

# BSAS 2026 ABSTRACT GUIDELINES



Shaping the future of  
**ANIMAL SCIENCE**

## INTRODUCTION

Authors are invited to submit their abstracts, using the following guidance, for inclusion in the BSAS 2026 conference. A peer review of the papers will be performed and accepted papers will be published open access in animal - science proceedings.

Accepted abstracts will be allocated into the conference programme as posters or oral presentations, a representative (presenting/ corresponding author) is expected to register for the conference to present the work.

The submission deadline is 12 Midnight (GMT) on 16 November 2025 (this date will not be extended). Status of abstract submitted notifications will be sent w/c 24 November 2025. If you have any questions, please email [bsasconference@abbeyuk.com](mailto:bsasconference@abbeyuk.com)

Once you have read the following guidelines, please click [here](#) to submit your work.

## GENERAL INFORMATION AND GUIDELINES

Your abstract, if accepted, will be published in the conference proceedings and must be suitable for use as a scientific reference. If you wish to challenge the review status of your abstract, please send an email to [abstracts@bsas.org.uk](mailto:abstracts@bsas.org.uk) clearly stating the reasons for disagreement with reviewer comment/rejection.

The presenting author for each abstract must register for the conference by 31 January 2026. Failure to do so will result in the abstract being removed from the conference proceedings and programme. If you are having issues registering, please contact [bsasconference@abbeyuk.com](mailto:bsasconference@abbeyuk.com)

- Please ensure all authors agree to being identified as associated with the paper; the abstract should be discussed with any co-authors and read critically by a colleague who has not been closely involved.
- Abstracts that do not meet the required criteria will need to be amended by authors in-line with reviewer comments. If the requested changes are not made, the abstract will be rejected. Amendments, other than those requested by reviewers, can only be made in exceptional circumstances.
- UK English must be used throughout; no abbreviations should be used in the abstract.
- Reviews that give a new evaluation of data that individual experiments could not, are acceptable.
- Previews or literature reviews will not be accepted.
- Where results on commercial products are being presented, authors should ensure that both their organisation and the commercial company involved give permission to publish before submitting an abstract. Use of product brand names is limited to one time only.

## IMPORTANT INFORMATION

- If you are submitting more than one abstract, you can use the same log-in for each abstract.
- You can save your abstract by clicking 'Save As Draft' and alter the abstract at any time up to the deadline or before submitting by selecting 'Submit Abstract'.
- Do not include the author's name in the title or body of your abstract because a "blind" reviewing process will be used.
- Author names can be submitted under 'Authors and Affiliations' as part of the online submission process.
- Illustrations (figures, tables etc.) should be uploaded as a Word document – please follow the instructions.
- Please check formatting prior to submitting your abstract.
- Please check that all references listed in the text are reported in the reference list and vice versa.
- All authors must approve the manuscript before submission. You must tick the box to confirm this is the case.
- Presenting authors (oral and poster) are expected to attend the conference. You must tick the box to confirm this is the case. Any other authors wishing to attend the conference will also need to register.
- The presenting author must register for the conference no later than 31 January 2026. All presenting authors are expected to attend the conference in person. If you are not able to attend the conference, please contact [bsasconference@abbeyuk.com](mailto:bsasconference@abbeyuk.com) to discuss options, such as a co-author presenting in your place.

## ABSTRACT SUBMISSION SYSTEM

### The Submission Process

- Use the submission link on the conference website or click [here](#)
- You will be taken to a log-in screen; please enter your email address to log in or register.
- Submitting an abstract is a multi-step process; each step is clearly identified with detail of the information required.
- If you stop part way through the process your submission will be incomplete until you return later and complete all the mandatory questions; remember to periodically press 'Save As Draft' – this saves your progress and avoids losing information.
- By clicking "Save As Draft" your abstract will automatically be saved; you are able to save and amend your abstract up to submission or the closing date.
- Clicking 'Submit Abstract' will automatically mark your abstract as complete. You will not be able to amend your abstract once you have submitted.

### Title

The title should:

- Be concise and informative.
- Include the animal species on which the study has been carried out.
- Exclude the name of the country or of the region where the study took place.
- Exclude Latin names, if there is a common name.
- Exclude non-standard abbreviations.

