

2023 Florida Ruminant Nutrition Symposium

Speaker Biographies



Dr. Lance Baumgard is a Distinguished Professor and the Norman L. Jacobson Endowed Professor in Dairy Nutrition in the Department of Animal Sciences at Iowa State University. Before joining Iowa State, Dr. Baumgard was in the faculty of the Department of Animal Sciences at the University of Arizona. Lance received his B.Sc. and M.Sc. in Animal Sciences from the University of Minnesota, and the Ph.D. degree in Animal Sciences from Cornell University. Dr. Baumgard's research focuses on dairy cattle nutrition and metabolism with a major emphasis on nutritional and environmental physiology in cattle. Work by his group has translated novel findings in fundamental metabolic physiology and thermoregulatory metabolism to practical applications in livestock production.

<https://www.ans.iastate.edu/people/lance-baumgard>



Dr. Barry Bradford is a Professor and the Clint Meadows Chair in Dairy Management in the Department of Animals Sciences at Michigan State University. He completed dual B.Sc. degrees at Iowa State University and a doctorate in animal nutrition at Michigan State University. He served on the faculty at Kansas State University from 2006 to 2019, and in 2020 he returned to Michigan State University. Dr. Bradford's research focuses on dairy cattle nutrition and metabolism, with a particular emphasis on attempting to translate novel findings in fundamental metabolic physiology to practical applications in animal agriculture. Contributions by his group have largely focused on dietary utilization of byproducts in lactation diets, the physiological impacts of systemic postpartum inflammation, and the roles of nutrients as signals.

<https://www.canr.msu.edu/people/bradford-barry>



Dr. Derek Brake was raised in Marysville, Ohio, and attended The Ohio State University for his B.S. (2006). He completed his M.S. (2009) and Ph.D. (2012) at Kansas State University in ruminant nutrition and nutritional physiology, where he studied the impacts of different flows of amino acids or milk specific proteins on small intestinal starch digestion in cattle. Dr. Brake started his career at South Dakota State University and remained there until he joined the faculty at the University of Missouri in the summer of 2018. Dr. Brake's research has broadly focused on developing a better understanding of how beef and dairy cattle digest, metabolize and ultimately use different nutrients in support of growth or lactation. Dr. Brake is also involved in student mentoring, teaching and service activities. In his "spare time", Dr. Brake has enjoyed operating a 300 head stocker operation on about 600 acres in central Missouri across the past several years.

<https://cafnr.missouri.edu/person/derek-brake/>



Dr. Antonio Faciola is an Associate Professor in the Department of Animal Sciences at the University of Florida. Prior to joining the University of Florida in 2017, Dr. Faciola served on the faculty at the University of Nevada for 4 years. Antonio received his B.Sc. and M.Sc. degrees in Animal Sciences from the Federal University of Viçosa, Brazil, the Ph.D. degree in Dairy Science from the University of Wisconsin-Madison, and completed a postdoctoral fellowship at the ARS-USDA U.S. Dairy Forage Research Center in Wisconsin. The goal of his laboratory is to further our understanding of ruminant nutrition to improve the efficiency of nutrient utilization in order to enhance production and minimize environmental impact of livestock. A major emphasis has been on methodological approaches including the dual-flow continuous culture system.

<https://animal.ifas.ufl.edu/people/antonio-faciola/>



Dr. Angela Maria Gonella-Diaza is an Assistant Professor of cattle reproduction at the North Florida Research and Education Center and the Department of Animal Sciences at the University of Florida. She received her D.V.M. degree from the University of Applied and Environmental Sciences in Bogota, Colombia, her M.Sc. degree from the National University of Colombia, and her Ph.D. degree from the University of São Paulo in Brazil. Her research interests are diverse and include molecular markers of endometrial and oviductal receptivity, molecular responses to heat stress in the reproductive tract, metabolomic markers of feed and reproductive efficiency, and periconceptual programming. Her extension program focuses on improving the adoption of reproductive technologies and increasing reproductive efficiency in cow-calf operations in Florida.

<https://nfrec.ifas.ufl.edu/faculty-directory/angela-maria-gonella-diaza/>



Dr. Stephanie Hansen is a Professor in Feedlot Nutrition in the Department of Animal Science at Iowa State University. An Iowa native, she earned her B.S. from Iowa State and the M.S. and Ph.D. from North Carolina State University. With 100 peer-reviewed papers and over 10 million dollars in competitive funding, the goal of her research program is to refine mineral requirements of cattle, especially related to optimizing growth and resiliency to stress. She has received early career awards in research from Iowa State University and the American Society of Animal Science. Dr. Hansen is a passionate graduate student mentor and teaches undergraduate and graduate courses in animal nutrition and vitamin and mineral metabolism. She co-hosts podcasts on graduate mentoring (Mentoring Matters) and beef science (Beef Show Podcast). She is also a published fiction author under the name S. L. Hansen.

