

# Icelandic Agricultural and Environmental Sciences



# Icelandic Agricultural Sciences

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Cover Photo: GreenFeed unit in the Agricultural University of Iceland dairy barn for estimating individual cow daily CH<sub>4</sub> and CO<sub>2</sub> emissions

Photographer: Jóhannes Kristjánsson

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## Editorial

This 2025 issue of *Icelandic Agricultural and Environmental Sciences* includes papers covering diverse areas of both agricultural and environmental science. This is the first issue published under the expanded journal name, following the change from *Icelandic Agricultural Sciences* to *Icelandic Agricultural and Environmental Sciences*.

The first paper compares methods for initiating feeding in Arctic charr juveniles using *Artemia* and preserved marine copepods. The second paper examines the current status of the Icelandic goat breed in terms of inbreeding levels and population size. The main findings indicate that the Icelandic goat population is steadily growing, the rate of inbreeding is decreasing, and the effective population size has increased substantially. The third paper explores methods for remote soil erosion monitoring using drones, or uncrewed aerial vehicles, with the aim of developing automated soil erosion mapping in the Icelandic highlands. The fourth paper focuses on muscularity and the proportion of fat in Icelandic lambs at slaughter, and how selection has emphasized these traits over past decades. The final paper addresses methane emissions in Icelandic dairy herds and methods for calculating methane output from dairy cows for the Icelandic national inventory report to the United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change.

Björn Thorsteinsson  
Editor in Chief