### Presentation Type

- Please use the drop-down menu to indicate whether you have a preference for an oral or digital poster presentation.

### Sessions / Abstract Category

- Please indicate which subject area or species you feel your paper fits most closely. This will help the organising committee to allocate papers to appropriate sessions in order to create a balanced programme.

### Authors and Affiliations

- Additional authors can be added to the abstract submission by clicking 'add author' below the author section. DO NOT include author information in the main text of the abstract.
- Additional affiliations can be added by clicking 'add affiliation'.
- Please ensure that you use the correct affiliation and address for your institution to ensure consistency amongst submissions.
- Abstracts will only be marked complete, and be submitted, after you tick "submit".
- All correspondence will be sent to the submitting author only; the presenting authors email address will be published in the conference proceedings.
- At the deadline, any incomplete abstracts will be rejected.

### Abstract Upload

- Abstracts should be uploaded as Word documents. Any figures or images should be included in the text. Abstracts must conform to the structure described in the detailed abstract guidelines.

### Conflict of Interest

- Please state here if any of the authors have any financial, professional or personal relationships that may pose a conflict of interest regarding this abstract submission.

### Ethical Guidelines

- All work must comply with the Ethical guidelines for research in animal science. Please confirm that this is the case and, where appropriate, the required licenses are in place.

### Prior Publication

- If research outlined in your abstract has previously been published elsewhere, please select 'Yes'.

### Submit Abstract

- Once this has been selected, abstracts will be marked as complete and sent to reviewers. Authors will not be able to edit abstracts once submitted or the deadline has passed.

## ABSTRACT DETAILS

Do not include authors in the main body text of the abstract. Your submission should be structured and contain the following information.

### Title

- The title should be descriptive, specific, and concise. It should also state the animal species concerned. It should replace information otherwise found in the main text. The title should be a maximum of 50 words, and not have a 'full stop' at the end. No abbreviations please.

### Text

- Please use British – UK English spelling
- Different sections application, introduction, material, and methods, etc. should be separated by one clear line; section headings should be in bold, and text should begin on the same line as the heading (please refer to abstract example).

## CONTENT

### Application

- Explain the expected commercial, economic, environmental, and/or societal impact of the work, how will it be applied in practice or next project, using language easily understood by the non-expert, including a brief description of the steps that would be needed to ensure that this impact is achieved.

### Introduction

- State the background and objectives of the work.

### Material and Methods

- Describe the methods used, including numbers and types of animals. Statistical analyses conventions should be those used in 'animal'.
- Experimental design and statistical methods must be clear, vague statements, such as "the data were analysed using Minitab" are not acceptable.
- Experiments where treatments and pens (or groups) of animals are confounded are not acceptable.

### Results

- Results obtained, together with relevant statistical analysis, should be presented in sufficient detail to support the conclusions drawn.
- Treatment means should be presented with appropriate standard errors of means or differences.
- The minimum number of decimal places required to demonstrate statistically significant differences should be used.
- Probability values must be presented to support conclusions. Probability levels of  $P > 0.05$  are NOT statistically significant.
- The use of percentages should be avoided wherever possible; concentrations or compositions should be expressed as mass per unit mass or mass per unit volume; decimal proportions should be used for common ratios, such as, for example, diet digestibility coefficients.
- The results of surveys will be accepted if the work is original research, rigorously designed, executed and statistically analysed.

### Conclusions

- The conclusions should reflect the original objective(s) of the work and clearly state the author's view of the implications of the results to scientific understanding and practical use. Vague sentences are not acceptable. A discussion is not required.

### Acknowledgments

- The funders of the work should be acknowledged in this section.

### References

- It is the author's responsibility to ensure that all references are cited and accurate and adhere to the detailed guidelines.
- Abstract with references that do not match the required format will be returned to the author for correction prior to the abstract being submitted for review.

### Word Count

Your abstract must be uploaded as a Word Document. Authors and Affiliations are not included in the word count.

Your abstract should be one page and in line with the maximum word count below. Abstracts that exceed the word count will be rejected.