<https://www.ans.iastate.edu/people/stephanie-hansen>



Dr. Henry Holdorf is a Dairy Nutrition Consultant for Purina Animal Nutrition in Wisconsin. He earned his B.S. and doctorate degrees in Dairy Science from the University of Wisconsin-Madison. During his Ph.D. program, Dr. Holdorf conducted research in the area of choline nutrition and intermediary metabolism in dairy cows.



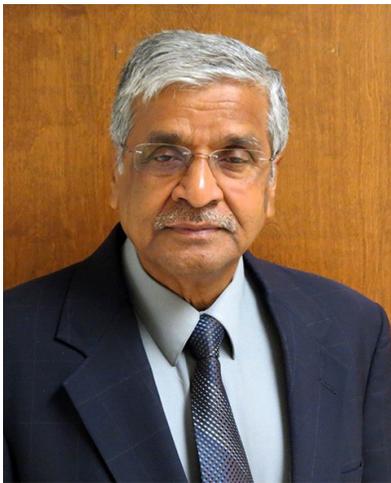
Vinicius Izquierdo is a Ph.D student in the Department of Animal Sciences at the University of Florida. He received his DVM degree from the Federal University of Pelotas in Brazil in 2019 and the M.Sc. degree beef cattle nutrition and reproduction from the same institution in 2021. Vinicius works under the supervision of Dr. Philippe Moriel at the Range Cattle Research and Education Center in Ona, FL, and his research focuses on nutritional and management practices to mitigate heat stress in grazing Bos indicus-influenced beef cattle in tropical and subtropical environments and its consequences to offspring growth, reproduction, and health.



Dr. Sangita Jalukar is a Product Development and Research Coordinator at Church & Dwight, Co., Inc. Dr. Jalukar received her BSc, MSc, and PhD degrees from Maharaja Sayajirao University of Baroda, India, and completed a postdoctoral fellowship in immunology in the College of Medicine at the University of Iowa. Before joining Arm & Hammer, Dr. Jalukar was a Research Scientist and Product Development Coordinator at VI-COR. Dr. Jalukar combines her education and expertise in the use of natural feed additives to improve immunity and health in livestock and poultry.



Mike Motta is the Business Development Manager for the Americas for Arm & Hammer Animal and Food Production. Mike received both his BA and MBA degrees from West Virginia University. Mike has nearly 30 years of experience serving the food and beverage processing and animal health market sectors. As the business development manager, Mike works to bring new products and technologies to the marketplace to provide the latest innovation to customers and key influencers in both animal and food production. Previous to Arm & Hammer, Mike was a Chief Commercial Officer for Novalent Ltd., VP for Business Development at Rochester Midland Corp., VP of North America F&B Division – Zep Inc., and VP of Sales United Kingdom F&B – Diversey. His expertise focuses on environmental treatments to reduce and prevent microorganism outgrowth.



Dr. T. G. Nagaraja is a University Distinguished Professor of Microbiology in the Department of Diagnostic Medicine/Pathobiology in the College of Veterinary Medicine. His research expertise is in gut microbiology of animals, particularly of the rumen of cattle. The investigations have focused on the role of microbes in ruminal function and dysfunction, particularly in animals fed high-grain diets. His research is a blend of basic and applied studies and involves collaborative interaction with Epidemiologists, Food Microbiologists, Molecular Biologists, Production Animal Specialists, Ruminant Nutritionists, and Pathologists. His research has resulted in several patents for the development of vaccines against *Fusobacterium necrophorum* infections in cattle.

<https://www.vet.k-state.edu/academics/dmp/faculty-staff/faculty/nagaraja/>



Federico Podversich is a Ph.D. candidate in the Department of Animal Sciences at the University of Florida under the mentorship of Dr. Nicolas DiLorenzo working at the North Florida Research and Education Center in Marianna, Florida. Federico received his DVM degree from Universidad Nacional del Litoral in Argentina and his M.Sc. in Animal Sciences from the University of Florida. Before joining University of Florida, Federico completed exchange programs in the School of Veterinary Medicine at the University of Passo Fundo in Brazil and at a Large Animal Clinic in Bayern, Germany. Federico's research focuses on beef cattle nutrition and metabolism with a major emphasis on alternative backgrounding diets and the use of feed additives.

