

# ANIMAL PRODUCTION SCIENCE

## CONTENTS Volume 55, Issue 4, 2015, 427–558

Monitoring liveweight in sheep is a valuable management strategy: a review of available technologies

*D. J. Brown, D. B. Savage, G. N. Hinch and S. Hatcher* 427–436

Industry benefits from using genomic information in two- and three-tier sheep breeding systems

*B. J. Horton, R. G. Banks and J. H. J. van der Werf* 437–446

Genetic and phenotypic parameter estimates for growth traits of Hainan Black goat in southern China

*Han-Lin Zhou, Li-Hong Gu, Yan-Yan Sun, Tie-Shan Xu and Guang Rong* 447–453

Dietary chromium picolinate of varying particle size improves carcass characteristics and insulin sensitivity in finishing pigs fed low- and high-fat diets

*A. T. Hung, B. J. Leury, M. A. Sabin, T. F. Lien and F. R. Dunshea* 454–460

Effects of low protein diets on performance of pigs with a lean genotype between 40 and 115 kg liveweight

*L. Bunger, N. R. Lambe, K. McLean, G. Cesaro, G. A. Walling, H. Whitney, S. Jagger, P. Fullarton, C. A. Maltin and J. D. Wood* 461–466

Assessing the efficiency of using a modern hybrid rye cultivar for pig fattening, with emphasis on production costs and carcass quality

*Tomasz Schwarz, Wiktor Kuleta, Artur Turek, Ryszard Tuz, Jacek Nowicki, Bartosz Rudzki and Pawel M. Bartlewski* 467–473

Influence of method of wheat inclusion and pellet diameter on performance, nutrient utilisation, digestive tract measurements and carcass characteristics of broilers

*Y. Singh and V. Ravindran* 474–483

Effect of dietary inclusion level of a multi-species probiotic on broiler performance and two biomarkers of their caecal ecology

*Konstantinos C. Mountzouris, Irida Palamidi, Panagiotis Tsirtsikos, Michaela Mohnl, Gerd Schatzmayr and Konstantinos Fegeros* 484–493

Comparison of objective measures of pork colour traits during ageing of the longissimus muscle from pigs housed organically and conventionally

*J. Álvarez-Rodríguez, M. Tor, D. Cubiló, G. Ripoll, D. Babot and D. Villalba* 494–500

Comparison of the meat quality, post-mortem muscle energy metabolism, and the expression of glycogen synthesis-related genes in three pig crossbreeds

*H. G. Lei, L. Y. Shen, S. H. Zhang, Z. H. Wu, J. Shen, G. Q. Tang, Y. Z. Jiang, M. Z. Li, L. Bai, X. W. Li and L. Zhu* 501–507

Effect of dietary potassium supplementation on the calcium absorption capacity in the rumen and abomasum and fractional excretion of urinary minerals in sheep

*M. S. Bhanugopan, W. J. Fulkerson, M. Hyde and D. R. Fraser* 508–514

Ewe lamb diet selection on plantain (*Plantago lanceolata*) and on a herb and legume mix, including plantain, chicory (*Cichorium intybus*), red clover (*Trifolium pratense*) and white clover (*Trifolium repens*)

*L. M. Cave, P. R. Kenyon, S. T. Morris, N. Lopez-Villalobos and P. D. Kemp* 515–525

Mineral supplementation of lambing ewes grazing dual-purpose wheat

*S. R. McGrath, M. S. Bhanugopan, H. Dove, E. H. Clayton, J. M. Virgona and M. A. Friend* 526–534

Spirulina (*Spirulina platensis*) algae supplementation increases microbial protein production and feed intake and decreases retention time of digesta in the rumen of cattle

*T. Panjaitan, S. P. Quigley, S. R. McLennan, A. J. Swain and D. P. Poppi* 535–543

Furanocoumarins in teder do not affect ruminal fermentation in continuous culture

*M. H. Ghaffari, Z. Durmic, D. Real, P. Vercoe, G. Smith and C. Oldham* 544–550

Flow cytometric and microscopic evaluation of post-thawed ram semen cryopreserved in chemically defined home-made or commercial extenders

*M. Emamverdi, M. Zhandi, A. Zare Shahneh, M. Sharafi, A. Akhlaghi, M. Khodaei Motlagh, F. Dadkhah and N. Dadashpour Davachi* 551–558