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EDITORIAL

SLOVAK NATIONAL AGRICULTURAL AND FOOD CENTRE: NEW CHALLENGES IN THE EUROPEAN HORIZON

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Nowadays, literature highlights a critical message: climate change's impact on livestock production has profound implications for food security, particularly in impoverished and tropical regions.

Livestock sector worldwide and animal production output will experience unfavorable situations. Mitigation and adaptation policies become mandatory to guarantee the sustainability of animal production, especially in vulnerable regions. It is required an approach that focus on the implementation of advanced animal husbandry and integrating scientific and technological innovations. On the other hand, these enforcement measures need to be supported by robust policy strategy, that take in strong consideration the needs of farmers and sector's changing conditions.

The European Commission has proposed a new initiative provisionally entitled "Accelerating farming systems transition: agroecology living labs and research infrastructures". Our National Agricultural and Food Centre (NPPC) is member of the partnership that aims to structure and support a network of living labs and research infrastructures that will accelerate the transition towards agroecology throughout Europe. In addition, it will deliver ready-to adopt practices that support farmers in understanding and implementing agroecological practices at the scale needed for positive economic, environmental, and social impacts.

Another very important platform that provides an opportunity for cooperation and networking, among the relevant stakeholders and institutions in the field of Bioeconomy, is the BioEast Initiative in which Slovakia one of 11 European countries included and NPPC is an active member. Main goal of BioEast Initiative is to develop knowledge and cooperation based circular bioeconomies, which helps to enhance their inclusive growth and to create new value-added jobs especially in rural areas, maintaining or even strengthening environmental sustainability.

Both Agroecology partnership and BioEast Initiative represent a concrete opportunity to face new challenges successfully, placing our institute as a promoter of change and valuable support to national and international decision makers.

Daini *et al.* investigated the influence of in ovo administration of oyster mushroom aqueous extract on intestinal development of broiler chickens. Authors conclude that to improve jejunal morphology in the starter phase as well as increased intestinal length and superior duodenal histology in the finisher phase of broiler chickens, *in ovo* administration of 0.1 ml oyster mushroom aqueous extract is recommended.

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Editorial Team looks forward to evaluating your submitted contributions and providing all necessary support to Authors in order to best serve animal science and the scientific community, with commitment to research integrity and the highest publishing ethics.

Enjoy reading!

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Daini, O., Sogunle, O., Adebambo, A., Safiyu, K., Odutayo, O. & Irivboje, O. (2024). Influence of *in ovo* administration of oyster mushroom extract on morphological and histological characteristics of intestines of broiler chickens. *Slovak Journal of Animal Science*, 1, In Press.