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Main Topics

EDITORIAL

EDITORIAL BY THE SECRETARY GENERAL

A Critical Perspective on Cultured Meat

Cultured meat is widely promoted as a revolutionary food technology, praised for its potential to reduce environmental harm, prevent animal slaughter and "feed the world". While its technical, economic and environmental merits are actively debated, one crucial aspect remains largely overlooked: food sovereignty. This is particularly important in the context of developing countries, where food is not merely a commodity but a foundation of culture, livelihood and community resilience. Beyond performance metrics, we must ask what cultured meat means for justice, autonomy and long-term sustainability in our food systems.

The dominant narrative around cultured meat focuses on efficiency and nutrient provision. Yet hunger is rarely a consequence of insufficient food production—it is the result of economic inequality. Cultured meat reflects a rich-country mindset that treats food as a packaged product rather than a social, cultural and ecological relationship. If food becomes further detached from land and tradition, consumer choice risks being reduced to a narrow range of corporate brands rather than locally rooted options.

The social implications are equally concerning. Cultured meat depends on high-tech infrastructure, patents and specialised expertise—concentrated in the hands of multinational corporations. Small-scale farmers, pastoralists and traditional producers are unlikely to access or control such technologies, increasing their marginalisation. Claims that farmers might become partners in cultured meat ventures often ignore the financial and structural barriers that make such participation unrealistic.

Food sovereignty relies on reciprocity between communities and producers. Cultured meat risks centralising power even further, allowing remote companies to source local resources while retaining decision-making authority elsewhere. Proprietary systems and intellectual property restrictions limit access to knowledge, preventing communities from governing the means of production. This erodes local expertise and weakens intergenerational knowledge transfer, undermining resilience in times of crisis. Finally, despite its "green" branding, cultured meat remains an energy-intensive, industrial process detached from natural ecosystems.

Cultured meat may offer technological innovation, but innovation alone is not enough. Before it becomes normalised as a default food solution, we must ask whether it strengthens food sovereignty—or quietly threatens it. Feeding the world is not just about producing calories; it is about protecting democracy, dignity and cultural continuity.

Andrea Rosati

EAAP
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News from EAAP

EAAP Mountain Livestock Farming System Workshop 2026

We are pleased to invite you to the Mountain Grassland and Livestock Joint Conference, taking place next year, June 15 - 17 June 2026 in Landquart (Switzerland). This unique event will provide an excellent platform to exchange knowledge on mountain farming, foster new ideas, and connect with both established and emerging colleagues working on mountain grasslands and livestock research. Participants can look forward to a rich scientific programme with inspiring presentations that address the challenges and opportunities of mountain farming systems. Beyond the sessions, the conference promises memorable experiences with Swiss specialities—not only the renowned cheese and chocolate, but also a convivial social dinner that will further strengthen networking opportunities. A highlight of the event will be the excursion into magnificent mountain landscapes, offering participants a first-hand experience of the ecosystems and practices under discussion. This combination of science, culture, and nature makes the workshop a valuable and enjoyable occasion of networking for everyone involved in mountain farming research and practice. Stay tuned with EAAP in the coming weeks for more details, including the opening of registration and abstract submission. For now, you can already find preliminary information on the official webpage.

2025 NOVUS Award winner

The NOVUS award has the goal to recognize the excellence in dairy research and innovation carried out by young scientists in the very different fields of application. The award is given by EAAP and ADSA every year and the winner is supported by NOVUS International to participate to the following year ADSA Annual Meeting, for the EAAP winner, and vice versa for the ADSA winner. In an effort to extend inclusivity, EAAP, for the past four years, has expanded the eligibility criteria, inviting all young researchers presenting scholarly papers on dairy-related subjects to partake in the selection process. The received candidatures have been meticulously curated down to by the respective Study Commissions, and then subjected to further scrutiny by a respected panel in Innsbruck during the 76th EAAP Annual Meeting. It brings EAAP immense pride to announce that the recipient of the 2025 NOVUS Award is Rebecca El Hawat (Italy). Rebecca's commendable contributions will be formally recognized during the Welcome and Award Ceremony next year, where NOVUS International will again offer their resolute support, enabling him to participate in the 2026 ADSA Annual Gathering.

Join the 30th EAAP Webinar titled: “Current and Future Challenges of Dairy and Beef Cattle”

The next EAAP Webinar titled “Current and Future Challenges of Dairy and Beef Cattle” will be held on Tuesday, October 21, at 15:00 CET. It will be organized in collaboration with the EAAP Cattle Study Commission. The webinar will be chaired by Massimo De Marchi, President of the EAAP Cattle Study Commission at the University of Padova, and Alberto Cesarani, Secretary of the EAAP Cattle Study Commission at the University of Sassari. The first presentation will be delivered by Ezequiel Luis Nicolazzi (Council on Dairy Cattle Breeding, CDCB) on “Dairy Cattle in transition: shaping the future.” Andre Garcia (Angus Genetics Inc.) will then present his talk “Beef cattle genetic improvement, an Angus perspective.” For further details and registration, please consult the webinar dedicated page here!