Total word count per page, including acknowledgments and references:

- Abstract without figure or table : 1000 words max
- Abstract with one table or one figure ( average size) : 900 words max
- Abstract with one table and one figure ( average size) : 850 words max
- Authors and affiliations are not included in the abstract total word count

# BSAS 2026 - Detailed Abstract Guidelines

Published in animal - science proceedings

## Contents

*animal - science proceedings*

**Policy, Process and Standards**

### **Content of the manuscript**

Size of abstract/Word count

Language

Structure

**Full title**

**Authors and affiliations**

**Tables**

**Figures**

**Abbreviations**

**Presentation of statistical results**

**Numerals**

**Units of measurement**

**Concentration or composition**

**References**

**In-text citation conventions**

**List of references**

**Style sheet**

**Annex 1 Scope of the Journal**

**Annex 2 Detailed Guidance on Figures**



## Policy, Process and Standards

The scope of the journal is described in Annex 1. The expected standard of conference abstracts, summaries and short papers published by *animal – science proceedings*, the evaluation procedures and peer-review criteria and the authorship policy are given below.

The pre-prints policy, the licences to publish, the handling of misconducts as well as procedures for complaints and appeals are presented in the Publication policies that apply to all the **animal** family of journals are available at <https://animal-journal.eu/wp-content/uploads/2020/07/Publication-Policies-v30-final.pdf>.

More detailed guidance specific for *animal – science proceedings* are given below.

BSAS 2026 accepts abstracts up to 1 journal page. A full page in journal format contains about 1000 words. This will be reduced to about 850 words with 2 illustrations (tables and figures).

*Please note that short papers describing original research and even abstracts that contain extensive results and discussion with references to other relevant work may be considered by journals to be prior publications.*

## Content of the manuscript

### Size of abstract/Word count

A full page in journal format contains about 1000 words. This will be reduced to about 850 words with 2 illustrations (tables and figures).

### Language

Manuscripts will be accepted in English (British - spelling must be consistent throughout). Care should be exercised in the use of agricultural terminology that is ill-defined or of local familiarity.

### Structure

The abstracts should be structured to include text on (although subheadings are optional)

Full title

Authors and affiliations

Application

Introduction

Material and Methods (including statistical analysis method)

Results and Discussion

Conclusion and Implications

Acknowledgements (if applicable)

Financial support statement (if applicable)

Ethics approval (if applicable)

References

## Authors and affiliations

### Example

J. Smith<sup>1,a</sup>, P. E. Jones<sup>2</sup>, J. M. Garcia<sup>1,3</sup>, P. K. Martin Jr<sup>4</sup> [initials only]

<sup>1</sup>SRUC, West Main Road, Edinburgh EH9 3JG, UK <sup>2</sup>North

Carolina State University, Raleigh, NC 27695-7621, USA

<sup>3</sup>Universidad de Zaragoza, C. Miguel Servet, 177, 50013, Zaragoza, Spain

<sup>4</sup>North Carolina State University, Raleigh, NC 27695-7621, USA <sup>a</sup>Present address: AgResearch, Private Bag 11008, Palmerston North, New Zealand (for any author of the list whose present address differs from that at which the work was done)

Corresponding author: John Smith. E-mail: [John.Smith@univ.co.uk](mailto:John.Smith@univ.co.uk).

This **must** be the person who will present the paper. Only one corresponding author is acceptable.

If tables and figures are to be included please follow the guidelines below.

### Tables

- Keep tables as simple as possible and only include data referred to in the text.
- Tables are recommended when exact numerical values are important. The same material should not be presented in both tabular and graphical form.
- The animal species and the experimental treatments (or the issue) under study are indicated in each caption.
- When data are analysed by analysis of variance we request that a residual error term such as the pooled standard error, the residual standard deviation (RSD), or the root mean square error (RMSE) is reported in tables and not SE/SD for each treatment. Indeed, anovars are based on the hypothesis of homogeneous variance among treatment groups.
- The number of decimals of *P* values for means and/or the error term should be homogenized or should follow a systematic rule.

### Figures

- Figures are recommended to illustrate trends. The same material should not be presented in both tabular and graphical form.
- The animal species and the experimental treatments (or the issue) under study are indicated in each caption.

More detailed guidance on Figures can be found in Annex 2.

### Abbreviations

- Define non-standard abbreviations at first appearance followed by the abbreviation in brackets.
- Authors should avoid excessive use of non-standard abbreviations.
- No non-standard abbreviation in the (short) titles, in (sub)headings or in keywords.
- Non-standard abbreviations used in tables and figures must be defined either as footnotes or in the caption.
- Do not start a sentence with an abbreviation.

