, including digestibilities, on an OM basis. Silica is partially soluble in ND, is quantitatively recovered in AD, and so may contribute to the ‘fibre’ values and to subsequent digestibility coefficients.

Reporting 'hemicellulose' values as the difference between NDF and ADF is generally only acceptable if the analyses have been sequential on the same sample. Crude fibre (CF), nitrogen-free extract (NFE) and total digestible nutrients (TDN) are not acceptable terms for describing feeds and should only be referred to in a historical context.

Results

Results should be clear and concise.

Discussion

This should explore the significance of the results of the work, not repeat them. Avoid extensive citations and discussion of published literature. Combined 'Results and Discussion' sections are only acceptable for 'Short Communications', except under compelling circumstances.

Conclusions

The main conclusions of the study may be presented in a short Conclusions section, which may stand alone or form a subsection of a Discussion or Results and Discussion section.

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**Abstract**
The abstract should be clear, descriptive and not longer than 400 words. It should contain the following specific information: purpose of study; experimental treatments used; results obtained, preferably with quantitative data; significance of findings; conclusions; implications of results if appropriate.

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Although a graphical abstract is optional, its use is encouraged as it draws more attention to the online article. The graphical abstract should summarize the contents of the article in a concise, pictorial form designed to capture the attention of a wide readership. Graphical abstracts should be submitted as a separate file in the online submission system. Image size: Please provide an image with a minimum of 531 × 1328 pixels (h × w) or proportionally more. The image should be readable at a size of 5 × 13 cm using a regular screen resolution of 96 dpi. Preferred file types: TIFF, EPS, PDF or MS Office files. You can view Example Graphical Abstracts on our information site.

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Immediately after the abstract, provide a maximum of 6 keywords, using American spelling and avoiding general and plural terms and multiple concepts (avoid, for example, 'and', 'of'). Be sparing with abbreviations: only abbreviations firmly established in the field may be eligible. These keywords will be used for indexing purposes.

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Define abbreviations that are not standard in this field in a footnote to be placed on the first page of the article. Such abbreviations that are unavoidable in the abstract must be defined at their first mention there, as well as in the footnote. Ensure consistency of abbreviations throughout the article.

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Collate acknowledgements in a separate section at the end of the article before the references and do not, therefore, include them on the title page, as a footnote to the title or otherwise. List here those individuals who provided help during the research (e.g., providing language help, writing assistance or proof reading the article, etc.).

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SI or SI-derived units should be used throughout (e.g. MJ and not Kcal for energy concentrations). Concentrations should be expressed on a 'per kg' basis (w/w); however, w/v, v/v, mol/mol or M may be accepted depending on the circumstances. In addition, 'units' and 'equivalents' are acceptable. Normality should be avoided, as it may be ambiguous for certain acids. If analytical standards have been used, they should be specified by name (e.g. yeast RNA) and form (e.g. lactose monohydrate). Percents should only be used when describing a relative increase or decrease in a response. Proportions should be maximum 1.0 or ≤1.0. For more details see the editorial in Vol. 118/3-4.

Percent is only used to indicate relative changes. For composition, both w/w (often solids composition g/kg) and w/v (e.g. g/L), v/v (e.g. m/L), mol/mol or M can be accepted depending on the circumstances. Specify units (e.g. g/L) and never as percent.

Digestibility/metabolism and degradability should always be expressed as a coefficient (not %), and the content of, for example, the digestible component should be expressed as g/kg: thus, the coefficient of digestibility of dry matter is 0.8, while the content of digestible dry matter is 800g/kg. A distinction between true and apparent digestibility should be made, as well as between faecal and ileal (e.g. coefficient of total tract apparent digestibility - CTTAD). The terms 'availability' and 'bioavailability' should be avoided without definition in context.

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