

Inaugural Editorial

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As climate warming and the frequent occurrence of extreme weather continues globally, the survival and developmental environments for both animals and humans have become increasingly challenging. As stewards of the Earth, we must confront food and feed crises, address animal health issues, and strive to find ways to advance civilization. In this era of relentless exploration and development, *Animal Advances* is born.

Nanjing Agricultural University has a glorious history in journal publication. In 1935, Professor Qingsheng Luo and his colleagues founded the *Journal of Veterinary Medicine and Animal Husbandry* in Chinese. I was fortunate to serve as the Editor-in-Chief of this Chinese journal for more than ten years. However, this journal is primarily limited to China. Since China's reform and opening up, globalization and educational internationalization have become irreversible trends. Journals, particularly international ones published in English, have proliferated like bamboo shoots after a spring rain. *Horticulture Research*, an English journal of Nanjing Agricultural University is a prime example. Subsequently, *Plant Phenomics*, *BioDesign Research*, and several other international journals sponsored by various colleges of Nanjing Agricultural University have emerged and grown efficiently. However, there are still no journals dedicated to animal sciences and related fields in the university.

Globally, according to the latest selection by the Web of Science database published in June 2024, there are nearly 80 journals in the Category of 'Agriculture, Dairy, and Animal Science'. Additionally, several other new or upcoming journals are applying to enter this database. Therefore, competition among journals in the animal science field is very fierce. To establish a foothold in the area of animal science journals, we urgently need a specialized English journal focusing on the latest development in animal sciences. To fill this gap, I am pleased to announce the launch of *Animal Advances*. This journal aims to become a rigorously peer-reviewed, flagship international journal, covering significant advances in areas such as animal reproduction and breeding, genetics and genomics, nutrition and feed sciences, animal environment and welfare, poultry and pet science, aquaculture, intelligent livestock production, quality control of animal products, disease control and low-carbon feeding systems, animal physiology and animal sociology.

Animal science, a multidisciplinary and transdisciplinary field encompassing biology, ecology, veterinary medicine, genetics, sociology, and more, is advancing at an unprecedented pace. It not only concerns the health and welfare of animals but also impacts on ecological balance, biodiversity, and the sustainable future of humanity. *Animal Advances* is committed to becoming the authoritative journal in the field of animal sciences. We aim to provide a platform for global researchers, practitioners, and enthusiasts to share knowledge and exchange experiences. Our mission is to disseminate cutting-edge

research findings, showcase innovative experimental methods, discuss the most debated scientific issues, such as interdisciplinary challenges, and promote the progress and development of animal sciences.

In each issue of *Animal Advances*, you will find a rich array of content. We will publish the latest research papers, introduce the biological characteristics, behavioral habits, and ecological environments of various animals delve into new technologies and therapies in veterinary medicine, share groundbreaking advancements in animal genomics, and present successful cases of animal protection and conservation. Furthermore, we will invite experts in the field to write review articles, offering insights into the significance and impact of the latest research.

Moreover, we have a special reader interaction section and encourage you to contribute by sharing your discoveries and insights in the field of animal sciences. We believe every reader is part of this community, and your participation will make *Animal Advances* even more vibrant.

Animal Advances boasts a passionate and professionally skilled editorial team. Our editors not only possess deep knowledge of animal sciences but also have keen insight and an unwavering scientific spirit. We would like to extend our heartfelt thanks to all the editors, authors, and reviewers who have worked tirelessly for the inaugural issue, as well as to Maximum Academic Press (www.maxapress.com) for publishing the journal. It is your support and dedication that has made the launch of *Animal Advances* possible.

In the future, *Animal Advances* will continue to uphold a scientific, rigorous, and impartial attitude, keeping pace with the development of animal sciences. We are dedicated to becoming a trusted source of knowledge for animal science researchers worldwide. We look forward to witnessing every scientific breakthrough with you, sharing the joy of each discovery, and jointly advancing animal sciences to new heights.

At this new starting point, we sincerely invite everyone who loves animals and cares about animal sciences to join us on this wonderful journey. Let us explore the unknowns of the animal world and protect the beauty of nature in the name of science.

Conflict of interest

The author declares that there is no conflict of interest.



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