<https://www.researchgate.net/profile/Federico-Podversich-2>



Dr. Flávio Ribeiro is the Business Leader for Ruminants and Swine for Phytobiotics North America. He is from Brazil and received his B.Sc. in Animal Science from FAZU in his hometown Uberaba. Soon after graduating, Dr. Ribeiro attended the University of California Davis and received a Post-Graduate Certificate in Animal Sciences. He completed the M.Sc. in Animal Sciences at Iowa State University and his research focused on using ultrasonography to measure body composition in cattle. He received his Ph.D. from Texas A&M University with an emphasis in ruminant nutrition and meat science. Dr. Ribeiro spent 10 years in academia as a Postdoctorate Fellow, Research Scientist, and Professor before he joined Phytobiotics. Dr. Ribeiro has a passion for teaching and for the last 13 years he teaches a class on how to cook meat in his famous Brazilian BBQ course at Texas A&M. Dr. Ribeiro normally donates 2-4 cookouts a year for youth foundations that are related to scholarships and education.

https://phytobiotics.com/en_nam/contact/



Dr. José E.P. Santos is a Professor in the Department of Animal Sciences at the University of Florida. He received his DVM degree from São Paulo State University in Brazil, completed the M.Sc. and Ph.D. at the University of Arizona, a clinical residency in Dairy Production Medicine at the University of California Davis, and a sabbatical at SBScius and the University of Sydney. José spent 8 years in the faculty of the School of Veterinary Medicine at the University of California Davis before moving to the University of Florida in 2008. José's research seeks to develop technologies that enhance efficiency of dairy production, in particular improvements in peripartum health and reproduction. The research is highly integrative, combining components of basic cellular biology, whole animal physiology, and applied interventions that are adopted by dairy producers worldwide.

<https://animal.ifas.ufl.edu/people/jose-eduardo-p-santos/>



Dr. Ben Saylor is a Dairy Technical Services Manager for Arm & Hamer Animal and Food Production. Dr. Saylor received his BSc degree in Animal Sciences from the University of Arizona, the MSc in Animal Sciences from Kansas State University and the PhD degree in animal nutrition from the Department of Animal and Dairy Sciences at the University of Wisconsin, Madison. Dr. Saylor specializes on forage quality and conservation and on-farm microbial challenges and their control. <https://www.linkedin.com/in/ben-saylor>



Dr. Mike Van Amburgh is a Professor in the Department of Animal Science at Cornell University where he has a dual appointment in teaching and research. Dr. Van Amburgh received his B.Sc. from The Ohio State University and the doctorate degree from Cornell University. Mike teaches multiple courses and works extensively with the Dairy Fellows Program, and is the advisor for the Cornell Dairy Science Club. The focus of Mike's research program focuses on nutrient requirements of dairy calves, heifers, and lactating dairy cows. A major emphasis has been on the development and update of the Cornell Net Carbohydrate and Protein System (CNCPS).

<https://cals.cornell.edu/michael-e-van-amburgh>



Dr. Mike VandeHaar received his A.B. degree in biology from Dordt College in Iowa, the M.Sc. and Ph.D. degrees in Nutritional Physiology from the Department of Animal Sciences at Iowa State University. He then moved to the University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill where he completed postdoctoral training in pediatric endocrinology. He joined the faculty of the Department of Animal Sciences at Michigan State University where he is a professor of dairy cattle nutrition and metabolism. The goals of his research program are to improve the efficiency with which dairy cows convert feed to milk, increase lifetime productivity of calves and heifers, and develop practical dairy cattle diet balancing tools

https://www.canr.msu.edu/people/dr_mike_vandehaar



Dr. Diwakar Vyas is an Assistant Professor in the Department of Animal Sciences at the University of Florida. He earned his Ph.D. degree from the University of Maryland in Dairy Cattle Nutrition with a focus on mammary lipid metabolism. Diwakar completed a postdoctoral fellowship at Lethbridge Research and Education Center of Agriculture and Agri-Food Canada working in areas of environmental sustainability and rumen physiology of beef production systems. His research program focuses on optimizing nutritional management to improve production, efficiency of nutrient utilization, and environmental sustainability of livestock production with emphasis on dairy cows and small ruminants.

<https://animal.ifas.ufl.edu/people/diwakar-vyas/>