### Presentation of statistical results

- Treatment means are reported with meaningful decimals. For guidance, the last digit of a treatment mean corresponds to 1x10 of standard error (e.g., for a standard error of 1.2, the mean values should be reported as 15).
- In the text, the probability of significance is indicated by the following conventional standard abbreviations (which need not be defined):  $P > 0.05$  for non-significance and  $P < 0.05$ ,  $P < 0.01$  and  $P < 0.001$  for significance at these levels. Exact level of probability (e.g.  $P = 0.07$ ) can also be used.
- In tables, when data are analysed by analysis of variance, a residual error term, is given for each criteria/item/variable/trait in a separate column.
- In tables, probabilities are indicated in a separate column. The *P* values (e.g.  $P = 0.07$ ) are reported or indicated by \*, \*\* and \*\*\* for  $P < 0.05$ ,  $P < 0.01$  and  $P < 0.001$ , respectively.
- In tables, differences between treatments (or comparison of mean values) are indicated using superscript letters with the following conventional standard: a, b for  $P < 0.05$ ; A, B for  $P < 0.01$ .

## Numerals

- In the text, use words for numbers zero to nine and numerals for higher numbers. In a series of two or more numbers, use numerals throughout irrespective of their magnitude. 4
- Do not begin sentences with numerals.
- For values less than unity, 0 is inserted before the decimal point.
- For large numbers in the text, substitute  $10^n$  for part of a number (e.g.  $1.6 \times 10^6$  for 1600000).
- Do not use a comma separator for numbers greater than 999 (e.g. 100864).
- The multiplication sign between numbers should be a cross (x).
- Division of one number by another should be indicated as follows: 136/273.
- Use numerals if a number is followed by a standard unit of measurement (e.g. 100 g, 6 days, 4th week).
- Use numerals for dates, page numbers, class designations, fractions, expressions of time, e.g. 1 January 2007; type 2.
- Dates are given with the month written in full and the day in numerals (i.e. 12 January *not* 12th January).
- For time use 24-h clock, e.g. 0905 h, 1320 h.

## Units of measurement

The International System of Units (SI) should be used. A list of units is found at

<http://physics.nist.gov/cuu/Units/units.html>.

Recommendations for conversions and nomenclature appeared in *Proceedings of the Nutrition Society* (1972) 31, 239-247. Some frequently used units that are not in the SI system are accepted: e.g. l for litre, ha for hectare, eV for electron-volt, Ci for curie. Day, week, month and year are not abbreviated.

The international unit for energy (energy value of feeds, etc.) is Joule (or kJ or MJ).

- A product of two units should be represented as N·m and a quotient as N/m (e.g. g/kg and not g.kg<sup>-1</sup>).
- When there are two quotients, represent as: g/kg per day (not g/kg/day).

## Concentration or composition

Composition is expressed as mass per unit mass or mass per unit volume. The term *content* should not be used for concentration or proportion.

## References

Keep references to the minimum and only when crucial to introducing or discussing the results.

*It is the author's responsibility to ensure that all references are cited and accurate.*

- All sources must be cited in the text using the author-date system and must have an entry in the reference list.
- Names of organisations used as authors (e.g. Agricultural and Food Research Council) should be written in full in the list of references and on first mention in the text. Subsequent mentions may be abbreviated (e.g. AFRC).
- "Personal communication" or "unpublished results" are not cited in the reference list, but are given in the text in the form (J. Smith, personal communication); please note that written permission must be obtained from the cited person and this approval must be provided at submission.

## In-text citation conventions

Cite references by name(s) of author(s) and year of publication by chronological order.

## List of references

In the reference list, references should be listed in alphabetical order by authors' names. Their formatting and style should be as detailed below.

### Authors' information and publication year

Author, A., Author, B.A., Author, C.D. Author, E., Year.

### Source

#### Journal article

Author(s) Year. Article title. Full Name of the Journal Volume, first-last page numbers. DOI

Journal names are given in full, not in abbreviated form.

Issue numbers are not required.

#### Publisher/Conference/University location

Publisher, City, State (2-letter abbreviation) for US places, Country.

