

Success for e-academy



Since 2015 Animine has held its biennial scientific academy.

Hosted in France, the home of Animine, this Academy welcomes partners and customers from all over the world to discuss with renowned experts the latest advances in nutrition, intestinal health, microbiota management, analytical and environmental sciences.

The 4th edition of this symposia was recently held in a digital format and named the Animine e-academy. The unique format provided short sessions, in which the guests could arrange a tailor-made programme to suit their interests. The conference focused on being objective and interactive. Some sessions highlights from this e-academy included:

● **Pharmacological ZnO ban:**

This session was shared between Dr Edgar Manzanilla from Teagasc (Ireland) and Dr Wilfried Vajhen from Free University of Berlin (Germany). Dr Vajhen focused his talk on the ZnO effect on the bacteria, showing that high levels of ZnO increase the microbiota diversity, competing to pathogenic ones to cause infection. His findings have shown that a balanced microbiota is more relevant than a single bacteria.

● **Future of biomarkers:**

Dr Paolo Trevisi from Bologna University in Italy presented the

future of biomarkers to characterise piglet gut health. There is no single biomarker that can identify piglet gut health under all conditions. Research focus on developing new non-invasive techniques, additionally to markers that can be validated to perform a scoring system that would allow to set up preventive strategies.

● **Antimicrobial resistance:**

Dr Kristian Brandt (Copenhagen University, Denmark) and Dr Yi Zhao (University of Geoscience, China) talked about how antibiotic resistant genes (ARG) are an increasing environmental pollutant. As 73% of all antibiotics sold on earth are used in animal production, the animal microbiota is a rich reservoir for ARGs.

● **Environment:**

In this session, Dr Ralph Rosenbaum from IRTA, Spain, talked about how to use life cycle assessment (LCA) as a tool to support decisions towards sustainability. When assessing environmental impact, at first, we always think about carbon footprint, but it goes beyond that. Carbon footprint is a global effect, but local effects like ecotoxicity should also be considered. The best tool to assess all parameters is LCA.

In line with this aspect, Animine is the first company to provide LCA for its precision minerals.