

Proceedings of the 7th International Symposium on the Nutrition of Herbivores

**Herbivore Nutrition for the
Development of Efficient, Safe and
Sustainable Livestock Production**



Plenary Paper and Poster Abstracts

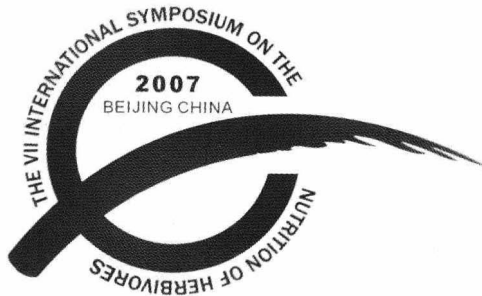
Editors:
Q.X. Meng, L.P. Ren, and Z.J. Cao



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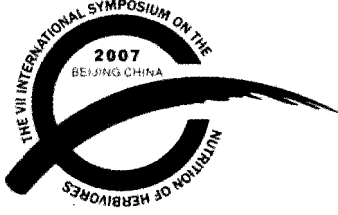
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Organized by
The Chinese Association of Animal Science and Veterinary Medicine (CAAV)

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Forward

It is my pleasure to welcome you to The Seventh International Symposium on the Nutrition of Herbivores (ISNH-7). The objectives of the International Advisory Committee (IAC) are “to provide a forum for development, exchange and promotion of knowledge on the nutrition of terrestrial herbivores in captive and free-living environments”. Managing herbivores in commercial and wildlife systems is about more than simply meeting nutrient requirements or manipulating production through nutrition, important as that is. The meeting traverses a spectrum of research which advances the nutritional sciences through novel molecular approaches to problems while promoting their application in the management of the productivity and health of herbivores and the mitigation their impact on the environment. Increasingly, the human health benefits and otherwise of animal food products are a consumer concern and special recognition of the opportunities to enhance food quality through animal nutrition is a new feature of the scope of the plenary programme.

In the current global environment herbivores, because of their unique digestive systems, come under intense scrutiny for their “contribution to greenhouse” gases. What often goes unstated is their ability to harvest biomass otherwise unavailable as a human food source without inputs of fossil fuel an attribute which surely secures their importance for the future well-being of mankind.

The breadth of scientific expertise at this conference is a unique feature of the Symposium Series. Make the most of it, and enjoy the kindness and culture of our hosts.

In this volume, you can find the plenary papers and poster abstracts presented at ISNH-7. The 6-page short papers have been published in the Journal of Animal Feed and Sciences, as special issue (Volume 16, Supplement 2, 2007).

On behalf of the International Advisory Committee, we wish to thank The Chinese Association of Animal Science and Veterinary Medicine (CAAV) for organizing this symposium in Beijing. The committee members also express their special appreciation to Dr Qingxiang Meng and his colleagues at the China Agricultural University to whom we are indebted for their magnificent work during the last 4 years in bringing this scientific programme and conference together.

Finally, we wish to thank all the participants at the symposium for their comments, questions and criticisms. Their input has resulted in significant improvements in the papers presented in this symposium.

Dr. Andrew R Sykes
Chairman
International Advisory Committee

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Contents

Plenary Papers	1
SESSION 1: The Role of Herbivores in Mixed/Integrated Agriculture and Agro-Forestry Systems in Asian Countries	1
1. Herbivores in integrated agriculture and agro-forestry in Asia. <i>J.K. Ha, J.B. Liang, M. Eslami, S.D. Upadhaya</i>	3
2. Nutrient supply and digestion in indigenous herbivores in China: yaks. <i>B. Xue, S.J. Liu, X.Q. Zhao, L.H. Hu, X.T. Han</i>	25
3. Forage, crop and tree residues integrated with herbivore production in some Asian regions. <i>Q.X. Meng, D.X. Lu, J.X. Liu, X.X. Wang, L.P. Ren</i>	53
SESSION 2: Gastrointestinal Microbial Ecology in Herbivores	73
4. Molecular approaches to study bacterial diversity and function in the intestinal tract. <i>R.I. Mackie, I.K.O. Cann, E. Zoetenda, E. Forano</i>	75
5. Recent advances in microbial ecology of protozoa and fungi in the rumen of herbivores. <i>H. Itabashi, H. Matsui</i>	109
6. Diversity of methanogens and their Interactions with other microorganisms in methanogenesis in the rumen. <i>W.Y. Zhu, S.Y. Mao, J.X. Liu, Y. F. Cheng, M.F. Iqba, J.K. Wang</i>	125
SESSION 3: Assimilation of Carbohydrates and Nitrogen in the Herbivore Intestine	141
7. The advances in dietary protein and carbohydrate nutrition and the microbial diversity and genomics of the rumen bacteria. <i>D.O. Krause, J.C. Plaizier, G.T. Attwood</i>	143
8. Protein metabolism in the herbivore gut: old and new perspectives. <i>R. J. Wallace, N. D. Walker</i>	159
SESSION 4: Breeding and Utilization of Forage and Grass in Herbivores	193
9. Molecular breeding for the genetic improvement of forage plants. <i>G.C. Spangenberg, J.W. Forster, T. Sawbridge, D. Edwards, U. John, A. Mouradov, K.F. Smith</i>	195
10. Bacterial genome mining to advance enzymology for plant cell wall degradation. <i>I.K.O. Cann, D. Dodd, S. K. Nair, R. I. Mackie, A. Spies</i>	213

II

11. Improving genotypes and understanding phenotypes: breeding forages for livestock and the environment. <i>M.K. Theodorou, T. Abberton, A. Kingston-Smith, M. O. Humphreys</i>	235
SESSION 5: Novel Development in Herbivore Nutrition: Molecular and Cellular Aspects	261
12. Host and intestinal microbiota negotiations in the context of animal growth efficiency. <i>H. Rex Gaskins</i>	263
13. Diet and physiological state influence gene expression in herbivores. <i>I.Cassar-Malek, C. Leroux, D. Gruffat, M. Bonnet, L. Bernard, D. Morgavi, Y. Chilliard, J.F. Hocquette</i>	271
SESSION 6: Stress Factors Associated with Herbivores Nutrition	299
14. Transdisciplinary studies of plant secondary metabolites: lessons from ecology for animal science and <i>vice versa</i> . <i>W. Foley, G. Iason, H. Makka</i>	301
15. Opportunities to control herbivore nematodes through manipulation of the grazing environment. <i>A.R. Sykes, I. Kyriazakis</i>	329
SESSION 7: Nutritional Practice	355
16. Nutritional manipulation of functional foods derived from herbivores for human nutritional benefit. <i>T.C. Wright, N.E. Odongo, N.D. Scollan, B.W. McBride</i>	357
17. Nutritional disorders in the horse. <i>R. Al Jassim</i>	397
18. Nutritional control to reduce environmental impacts of intensive dairy cattle systems. <i>J. Dijkstra, A. Bannink, J. France, E. Kebreab</i>	411
SESSION 8: Nutritional options to secure environmental and food safety based on intensive animal production systems	437
19. Antimicrobial resistance genes in livestock production systems: concepts and consequences. <i>Z.T. Yu, M. Morrison</i>	439
20. Contamination of the food chain with pathogens derived from ruminant production systems. <i>B. A. Vanselow, C. S. McSweeney</i>	457
21. Comparative greenhouse gas emissions from herbivores. <i>A.V.Klieve, D. Ouwerkerk</i>	487
Poster Abstracts	501
Index	597

Plenary Papers

SESSION 1

The Role of Herbivores in Mixed/Integrated Agriculture and Agro-Forestry Systems in Asian Countries

