
Editorial

Animal Organic Farming Meets Pathology

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[§]Guest Editor

Organic farming has developed unevenly throughout the world and under different regulations. Consumers regarded differently the different productions. Herbivore production was considered as a safe one due to its use of usual food (grass grazed on pastures) for these animals, until the “mad cow” public health problem arised. The situation for pig and poultry was considered as inadequate for some consumers, often on ethical grounds. Under organic farming management, prevention is highly important and pathologies are an alert that health management should be revised. The

management of diseases is particularly complicated due to the use of several categories of medecines (phytotherapy and homeopathy and also synthetic allopathic products when needed). The organic farmers need guidance from specialists of animal health and production considering the jungle of available drugs and procedures. The farmers have also their own requirements for constructing an autonomous management of health, and the first paper concentrates on the role of vets in organic animal production. A second paper deals with the construction of farmers’ knowledge and who are the advisors in cattle milk production. A third paper intends to understand how farmer may use his knowledge to detect animals in need of a treatment. The last paper concerns poultry and is concentrated on some mechanistic repercussions of organic management on production.

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