#### Book (or official report)

Author(s)/Editor(s)/Institution Year. Book title, volume number if more than 1, edition if applicable. Publisher's name, City, State (2-letter abbreviation) for US places, Country.



### Book chapter (or part of an official report)

Word count per page, inclusive of acknowledgments and references. Author(s) Year. Chapter title. In: Title of book (ed. Editor, A. and Editor, B.), pp. first-last page numbers.

Publisher's name. City. State (2-letter abbreviation) for US places, Country.

- Full page without figure or table : 900 words max
- Full page with one table or one figure (average size) : 800 words max
- Full page with one table and one figure (average size) : 750 words max
- Authors and affiliations are not included in the word count

Note, if proceedings are published in a journal, the article should be formatted as for a journal article. If they have been published as chapters in a book, the article should be formatted as for a chapter in a book.

### Website

Author(s)/Institution Year. Document/Page title. Retrieved on DD Month YYYY (i.e. accessed date) from [http://www.web-page address \(URL\)](http://www.web-page address (URL)).

### Thesis

Author, A.B., Year. Thesis title. Type of thesis, University with English name, City, State (2-letter abbreviation) for US places, Country (i.e. location of the University).

## Style sheet

The style sheet should be in Word and the following guidelines for **maximum** word count should be used to inform on abstract / summary length in final print format.

Total word count per page, including acknowledgments and references:

- Abstract without figure or table : 1000 words max
- Abstract with one table or one figure ( average size) : 900 words max
- Abstract with one table and one figure ( average size) : 850 words max
- Authors and affiliations are not included in the abstract total word count

An example style sheet is shown below to help meet the guidelines. This is for an abstract that will fit into one published page of the journal. The Editor in Chief and the organizers will agree the style sheet for a conference.

STYLE SHEET – USE THIS TO CONSTRUCT YOUR ABSTRACT BEFORE SUBMITTING

Please keep to the margins and font size. This is to ensure that the final version will equate to one page in the journal.

**1. Full title of paper**

J. Smith<sup>1,a</sup>, P. E. Jones<sup>2</sup>, J. M. Garcia<sup>1,3</sup>, P. K. Martin Jr<sup>4</sup> [initials only for first names]

<sup>1</sup>Scottish Agricultural College, West Main Road, Edinburgh 3JG, UK

<sup>2</sup>North Carolina State University, Raleigh, NC 27695-7621, USA

<sup>3</sup>Universidad de Zaragoza, C. Miguel Servet, 177, 50013, Zaragoza, Spain

<sup>4</sup>North Carolina State University, Raleigh, NC 27695-7621, USA <sup>a</sup>Present address:

AgResearch, Private Bag 11008, Palmerston North, New Zealand

Corresponding author: John Smith. E-mail: [John.Smith@univ.co.uk](mailto:John.Smith@univ.co.uk).

**Note:** The subheadings below are not obligatory and can be modified or not required at all in the case of short abstracts.

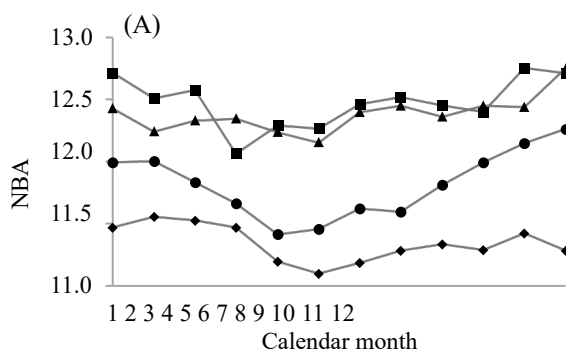
**Key words** Times New Roman 9 point heading in bold italics and then body text in 9 point, commas between key words.

