



ASAS-CSAS Annual Meeting

Madison, WI • July 19-23, 2026



Over the past several weeks the ASAS Annual Meeting Program Committee, chaired by Dr. Allison Meyer from the University of Missouri, has been working with the various species and discipline committees to develop a robust and exciting set of symposia that will be offered at this year's annual meeting in Madison, WI. As you look over the list of symposia that will be offered you will notice that there are fewer symposia than what has been offered over the past several years. This was done intentionally, largely based on membership feedback and the space available at the convention center.

Consistent feedback from membership over the past few years has been the sentiment that there were too many symposia being offered, which led to symposia overlapping each other on the schedule and limited attendees' abilities to participate in each one of interest. This also led to more limited participation in each symposium and made it challenging to attend some of the important 12-minute talks. Additionally, many voiced that symposia were becoming too narrowly focused, and expressed a desire to see symposia that had more broad-based appeal. The Program Committee took all this feedback to heart and worked with the planning committees to put together a more concise group of symposia that incorporated topics that would be more multi-species and multi-disciplinary in focus.

So, as you peruse the symposia listing you will still see a few of the more traditional symposia topic areas. But I also hope that you notice some of the broader topic symposia that will bring together scientists working in different areas. I believe all of these together will provide a meaningful way to share thoughts and ideas and spur future work to address important areas of need.

I appreciate the work of the committees and am excited about the symposia being offered at this year's annual meeting. I hope you are making plans to attend the annual meeting. I look forward to seeing each of you in Madison on July 19-23.

Richard Coffey
ASAS President

Updated 2/26/2026

SYMPOSIA LIST BY DAY

SUNDAY, JULY 19, 2026 – ALL DAY

ASAS-NANP Symposium: Mathematical Modeling Nutrition – *Sponsored by National Animal Nutrition Program*

- Dr. Bill Wisotsky, SAS – TBD



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- Dr. Haipeng Yu, University of Florida – TBD
- Dr. Ziteng Xu, Texas A&M University – TBD
- Dr. Joao Reboucas Dorea, University of Wisconsin, Madison – TBD
- Reid Hensen, Celium Group – TBD

Genomics for Animal Sciences Summer Workshop – Sponsored by NRSP8-RNC and NIFA-AFRI

Join us for a one-day event that brings together students, researchers, and industry professionals across the animal sciences. Whether you are new to genomics or working at the cutting edge, this workshop offers training and discussion opportunities for all experience levels, from foundational concepts to advanced functional and quantitative applications. Participants will be able to choose among three learning tracks tailored to their background and interests: an introductory track covering core genetics and genomics concepts, an advanced functional genomics track focused on biological interpretation and multi-omics approaches, and an advanced quantitative genomics track addressing complex traits, genomic prediction, and breeding applications. The program also includes networking opportunities and a collaborative roundtable discussion to connect ideas across disciplines. This one-day workshop is designed to be engaging and interactive—a full day of learning, collaboration, and fun with colleagues from across academia and industry.

Travel Awards Available

A limited number of travel awards are available to support student and early-career participation. [Submit your application online.](#)

Track 1: Introductory Genetics/Genomics (Foundations)

- Dr. Fiona McCarthy, The University of Arizona
- Dr. Wellison Diniz, Auburn University

Track 2: Advanced Functional Genomics

- Dr. James Koltes, Iowa State University

Track 3: Advanced Quantitative Genomics (GWAS and Genomic Prediction)

- Dr. Nanye Long, Michigan State University
- Dr. Molly McCue, University of Minnesota
- Dr. Wen Huang, Michigan State University



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MONDAY, JULY 20, 2026 – MORNING

Genetics Symposium

- Dr. Ronnie Green, University of Nebraska-Lincoln – TBD
- Nicolò Macciotta, University of Sassari, Italy – TBD
- Dr. Haja Kadarmideen, Aarhus University, Denmark – TBD
- Dr. Wen Huang, Michigan State University – TBD

Ruminant Nutrition Symposium: Considerations for Replacement Females

- Dr. Philippe Moriel, University of Florida – Nutritional strategies and metabolic imprinting for *Bos indicus* influenced heifers.
- Dr. Andreas Foskolos, University of Thessaly, Greece – Nutritional strategies for improving nitrogen use efficiency in dairy replacement heifers.
- Dr. Carl Dahlen, North Dakota State University – TBD
- Dr. David Kenny, TAEGASC – Basic and applied research on the effect of early life nutrition in ewes, heifers and bulls.