Novus Joins the EAAP Industry Club

We are pleased to announce that Novus has joined the EAAP Industry Club! As the leader in intelligent nutrition, Novus provides organic trace minerals, enzymes, and methionine solutions

EAAP People Portrait

Moschos Korasidis

Moschos Korasidis was born to farmer parents in Kea in 1962; the eldest of five siblings. Kea is a small island in the Cyclades, with no more than 1700 permanent residents. Despite its small size, the island has rich livestock farming tradition; raising cattle and sheep was the main occupation of the population until tourism began to displace agricultural production and residents gradually abandoned the primary sector. Kea was also known throughout Greece for its breed of cow, "Kea's", a cross between local population and the Swiss Brown ("Braunvieh") Alpine breed from Switzerland. The local "Kea's" cow breed was acclimatized to the dry-thermal environment of the Cyclades and produced satisfactory quantities of meat and milk, and likewise for the local breeds of goats and sheep. Beekeeping has also been very popular in Kea, since ancient times: the mythical hero Aristaeus, who taught beekeeping and honey-making to the ancient Greeks, was supposed to have moved to Kea after his son's death. Aristaeus appears in ancient coins of Kea. Read the complete profile here.

Science and Innovation

The sound use of experimental hypotheses in animal science

In animal science, many studies are conducted without clearly formulated hypotheses, which weakens the link between research aims, experimental design, and interpretation. A good hypothesis should be explicit, modest, testable, and falsifiable, providing a solid foundation for rigorous scientific inquiry. Well-structured hypotheses help ensure that studies are coherent and logically developed, improving both their scientific value and their practical applicability. Moreover, clarifying hypotheses enhances transparency, reproducibility, and the quality of statistical reporting, all of which are increasingly important in modern research. This paper introduces a 10-step tool designed to guide researchers in formulating sound, hypothesis-driven studies. By following this framework, scientists can improve the robustness and credibility of their work, ultimately contributing to more reliable knowledge in animal science and fostering better alignment between theory, methodology, and interpretation. Read the full article on Animal.

Role of livestock in circular bioeconomy systems

A circular bioeconomy combines the principles of the bioeconomy and the circular economy to create sustainable, low-impact systems that maximise the efficient use of biological resources. Within this framework, livestock hold a central role by transforming agricultural by-products and materials unsuitable for human consumption into high-quality, nutrient-rich animal-sourced foods. In addition, their manure contributes to nutrient cycling as a valuable organic fertiliser, reducing reliance on synthetic inputs and closing resource loops. However, achieving a truly sustainable circular bioeconomy requires a balanced understanding of both the positive and negative environmental impacts of livestock production. While livestock contribute to food security, soil fertility, and waste

upcycling, they also generate greenhouse gas emissions and can exert pressure on land and water resources. Identifying strategies to mitigate these impacts is crucial for integrating livestock sustainably into circular bioeconomic systems. Read the full article on Animal Frontiers.

Monitoring of milking routines for dairy cows using a computer vision system: A diagnostic accuracy study

This study evaluated a computer vision system for detecting reattachment and manual removal of the milking unit, and for assessing preparation lag time in dairy routines. Using 2,917 milking observations from one farm, video analyses by the system were compared with visual inspection as the gold standard. The system showed high accuracy for reattachment (κ = 0.96) and manual removal (κ = 0.85), with excellent sensitivity, specificity, and predictive values. Preparation lag time, measured from forestripping to unit attachment, was associated with milk yield and bimodal flow curves but not milking duration. Yields were slightly higher when lag time was 90–150 s, while shorter or longer lag times reduced performance. Odds of bimodality were significantly lower with lag times under 150 s. These results show that computer vision can reliably monitor milking routines, while inappropriate lag times may impair milking efficiency. Read the full article on Journal of Dairy Science.