**Application** Times New Roman 9 point heading in bold italics and then body text in 9 point.

**Introduction** Times New Roman 9 point heading in bold italics and then body text in 9 point.

**Material and methods** Times New Roman 9 point heading in bold italics and then body text in 9 point.

**Results and Discussion** Times New Roman 9 point heading in bold italics and then body text.



**Figure 1.** Least squares means for (A) number born alive

**Table 1.** Farrowing house performance (mean ± SEM) of multiparous sows fed a lactation diet with (Enzyme) or without (Control)

	Control	Control	Enzyme	Enzyme	P value	Enzyme	Interaction
	Standard	Coarse	Standard	Coarse			
Pre-foster mortality	1.2 ± 0.2 <sup>a</sup>	0.6 ± 0.1 <sup>c</sup>	0.8 ± 0.1 <sup>b</sup>	1.0 ± 0.2 <sup>a</sup>	0.32	0.80	0.008
Liveborn mortality <sup>1</sup>	2.2 ± 0.3 <sup>a</sup>	1.7 ± 0.3 <sup>b</sup>	2.0 ± 0.3 <sup>ab</sup>	2.3 ± 0.4 <sup>a</sup>	0.31	0.032	0.012
Sow ADFI <sub>3</sub> (kg)	7.6 ± 0.3	8.2 ± 0.3	8.0 ± 0.3	7.5 ± 0.3	0.63	0.85	0.061

a,bMeans within a row with different superscripts differ significantly (P < 0.05); mortality expressed as pigs/litter; <sup>1</sup>pre- and post-foster mortality; <sup>2</sup>born dead, pre- and post-foster mortality; <sup>3</sup>average daily feed intake (ADFI).

**Conclusion and implications** Times New Roman 9 point heading in bold italics and then body text.

**Acknowledgements** Times New Roman 9 point heading in bold italics and then body text. If none state None.

**Financial support statement** Times New Roman 9 point heading in bold italics and then body text. If none state None.

**References** Times New Roman 9 point heading in bold italics and then body text.

Kiarie, E.G. and Mills, A., 2019. Role of feed processing on gut health and function: Conundrum of optimal particle size and hydrothermal regimens. *Frontiers in Veterinary Science* 6, 19-23 <https://doi.org/10.3389/fvets.2019.00019>.

Martin, C., Morgavi, D.P., Doreau, M., 2010. Methane mitigation in ruminants: from microbe to the farm scale. *Animal* 4, 351-365 <https://doi.org/10.1017/S1751731109990620>.

## Annex 1 Scope of the Journal

*animal – science proceedings* (formerly *Advances in Animal Biosciences*) is part of the *animal* family of journals (*animal*, *animal - open space*). The journal will publish high-quality conference, symposium and workshop proceedings on aspects of the life sciences with emphasis on farmed, other managed animals, leisure and companion animals, aquaculture and the use of insects for animal feed and human food. These can be in the form of a book of abstracts or one to two-page summaries. The format will highlight the title of the meeting and organisations involved but the publications will have the added advantage of being gold open access and forming a series under *animal – science proceedings*. This gives conferences wide exposure and conference proceedings a wide circulation.

Subject areas can include aspects of Breeding and Genetics, Nutrition, Physiology and Functional Biology of Systems, Behaviour, Health and Welfare, Livestock Farming Systems and Product Quality. Due to the integrative nature of biological systems, *animal – science proceedings* will welcome contributions on the translation of basic and strategic science into whole animal and whole system Productivity, on Product Quality and the relationship between products and human health, Food Security, the Environment including ecosystem services and agroecology, and Climate Change. Proceedings can involve research, extension studies, training and education as well as policy development. The conferences can be international or regional/ national. Languages other than English are acceptable provided a means of wider dissemination is agreed.

*animal – science proceedings* is closely related to *animal* and *animal - open space* with the facility to publish main/ invited papers from the conferences in these journals.

## Annex 2 Detailed Guidance on Figures

Ensure

- The font size is large enough to be clearly readable at the final print size (should not be less than 8 point, or 2.8 mm, after reduction).
- Figures should be provided as TIFF or EPS files. Other formats, such as MS Word, MS Excel, MS PowerPoint, AI and layered PSD (up to CS5), are permitted, provided that figures have been originally created in these formats and that the embedded artwork is at a suitable resolution. If your drawing/graphics application does not provide suitable ‘export’ options, then copy/paste or import the graphic into a Word document.
- Resolutions for TIFF figures at the estimated publication size must be:
  - For line figures (e.g. graphs) – 1000 dpi (3600 px for 1 column, 7500 px for 2 columns).
  - For figures with different shadings (e.g. bar charts) – 500 dpi (1800 px for 1 column, 3800 px for 2 columns).
  - For halftone images (e.g. photographs) – 300 dpi (1100 px for 1 column, 2300 px for 2 columns).