MONDAY, JULY 20, 2026 – AFTERNOON

CSAS Symposium II: Early Career Researchers – *Sponsored by the Canadian Society of Animal Science*

Beef and Dairy Symposium: New concepts to mitigate stress and optimize productivity in beef and dairy systems – *Sponsored by FERA Diagnostics*

- Dr. Reinaldo Cooke, Texas A&M University – Research-based solutions to minimize stress and improve production efficiency in beef operations.
- Dr. José E.P. Santos, University of Florida – Research-based solutions to minimize stress and improve production efficiency in dairy operations.
- Dr. Tom Noffsinger, Production Animal Consultant – Importance and adoption of research-based technologies to address stress and improve welfare/health and productivity in commercial beef systems.
- Dr. Tom Smith, Finger Lakes Farm Veterinary Services – Importance and adoption of research-based technologies to address stress and improve welfare/health and productivity in commercial dairy systems.



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TUESDAY, JULY 21, 2026 – ALL DAY

Microbial Solutions Symposium: Recent Developments in Microbial Solutions for Beef and Dairy Cattle Nutrition - *Sponsored by Novonesis*

- Dr. Todd Callaway, University of Georgia – Overview of probiotics in cattle nutrition.
- Dr. Philippe Moriel, University of Florida – Probiotics in cow-calf systems.
- Dr. Rodrigo Marques, Virginia Tech University – Probiotics in stocker and backgrounding systems.
- Dr. Zachary Smith, South Dakota State University – Probiotics in feedlot systems.
- Dr. Reinaldo Cooke, Texas A&M University – Probiotics as immunomodulator in beef cattle exposed to stress challenges.
- Dr. José E. P. Santos, University of Florida – Probiotics to transition and lactating dairy cows.
- Dr. Luis Ferrareto, University of Wisconsin – Probiotics to improve fiber digestion in dairy cows.

TUESDAY, JULY 21, 2026 – MORNING

Companion Animal Symposium I: Drivers of Food Choice Preference

As the pet food industry continues along its steep trajectory of growth, with new brands emerging every year and new products lining already crowded store shelves, understanding what exactly makes diet or treat attractive or desirable to both the purchasing customers (pet parents) and end-point consumers (pets) is as critical as ever. The objective of this symposium is to serve as a platform for the dissemination and discussion of current research findings in fields related to food choice preference, potentially including but not limited to: palatability, sensory acuity, genetic/breed/species predisposition, feeding/purchasing behavior(s), and marketing claims/language.

- Dr. Nancy E. Rawson, Monell Chemical Sense Center – The role of genetics and environment in the determination of sensory preferences.
- Dr. Alexander James German University of Liverpool – Palatability and obesity: How do we strike a balance?
- TBD – Desire versus decision: What pet parents want in a pet food and what they ultimately purchase.
- Dr. Kadri Koppel, Mars Petcare – What we (think we) understand about palatability testing and where we go from here?



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CSAS Symposium I: Advancements in Sustainable Ruminant Livestock Systems in North America – *Sponsored by the Canadian Society of Animal Science*

Feed Management Symposium – *Sponsored by National Animal Nutrition Program*

Beef Session

- Dr. Matthew Beck, Texas A&M University
- Dr. Jacquelyn Prestegaard, Texas A&M University
- Dr. Bryan W. Neville, USDA-ARS, Meat Animal Research Center

Dairy Session

- Mary Beth Hall, National Animal Nutrition Program
- Dr. Elizabeth French, USDA-ARS
- Dr. Victor Cabrera, University of Wisconsin-Madison

Nonruminant Session

- Dr. Gerald C. Shurson, University of Minnesota
- Dr. Pedro Urriola, University of Minnesota
- Dr. Steven Moeller, The Ohio State University