Effects of dietary energy and essential amino acid reduction on injuries, plumage damage, and plumage pigmentation of female slow- (Auburn) and fast-growing (B.U.T. 6) Turkey strains under organic feeding conditions

This study evaluated the impact of reduced dietary apparent metabolizable energy (AMEN) and essential amino acids (EAA) on injuries, plumage damage, and pigmentation in two female turkey strains (Auburn and B.U.T. 6). A total of 216 turkeys were fed diets with 10% lower AMEN and varying EAA levels (20–30% reductions in methionine and lysine) over four 4-week phases. B.U.T. 6 showed more plumage damage and injuries than Auburn ($P < 0.001$). Severe EAA reduction (30%) increased skin injuries, plumage damage, feather alterations, and depigmentation ($P \leq 0.010$). Genotype–feeding interactions indicated Auburn were more sensitive to reduced EAA. While pecking injuries rose with age, feather alterations and depigmentation decreased, suggesting reversibility with adequate EAA. A 20% reduction maintained growth performance without adverse effects, but reductions should be carefully managed. Wing feathers were identified as a valuable tool for monitoring amino acid status. Read the full article on Poultry Science.

News From EU

EcoGen Webinar Series – Episode 6 (Part 1)

You're invited to **EcoGen Webinar Series — Episode 6 (Part 1) on Friday, 17 October 2025 at 09:00 (CEST)** We'll dive into epigenetics, multi-omics and holistic strategies that push beyond traditional breeding—and discuss practical applications in the field.

Program highlights

• Adrián López-Catalina (RUMIGEN, INIA-CSIC): Going beyond dairy cattle genetics using the RUMIGEN epichip

• Terhi Iso-Touru (HoloRuminant, LUKE): Cell models as tools for exploring genetic resistance in dairy cattle

• Velma Tea Essi Aho (HoloRuminant, NMBU): Rumen holo-omics reveals microbial community profiles across domains of life

• Birgit Gredler-Grandl (Re-Livestock, WUR): Genomic & metagenomic selection for lower methane emission

• Luca Fontanesi (Re-Livestock, UNIBO): Metabolomics paves the way for dissecting genetic factors affecting pig metabolism and resilience

Host: Geena Cartick

To register click here! We look forward to seeing you there!

Save the Date for our next HoloRuminant Stakeholder event!

Holoruminant Stakeholder Event – Brussels, 26 November 2025

Early life • Microbiome • Methane mitigation • Transition cows

Join Holoruminant in Brussels for an interactive stakeholder event bringing together veterinarians, feed and additive producers, animal nutritionists, breeders, health and welfare experts, and policymakers. The afternoon will focus on:
- Early-life management, calf health and their links with microbial communities
- Metabolic challenges in transition cows and microbial communities
- Effect of extruded linseed on methane emissions and rumen microbiota

Participants will gain concise scientific updates, exchange experiences, and take part in a World-Café style workshop to co-create practical solutions and next steps. The event offers a unique opportunity to bridge research, policy, and practice for more sustainable livestock production.

Register here! Learn more and join the Holoruminant Stakeholder Platform.

Job Offers

Postdoctoral position at Estación Biológica de Doñana (EBD-CSIC), Seville, Spain

A 2-year postdoctoral position is available within the Horizon EU project: Values and dependence of society on pollinators (VALOR). The candidate will be part of an international effort to understand the wider role of pollinators in socioecological systems and lead the performance of the ecological analysis of empirical data collected at the EU-level. Experience with data analysis

and modelling is required. The main task is to model how different habitats depend on pollinators, their interdependencies, and to assess potential future risks using a combination of standard statistical analysis and population simulations. For more information read the job vacancy.

Postdoctoral Position at ETH Zurich, Switzerland

The Animal Nutrition Group at ETH Zurich is hiring a talented Postdoctoral Researcher or experienced Data Scientist to harness AI, machine learning, and statistical modelling on cutting-edge datasets in precision feeding, animal behaviour and welfare, multi-omics and environmental impact. A PhD in data science, computer science, applied mathematics, bioinformatics, statistics, animal science, or a related field is preferred. For more information read the job vacancy.

Career Opportunities at AU-IBAR, Kenya

AU-IBAR is recruiting qualified professionals to join its dynamic team. These positions are linked to the Peste des Petits Ruminants (PPR) Eradication Programme and the African Pastoral Markets Development Platform (APMD-Platform), which play a vital role in strengthening animal health and sustainable livestock markets across Africa, respectively.

Available Positions:

Regional Coordinator - PPR Eradication (SADC)
Regional Coordinator - PPR Eradication (IGAD)
Regional Coordinator - PPR Eradication (ECOWAS)
Regional Coordinator - PPR Eradication (ECCAS)
Monitoring and Evaluation Officer
Project Officer Expert - Livestock Markets
Project Officer Expert - Data Ecosystems
Programme Officer
Finance Officer
Communications Officer
Administrative Assistant
Closing date: **22 October 2025**. For more details and application visit the website.

