SNACK AND FACT

Developmental Programming: What Mom Eats Matters!


Hosted by the American Society of Animal Science
Animal scientists study the result of poor maternal nutrition (too little or too many nutrients during gestation) to gain a better understanding of its impact on the offspring. These research findings hold meaningful implications for livestock farmers. They also have significant broader societal impacts, since livestock species serve as important models for human health.

Application of research focusing on livestock maternal nutrition can be of value to human health researchers studying issues such as obesity, bone health, metabolic diseases, joint health, and stem cell development.

The July 2017 issue of Animal Frontiers focuses on fetal programming and the long-lasting effects of maternal nutrition during pregnancy on offspring growth and health.

In livestock, maternal nutrition during gestation affects fetal growth and development. It also impacts the offspring after birth, affecting long-term growth and health, production efficiency, carcass quality and composition, and reproductive success of female offspring.
Additional basic and applied livestock research is needed to advance our knowledge of maternal nutrition and its far-reaching implications on both animal and human health and well-being.

Read the July 2017 issue of *Animal Frontiers* at: https://www.animalsciencepublications.org/publications/af/tocs/7/3
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The American Society of Animal Science fosters the discovery, sharing and application of scientific knowledge concerning the care and responsible use of animals to enhance animal and human health and well-being.