



## Invited Mini-Review Articles for DairyCare Special Issue

This addendum to the Journal of Dairy Research [Instructions for Contributors](#) should be read in conjunction with those Instructions, which give full details of the Journal's scope and stylistic requirements.

### Types of Article

In addition to publishing original research, the *Journal of Dairy Research* also publishes Invited Review Articles and shorter mini-reviews, called Research Reflections. These instructions for the DairyCare Special Issue relate to the second type of article. Research Reflections are intended to be prospective, stimulating and thought-provoking and should give a distillation of earlier research (which may be literature based or recent published work from your own group) followed by a description of how the topic might develop in the foreseeable future, highlighting the types of research that are needed to achieve progress and the impact that the new discovery will have. Novelty and timeliness are essential and the topic of the Reflection should fit within the scope of the COST Action FA1308, DairyCare. This can be interpreted quite broadly within the overall framework of the study of dairy animal health and welfare, but is more precisely described as:

- ***DairyCare is an EU COST researcher network in Dairy Animal Health and Welfare with a focus on using technology to assist good husbandry***
- ***The aim is to improve dairy animal husbandry by combining biological, technological, engineering and social science expertises to optimise interactions between farmers and animals***
- ***The core research area is the development of sensing technologies and their integration into "smart" husbandry support systems***

Research Reflections are invited (rather than submitted) and the topic will have been discussed and agreed beforehand. The Editors are always interested to receive suggestions for topics, with or without possible authors. Topic proposals must be novel and timely.

***Please note: Research Reflections should not normally include unpublished data. If you wish to publish original research this should be submitted to Journal of Dairy Research through the usual submission procedure.***

### Topic proposals and Submission

If you wish to propose a topic for a Research Reflection please use the online [Contact Form](#)

If you have already been invited to submit a Research Reflection you will have been given access to the dedicated online Submission Portal within [www.journalofdairyresearch.org](http://www.journalofdairyresearch.org) Before submitting you should consult the online guidance and the *Journal's* main [Instructions for Contributors](#) to ensure that your manuscript is prepared in accordance with the Journal's requirements. Submission of a manuscript will be taken to imply that it is not under consideration elsewhere and that, if accepted, it will not be published elsewhere in any language without the consent of the Editors. You will be asked to confirm that you accept these conditions. Your manuscript will be peer reviewed. If it is accepted for publication you will be asked to

assign the copyright, under certain conditions, to the *Journal* to help protect your material.

### **Research Reflections**

Research Reflections will typically be in the region of 5,000 to 6,000 Text Equivalents (TEQ), where each word = 1 TEQ and each illustration = 250 TEQ. This equates to an original manuscript of approximately 15 pages (double spaced text, references and illustrations). This is a guideline; shorter manuscripts are likely to be completely acceptable and longer manuscripts may be acceptable (conciseness is encouraged). The Reflection should start with a cover sheet, Abstract and keywords all in JDR style and should end with concluding remarks that draw the discussion together. The main body of text should be divided into sections of sensible length by subject matter, remembering that readability is of high priority. References should be cited correctly in JDR style and listed at the end of the main text; typically 20 to 40 references are likely to be appropriate but once again, this is a guideline. Please avoid citing an excessive number of references. If you have a specific reason for wishing to provide a comprehensive list of references, this can be done through the use of a separate Supplementary File in normal JDR style. Illustrations (schematic diagrams, figures, tables, images) are strongly encouraged. Infographic presentations (an infographic is a collection of imagery, charts, and minimal text that gives an easy-to-understand overview of a topic) can be used and should be discussed with the Editor at the invitation stage. All illustrations should appear after the reference list together with captions that make them understandable without reference to the main text. Please remember that the Reflection should be readable, stimulating and forward-looking. Appropriate speculation and hypothesis-setting is strongly encouraged.

### **EU COST**

DairyCare received networking funding from COST and this will be acknowledged in the Special Issue. Authors of Special Issue mini-reviews should normally have been active participants in one or more COST Activities, but if you did not take part in any of the activities organized by DairyCare you could still be eligible to submit a relevant manuscript, at the discretion of the Editor and DairyCare Chair.

COST have specific requirements for publications that they have supported. Their Dissemination Guidelines can be downloaded [here](#). However, the necessary COST acknowledgement and branding will be added by the Journal at pre-publication stage, and you are asked not to include this yourself.