Special Issue

Implication of Natural Compounds in Animal Wellbeing

Message from the Guest Editors

Medicinal plants, herbs and their extracts are increasingly being used for providing multiple health benefits in animals, notably for prophylactic purposes and therapeutic treatments. Their use was further increased to reduce the use of antibiotics and other synthetic drugs. They can adequately stimulate the local defensive responses, favorably influence resident gastrointestinal microflora, improve nutrient digestion and absorption, optimize the growth and health status protecting animals against physio-pathological disturbances. These functional properties can contribute to increase the animal wellbeing in companion animals and in food producing animals. Moreover, their use can improve the quality of livestock products. Innovative contribution on the use of natural compounds, including their preventive and therapeutic aspects, their efficacy, toxicity and safety assessment, their anti-inflammatory, immunomodulatory and antioxidant effects, as well as standardization and regulatory implications, will be considered.

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Deadline for manuscript submissions

closed (31 December 2019)



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As the premier open access journal dedicated to experimental organic chemistry, and now in its 25th year of publication, the papers published in *Molecules* span from classical synthetic methodology to natural product isolation and characterization, as well as physicochemical studies and the applications of these molecules as pharmaceuticals, catalysts and novel materials. Pushing the boundaries of the discipline, we invite papers on multidisciplinary topics bridging biochemistry, biophysics and materials science, as well as timely reviews and topical issues on cutting edge fields in all these areas.

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