Publications

- **Oxford Academicr**

Animal Frontiers, Volume 15, Issue 4, August 2025

Animal Science Podcasts

The Poultry Podcast Show: "*Commensals vs. Probiotics*", speakers Dr. Tingting Ju and Dr. Camila Marcolla

Other News

Global Participation at the 8th EAAP ISEP 2025 in Rostock-Warnemünde

From September 15 to 18, 2025, nearly 300 animal scientists from 26 countries gathered at the Baltic Sea shore in charming Rostock-Warnemünde for the 8th EAAP International Symposium on Energy and Protein Metabolism and Nutrition (ISEP 2025). Participants discussed 9 keynote lectures and more than 100 oral presentations and listened to poster pitches that accompanied a 3-day poster exhibition. Topics, ranging from protein, energy and micronutrient metabolism, nutrition and feeding behaviour to the circular economy, biomass utilisation and new research methods in the field of animal metabolism and physiology. Overall, the symposium upheld a high scientific standard while providing an inclusive platform that promoted meaningful networking among researchers at all levels. Next year, the keynote presentations will be published as review articles in *animal - the international journal of animal biosciences*. In addition, numerous innovations were presented with regard to the integration of farm animals as a component of nutrient cycling. The book of abstracts was made freely available on the ISEP website and archived for long-term access on Zenodo. A special focus of the local organizers, the Research Institute for Farm Animal Biology (FBN) in Dummerstorf, was on involving young scientists by awarding travel grants, 10 prizes for the best posters, and special networking events with renowned researchers. The convivial dinner was a joyful gathering of old and new friends and colleagues and provided the setting for strengthening existing and establishing new collaborations. The symposium ended with a preview of the 77th EAAP Annual Meeting in Hamburg in 2026 and the 9th ISEP in Canada in 2028. We thank all participants, chairpersons, keynote speakers, the EAAP International Scientific Committee for ISEP and our valued sponsors for their contribution to make ISEP 2025 a success.

The role of livestock farming in preventing wildfires

This summer, in just two European countries, Spain and Portugal, over 350,000 hectares of land went up in flames, an area equivalent to the size of the island of Mallorca. The consequences are not measured only in terms of hectares burned: entire communities have been affected, ecosystems devastated, costs already beyond 600 million euros, and massive amounts of carbon: 39.4 Mt of CO_2 emitted since the beginning of the year. Considering that a single car emits around 4 tons of CO_2 annually, this is equivalent to the emissions of nearly 10 million cars, roughly comparable

to the total annual car emissions of an entire country like the Netherlands. A disaster that repeats itself every year with increasing frequency and intensity, as reported by the Joint Research Centre of the European Commission, driven by climate change, the abandonment of farmland, and the accumulation of dry vegetation. Faced with such scenarios, the question is no longer why wildfires occur, but also how we can prevent them effectively. And this is where an often-overlooked factor comes into play: the role of livestock. Read the full article here.

Conferences & Workshops

EAAP invites you to check the validity of the dates for every single event **published below and in the Calendar of the website**.

EAAP Conferences and Webinars

Event	Date	Location	Information
EAAP-ASAS Conference on Livestock farming and the environment: emissions and solutions	19 – 21 April 2026	Azores Islands, Portugal	Website
1st Conference on Animal for Fiber	9 – 13 June 2026	Chifeng, China	Website
Mountain Grassland and Livestock Joint Conference	15 – 17 June 2026	Plantahof, Landquart Switzerland	Website

Other Conferences and Webinars

Event	Date	Location	Information
Animal AgTech Innovation Summit	16 – 17 October 2025	Amsterdam, The Netherlands	Website
ZOOTEC'25 – XXV Congresso Nacional de Zootecnia	23 – 25 October 2025	Lisboa, Portugal	Website
4th International Precision Dairy Farming Conference	3 – 5 December 2025	Ōtautahi Christchurch, New Zealand	Website

More conferences and workshops are available on EAAP website.

"As soon as you trust yourself, you will know how to live."

(Johann Wolfgang Von Goethe)

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Please also remember that individual membership is for free for residents in EAAP countries.

Click here to check and register!

Opportunities to advertise your company through the EAAP Newsletter in 2025!

Presently, the English version of the Newsletter reaches nearly 6700 animal scientists, boasting an average of certified readers ranging from 2200 to 2500 per issue. EAAP gives to industries a great opportunity to increase visibility and create a wider network!
Learn more about the special opportunities here.

The **Flash-e-News** is the Official EAAP Newsletter. This interesting update about activities of the European animal science community, presents information on leading research institutions in Europe and also informs on developments in the industry sector related to animal science and production. The Newsletter is sent to all EAAP Members and supporters. You are all invited to submit information for the newsletter. Please send information, news, text, photos and logo to: marlene@eaap.org.

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