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# Grazing—Distribution, Biodiversity, Animal Welfare and Forage Quality in Livestock Pasture Systems

Guest Editors:

#### Dr. Mariusz Kulik

Department of Grassland and Landscape Forming, University of Life Sciences in Lublin, Lublin, Poland

mariusz.kulik@up.lublin.pl

#### Prof. Dr. Piotr Stypiński

Department of Agronomy, Warsaw University of Life Sciences - SGGW, 02-787 Warsaw, Poland

piotr\_stypinski@sggw.edu.pl

## Prof. Dr. Anna Guðrún Þ Thórhallsdóttir

Department of Rural Tourism, Holar University, 551 Suðarkrokur, Iceland

annagudrun@holar.is

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## **Message from the Guest Editors**

Grasslands are one of the semi-natural ecosystems requiring human activity. Historically, many of them were developed to provide feed for livestock. Grasslands, however, were also used by wild animals because grazing is a natural form of feeding for all herbivorous species. Thus, grazing was an integral part of these ecosystems. However, unmanaged, excessive grazing can degrade ecosystems and associated goods and services.

In recent decades, the approach to feeding livestock has been changing continuously, resulting in a reduction in grazing land. Land-use changes, including the abandonment of grazing and traditional farming practices, as well as secondary succession, are major threats to biodiversity.

Therefore, efforts should be made to restore traditional farming methods, including livestock grazing. Research on grazing in a changing world is also still essential.

Grazing is an integral part of semi-natural agricultural ecosystems. It can provide a platform for combining the welfare of farm animals, the protection of valuable natural habitats, preservation of biodiversity, human health, and much more











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## **Editor-in-Chief**

#### Prof. Dr. Les Copeland

Sydney Institute of Agriculture, School of Life and Environmental Sciences, The University of Sydney, Sydney, NSW 2006, Australia

## **Message from the Editor-in-Chief**

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