

PRESS RELEASE | ISAS 2026

The Future of Animal Science in Focus: Novi Sad Hosts the International Symposium on Animal Science – ISAS 2026

NOVI SAD, September 2026

The **International Symposium on Animal Science (ISAS 2026)**, organized by the **Department of Animal Science, Faculty of Agriculture, University of Novi Sad**, will be held from **16 to 18 September 2026** at the Faculty of Agriculture in Novi Sad.

This traditional scientific and professional event will bring together leading scientists, researchers, industry representatives, farmers and students from **Serbia, the United States, China, Switzerland, Greece and countries of the region** to discuss key challenges, innovations and sustainable solutions in modern animal production.

Opening Ceremony and Welcome Addresses

The official opening of the Symposium is scheduled for **Wednesday, 16 September 2026, at 10:00 a.m.**, in the **Ceremonial Hall P1 of the Faculty of Agriculture in Novi Sad**.

The Symposium will be officially opened by **Prof. Dr Nenad Magazin, Dean of the Faculty of Agriculture, University of Novi Sad**.

The opening session will also include addresses by distinguished officials and guests:

Prof. Dr Dejan Beuković, Director of the Department of Animal Science, Faculty of Agriculture in Novi Sad, and Chair of the ISAS 2026 Organizing Committee;

Dr Joël Bérard, President of the European Federation of Animal Science (EAAP) for the 2024–2028 term and Head of the Strategic Research Division for Animal Production Systems and Animal Health at the Swiss research institute Agroscope.

Cutting-Edge Scientific Lectures and Leading International Experts

The first two days of the Symposium, **16 and 17 September**, will be dedicated to the scientific programme and plenary lectures delivered by internationally recognized experts.

Dr Joël Bérard (EAAP, Switzerland) will present the role of EAAP and discuss the major challenges facing animal production in European countries in the context of sustainability and the Green Agenda.

Prof. Dr Christos Rumbos (Greece) will address the emerging role of insects in sustainable animal nutrition as an alternative to costly animal-derived proteins and as an important component of the circular economy.

Prof. Dr Ino Čurik (Croatia) will present modern approaches to dairy cattle breeding through the application of genomics and phenomics.

Prof. Dr Samantha Wisely (USA) will present innovative surveillance systems for infectious diseases affecting wildlife and domestic animals based on the **One Health** approach.

Domestic and regional experts will present research on **trends in pedigree livestock breeding in the Autonomous Province of Vojvodina** (Prof. Dr Dejan Beuković), **fatty acid profiles and methane emissions in dairy cows** (Prof. Dr Ksenija Čobanović), as well as **aquaculture in Montenegro** (Prof. Dr Miroslav Urošević).

The programme will also include thematic workshops focusing on the **circular economy and the use of insects in animal nutrition**, organized within the **PRO-SUSTAIN** project.

Key Topics and Research Presented in the Book of Abstracts

Among the major research topics presented at ISAS 2026 are:

- Application of **artificial intelligence (YOLOv11)** and computer vision in precision insect farming for animal feed;
- Use of **unmanned aerial vehicles (UAVs) equipped with thermal cameras** for non-invasive wildlife monitoring and population counting;
- **Essential oils as an effective alternative to antibiotics** in controlling poultry pathogens;
- Reduction of **greenhouse gas (GHG) emissions** and standardization of the carbon footprint in dairy production (ISCC CFC);
- Conservation of **genetic diversity and indigenous breeds**, including Buša cattle, Lipizzan horses, the Vlach-Vitoroga Pramenka sheep, Pag sheep and the traditional Montenegrin Prljo cheese.

Friday, 18 September – Panel Discussions for Professionals, Farmers and the Public

The third day of the Symposium, **Friday, 18 September, starting at 12:00 p.m.**, will be fully open to agricultural producers, representatives of industry, the media and the wider public.

Four expert panel discussions will address some of the most relevant practical issues in contemporary agriculture and animal production.

Time	Panel	Focus and Key Topics
12:00–13:00	The Role and Importance of Fisheries in Serbia	Aquaculture potential, sustainable management of aquatic resources and prospects within the EU integration process.
13:00–14:00	Agriculture and Animal Production as Drivers of Rural and Agritourism Development	Marketing of domestic products with geographical indications “from farm to table”, preservation of traditional farmsteads and support for young people in rural areas.
14:30–16:00	Wild Boars Under Pressure from African Swine Fever	Challenges for hunting and livestock production, analysis of transmission vectors, biosecurity measures and prevention of disease spread.
16:00–17:00	Agribusiness – Experiences of Companies in the Livestock Sector	Connecting science, professional services and industry, professionalization of associations and strengthening the competitiveness of domestic farmers.

Following the panel discussions, an **Alumni Welcome Cocktail** will be held at **5:00 p.m.**, followed by the **Ceremonial Alumni Academy at 6:00 p.m.** in the amphitheatre of the Faculty of Agriculture.

Organization, Partners and Contact Information

The Symposium is organized by the **Faculty of Agriculture, University of Novi Sad – Department of Animal Science**, in cooperation with renowned international partners:

the **Research Institute for Animal Production in Nitra, Slovakia**;
the **Universities of Agricultural Sciences in Timișoara and Bucharest, Romania**;

the **Faculty of Agriculture and Food Sciences in Sarajevo, Bosnia and Herzegovina**; and
the **Faculty of Agrobiotechnical Sciences in Osijek, Croatia**.

The Symposium is co-organized by the **European Society of Agricultural Engineers (EurAgEng)**.

Prof. Dr Denis Kučević serves as **Chair of the Scientific Committee and Editor-in-Chief of the Book of Abstracts**.

USEFUL INFORMATION FOR MEDIA AND VISITORS

Venue: Faculty of Agriculture, University of Novi Sad, Trg Dositeja Obradovića 8, 21000 Novi Sad, Serbia

Dates: 16–18 September 2026

Official Opening: Wednesday, 16 September at 10:00 a.m., Hall P1

Admission to Panel Discussions: Free and open to the public and agricultural producers – Friday, 18 September from 12:00 p.m.

Official website: www.isas.rs

Contact: livestocksym@gmail.com | stocarstvo@polj.uns.ac.rs

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