

The *animal*
Consortium



In June 2022
the animal family announces a third journal

animal – open space

Editor-in-Chief
Giuseppe Bee (Agroscope)



animal - open space



What makes it different from other journal in livestock science?

The journal fully embraces **Open Science**.

Its philosophy is that all **carefully conducted research**, the **data linked to that research** and the **associated points of views of the authors** will contribute to **knowledge gain**.

This knowledge deserves to be **rapidly published** and **open for further discussion** from readers and authors.

- **Open Data** is mandatory
- Promotion of author(s) and readers' **exchange** through the PubPeer platform
- Review focuses on **reproducibility**
- Review is done by a **panel of editors**
- Fast **turnaround**





animal - open space

3 types of papers are welcomed



- 1. Data papers**
- 2. Method articles**
- 3. Research articles**

<https://animal-journal.eu/animal-open-space/>



Data paper - what is it?



- It is a **description of a dataset**, often including sections that **detail the context**, collection, and **reuse potential** of data.
- A data paper differ from a traditional journal article, as it does not form an argument or draw a conclusion about the interpretation of the data - it explains the methodology with the intent to increase visibility and use of the data.
- It provides a more thorough description than datasets contained in data repositories, and also allows credit to be given to data contributors in addition to researchers.
- Data papers are reviewed and are included in article search results, meaning data of authors can be discovered more easily and cited as an additional product of the author's research



Data paper - content



- Specification table
 - The specification table serves as a metadata table and provides readers with information they need to reuse, reproduce or replicate the data.
- Value of the data
 - Why are the data presented useful or important to the research community?
 - Who can use/benefit from the data?
 - How can the data be (re)used for further insights or analysis?
- Data description
- Experimental design, material and methods

The screenshot shows the Elsevier article page for a data paper. The page title is "Animal - Open Space" and the journal is "Animal - Open Space". The article title is "Social interactions, precursors of damaging behaviours, object manipulation, straw rooting, and activity: a detailed data set in undocked pigs under protein restriction". The authors are L. Roch, E.O. Ewaoluwaogbemiga, and C. Kasper. The page includes a table of contents on the left with sections like Outline, Abstract, Keywords, Reader comments, Specification table, Value of the data, Data description, Experimental design, materials and methods, Ethics approval, Author ORCID, Author contributions, Declaration of interest, Acknowledgements, Financial support statement, and References. The main content area shows the abstract, which discusses damaging behaviours in pig production and the collection of detailed data on precursors to tail biting.



Method article – what is it?



- In a **Method Article** authors provide
 - background information that enables researchers to understand the principles underlying specific methods
 - sections where alternative methods are compared giving the advantages and disadvantages of particular methods
 - guidance on avoiding potential pitfalls
 - suggestions for troubleshooting



Method article - content



- Classical set-up

- Abstract
- Implication
- Introduction
- Material and Methods
- Results
- Author's points of view

- Instead of a “classical” discussion section, in the “**author’s points of view**” section, authors should **share their opinion on the study’s outcome**.
- This section should answer the following questions:
 - What are the main improvements (compared to other methods) of the presented method?
 - Are there limitations in the methods that might affect the result?
 - Who can use/benefit from the method?

The screenshot shows the article page for "Optimisation of a bead-beating procedure for simultaneous extraction of bacterial and fungal DNA from pig faeces and liquid feed for 16S and ITS2 rDNA amplicon sequencing" in the journal "Animal - Open Space". The page includes a table of contents on the left, the article title, authors (J.T. Cullen, P.G. Lawlor, P. Cormican, E. Crispie, G.E. Gardiner), and an abstract. The abstract text reads: "Efficient cell lysis is critical for the extraction of DNA from difficult-to-lyse microorganisms such as Gram-positive bacteria and filamentous fungi. A bead-beating (BB) step is usually included in DNA extraction protocols to improve cell lysis. However, there is no consensus on the duration of BB that is necessary for complete lysis of the microbial communities present in complex microbial ecosystems, but which will still maintain the integrity of DNA released from easy-to-lyse microbes. Another consideration is that most protocols are tailored to one particular target group of microbes typically either bacteria or fungi in a given sample matrix. In this study we..."

Examples of method articles

- Laboratory methods
- Experimental methods
- Extension methods
- Teaching methods



Research articles



- Confirmational studies
- Pilot studies
- Proof-of-concept studies
- Applied studies

- Non-novel results are not a barrier for *animal – open space*
- **local** or international relevance



Research article - content



- Classical set-up

- Abstract
- Implication
- Introduction
- Material and Methods
- Results

- Author's points of view

- Instead of a “classical” discussion section, in the “**author's points of view**” section, authors should **share their opinion on the study's outcome**.
- This section should answer the following questions:
 - What are the main outcomes of the study?
 - Do the results confirm current knowledge or refute it?
 - Are there limitations in the study that might have affected the outcome?
 - Who can use/benefit from the data?
 - How can the data be (re)used for further insights or analysis?



animal - open space for which animals?



