

## Editorial news and events

### Book review

Proceedings of the Society of Nutrition Physiology, Vol. 19, Society of Nutrition Physiology (Ed.) DLG-Verlag Frankfurt (Main) (2010). 190 pp. Price: 29,90 € plus postage, Softcover, ISBN: 978-3-7690-4103-3

The 64<sup>th</sup> Annual Meeting of the Society of Nutrition Physiology of Germany was held at Goettingen from 09 to 11 March 2010.

The proceedings of the meeting comprise 135 abstracts and 8 contributions to the workshop 'Evaluation of the adequacy of feeding and metabolic status of dairy cows on the basis of concentrations in blood and other media. Changes, limitations and challenges.'

The peer reviewed abstracts (one page each) are devoted to the following topics:

1. Amino acids and nitrogen (11 contributions),
2. Minerals (13 contributions),
3. Feed additives (11 contributions),
4. Energy metabolism (7 contributions),
5. Digestion and gut microbiology (15 contributions),
6. Free topics (7 contributions),
7. Lipids and fatty acids (14 contributions),
8. Effect on environment (8 contributions),
9. Feedstuff evaluation and feeding (34 contributions),
10. Transport and epithelial physiology (8 contributions),
11. Undesirable substances (7 contributions).

Most of the papers presented are from scientists at German institutes of animal nutrition and animal physiology, but contributions are also included by scientists from other European countries as well as from overseas.

The workshop dealt with the suitability of blood and further substrates to assess feeding and metabolic status of dairy cows. In some cases high yielding cows suffer metabolic disorders. Therefore the objective of the workshop was to find out and characterize tools to assess animal health. Starting with the goals and intentions of the workshop, the authors analyse the significance of blood tests from the farmers' point of view; the impacts of pre-analytical variables on the quality of laboratory test results in farm animal examinations; variables, control elements and feedback as the basics for the interpretation of blood parameters; the effect of data from the milk analyses to improve the feeding of dairy cows; the estimation of energy and protein supply of dairy cows on the basis of parameters in blood and/or milk; the influence of different supply on the macro and trace element concentrations in blood of dairy cows and finally, on suitable blood-parameters to assess dairy cattle health in herds (e.g.,  $\beta$ -OHBA, NEFA, total protein, Se, Cu, vit. E). The presentations show the chances, limitations and challenges for future research concerning suitability of blood parameters to assess health and metabolism of dairy cows.

The Proceedings review current research activities in animal physiology and animal nutrition in Central Europe and are recommended to all those working in animal nutrition and animal physiology. The Proceedings of the 64<sup>th</sup> Meeting (Vol. 19, 2010) are available from the DLG-Verlag, Eschborner Landstraße 122, D-60489 Frankfurt am Main, Germany.

The next meeting of the Society of Nutrition Physiology of Germany (the 65<sup>th</sup>) will be held in Goettingen from 29 to 31 March 2011.

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