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XXI International Symposium

**Animal Science Days**

September 18 – 20, 2013

Padova, Italy

**Special Issue**

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XXI International Symposium

## **Animal Science Days**

September 18 – 20, 2013

Padova, Italy

### Universities of the Pentalateral Agreement

Austria: University of Natural Resources and Life Science - BOKU, Vienna

Croatia: University of Zagreb, Faculty of Agriculture, Department of Animal Science, Zagreb;  
University of J. J. Strossmayer, Faculty of Agriculture, Osijek

Hungary: Kaposvár University, Faculty of Animal Science, Kaposvár

Italy: University of Padova

Department of Agronomy, Food, Natural Resources, Animals and Environment;

Department of Animal Medicine, Production and Health;

Department of Comparative Biomedicine and Food Science

Slovenia: University of Ljubljana, Biotechnical Faculty, Zootechnical Department, Domžale

### Under the auspices of University of Padova:

DAFNAE - Department of Agronomy, Food, Natural Resources, Animals and Environment

MAPS- Department of Animal Medicine, Production and Health

BCA - Department of Comparative Biomedicine and Food Science

PhD School in Animal and Food Science

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# Editorial Note

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The symposium Animal Science Days is a meeting of animal and related scientists mainly from Austria, Croatia, Hungary, Italy, and Slovenia but it is also open to visitors from other countries. This year meeting was the XXI. It started back in 1993 in Kaposvár, Hungary, as cooperation between University of Zagreb, Faculty of Agriculture, Department of Animal Science, Croatia, University of J. J. Strossmayer, Faculty of Agriculture, Osijek, Croatia, Kaposvár University, Faculty of Animal Science, Kaposvár, Hungary and University of Ljubljana, Biotechnical Faculty, Zootechnical Department, Domžale, Slovenia. Main participant in those early days included citizens of Slovenia, Croatia, and Hungary. In 2003, University of Padova, Department of Animal Science, Padova, Italy joined agreement; last year (2012) University of Natural Resources and Life Science, Boku, Vienna, Austria was the last institute joining the agreement and thus pentilateral was formed, including the countries: Austria, Croatia, Hungary, Italy, and Slovenia. The symposium takes place in each of the countries in turns.

Aims of this symposium are exchange scientific knowledge on animal breeding, animal conservation, animal nutrition and animal husbandry and other related topics in animal sciences. The symposium is mainly devoted to young scientists of the countries that attend the annual event. Therefore, the new generations of researchers have the possibilities to know one to each others, to compare different research approaches, to exchange new methods and protocols of research and finally of growing together in a scientific contest where the emerging themes in animal sciences are treated and discussed relevant aspects with invited speakers of international levels.

This year symposium has taken place in Padova, Italy and was held from 18 to 20 September, 2013. Each year the symposium have a special theme or topic, and this year topic was “European research priorities in Animal Science”.

The plenary lectures from each of the participating countries were about this topic. The scientific presentations were organized in the following sessions: 1. Animal Breeding and Genetics, 2. Animal nutrition, 3. Animal Husbandry. Original scientific articles from those sessions are published in this special issue of *Agriculturae Conspectus Scientificus*.

The all members of the Organizing and Scientific committee wish to express cordial gratitude to everyone that participated in the program with posters or oral presentations and to the reviewers. Finally, a special thank to Departments of Agripolis and the PhD School in Animal and Food Science and everyone that have helped to have a successful symposium.

Enrico STURARO

Guest editor and member of the Organizing committee