- Farmed and other managed animals
- **Leisure and companion** animals
- **Insects** for animal feed and human food



The *animal* family of journals



	<i>animal</i>	<i>animal open space</i>
Scope	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Farmed or managed animals • Research relevant to whole animal outcomes, and/or to animal management practices • International relevance 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Farmed or managed animals, leisure and companion animals and insects used for animal feed and human food • Local or international relevance
Types of papers	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Research article • Review article • Short communication • Opinion paper • Conference / Symposium / Project (full) papers 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Data papers • Method article • Research article
Language	English	English
Open Data	Encouraged	Mandatory
Review	Editorial team and external reviewers	Editorial team
First decision	70 days	14 days



The *animal* family of journals



	<i>animal</i>	<i>animal open space</i>
Focus of the review	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Scope • Standards • Originality & significant addition to existing knowledge • Impacts • Soundness of research • Clarity of writing • Quality of English • Ethics 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Scope • Transparency, Reproducibility • Clarity of writing • Quality of English • Ethics • Quality of the metadata
Reviewed sections	Full manuscript including supplementary material	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Material and method • Results and metadata <p>The discussion and the conclusion are reviewed for clarity but the responsibility of the contents is left to the authors.</p>



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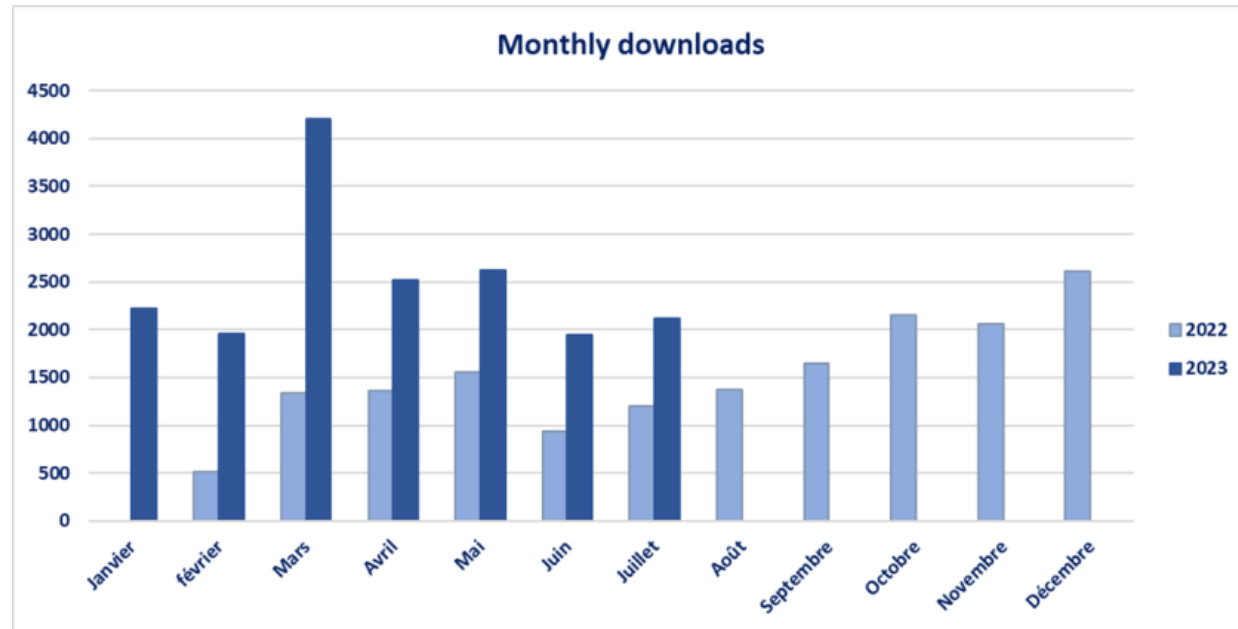
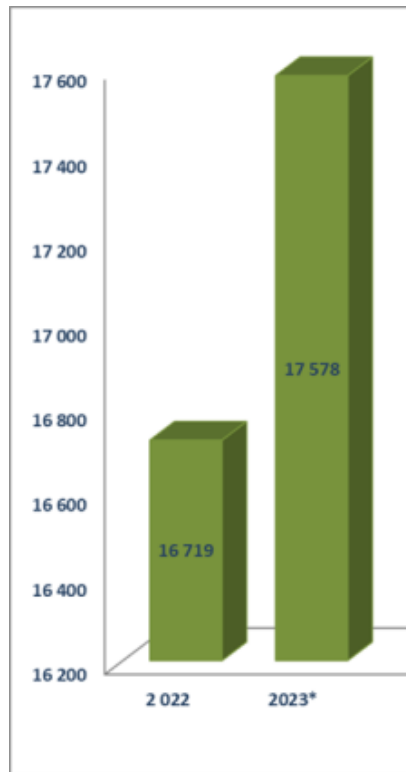
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How is animal – open space doing?



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Data papers and method articles the most downloaded



42 papers

	Number	Downloads	Scopus Citations	Tweets	Downloads/ article	Citations/ article
Data papers	5	4903	2	40	980	0.4
Method papers	9	9172	6	46	999	0.67
Research papers	28	20100	12	62	718	0.4
Total	42	34175		148		



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About the journal

animal - open space is a new publishing initiative of the animal Consortium, a collaboration between the British Society of Animal Science (BSAS), the Institut National de la Recherche pour l'Agriculture, l'Alimentation et l'Environnement (INRAE) and the European Federation for Animal Science ...

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