TUESDAY, JULY 21, 2026 – AFTERNOON

Physiology and Endocrinology Symposium: Insights into Programming of Postnatal Development and Performance

- Dr. Amy Desaulniers, University of Nebraska-Lincoln – Lactocrine programming of postnatal development in pigs.
- Dr. Sarah McCoski, Montana State University – Effects of maternal nutrition on subsequent development/performance of resulting offspring.
- Dr. Shelby Rosasco, University of Wyoming – Postnatal nutritional programming of ovarian reserve in beef heifers.
- Dr. David Kenny, Teagasc – Effects of early life nutrition on development and age at puberty.

Nonruminant Nutrition and Swine Species Joint Symposium: Big Data and the Implications and Benefits to Precision Feeding



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WEDNESDAY, JULY 22, 2026 – MORNING

Beef Species Symposium: Energetics

Changes in the cattle industry and advancements in technology have opened the door for new research opportunities on beef cattle energetics. The GreenFeed system has been used in research for over a decade now. More recently, researchers have investigated the ability to use this technology to conduct energetic research with cattle in their production environment. Finally, the Nutrient Requirements of Beef Cattle committee has called for many years for improvements in equations to account for the energy requirements needed for grazing activity. Utilizing the GreenFeed technology to assess heat production of cattle on pasture may be a promising avenue to accomplish this goal. The overall objective of this symposium is to provide an update on the latest advancements in the energetic research of beef cattle.

- Dr. Kristen Hales, Texas Tech University – Advances and future research directions for energetic research of beef cattle.
- Dr. Stacey Gunter, USDA-ARS – Using GreenFeed systems to conduct energetic research in confinement and on pasture.
- Dr. Alfredo DiConstanzo, University of Nebraska-Lincoln – Energetics and energetic efficiency of beef cows.
- Dr. Gordon Carstens, Texas A&M University – Feed efficiency and energetics of grazing cattle.

WEDNESDAY, JULY 22, 2026 – AFTERNOON

Companion Animal Symposium II: Rigor and Reproducibility in Nutrition Research

Across the nutrition sciences, concerns about rigor and reproducibility have taken center stage. This symposium will examine the current state of rigor and reproducibility in nutrition research, highlight practical strategies and tools to improve transparency, and discuss how these practices can be applied in companion animal studies.

- Dr. David Allison, Baylor College of Medicine – The need for rigor, reproducibility, transparency, and trustworthiness in nutrition research.
- Dr. Janice O'Brien, Virginia Tech – Exposure variables in nutritional epidemiology: are they telling us what we think they are?
- Dr. Jan S. Suchodolski, Texas A&M University – Microbiome Analysis as a tool to investigate gut health: Methodological considerations.
- Dr. Guilherme J. M. Rosa, University of Wisconsin-Madison – Embracing biological variability: A path to reproducible animal science.



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Advances in Growth, Development and Meat Science Symposium: Technology-Driven Strategies for Precision Growth and Meat Quality – *Sponsored by the Rodney L. Preston Appreciation Club*

- Dr. Min Du, Washington State University – Vitamin A–Mediated developmental programming of muscle and marbling fat in beef cattle.
- Dr. Jorge Sandoval, Auburn University – The role of satellite cells in woody breast development and meat quality in broilers.
- Dr. Christian Ramirez, University of Minnesota – Beyond Growth: AI-Based adaptive protein concept for comprehensive animal development.

THURSDAY, JULY 22, 2026 – MORNING

Animal Health and Contemporary Issues Joint Symposium: Precision Livestock Solutions: Health Optimization and Early Disease Detection

- Dr. Uma Aryal, Oklahoma State University – Proteomic signatures of health and aging.
- Dr. Chris Puls, United Animal Health – Accuracy, reliability, and value of new swine digital technologies.
- Dr. Kolapo M. Ajuwon, Purdue University – Multi-omics characterization of nutrient.
- Rafael Ferreira, University of Wisconsin-Madison – Multi-modal machine learning for the early detection of subclinical ketosis in dairy cattle.