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Italian Journal of Animal Science

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- Aquaculture, poultry, companion and wild game animals
- Livestock systems, management and environment
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ASPA 26th Congress

Turin (ITALY), June 17 –20, 2025

Guest Editors

Giustino Gaspa, Joana Maria Venda Da Graca Nery, Laura Gasco & Manuela Renna*

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ASPA 26th Congress

Turin (ITALY), June 17–20, 2025

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ASPA 26th Congress Book of Abstract

The 26th Congress of the Animal Science and Production Association

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Campus SAMEV (Scuola di Agraria e medicina Veterinaria)
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Largo Braccini 2, Grugliasco (TO) – ITALY

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eggs in terms of fat, the eggs from cage and those of the free range are the most similar.

O317

Evaluation of geographical and botanical origin of Tunisian and Sicilian honeys using artificial senses and data fusion

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It is widely accepted that the nutritional and medicinal properties of honey are closely related to the botanical origin of the plants at the base of honey production. However, when discussing the nutritional and medicinal benefits of honey, it is essential to consider the importance of the geographical origin and its link to the honey composition. In other words, the geographical and floral origins are interconnected, contributing to the unique 'fingerprint' of each honey. Therefore, the main aim of this study was to assess the geographical and botanical origins of honeys from Tunisia and Italy using a sensory instrumental platform. Specifically, an E-Eye, an E-nose and an E-Tongue (Alpha MOS, Toulouse, France) were used for analysis. Thirty unifloral honey samples were analyzed, including 12 Tunisian honeys: 6 Orange (TOM) (*Citrus sinensis-Rutaceae*) and 6 Eucalyptus (TEM) (*Eucalyptus-Myrtaceae*) from the Monastir province, as well as 18 Italian samples from Sicily: 6 Orange (IOM) (*Citrus sinensis-Rutaceae*) and 6 Eucalyptus (IEM) (*Eucalyptus-Myrtaceae*) from Messina province and 6 Orange (IOC) (*Citrus sinensis-Rutaceae*) from Catania province. Additionally, the following physicochemical parameters were measured: % Brix, °Bé, water content, pH, acidity, temperature, conductivity, and dissolved solids. All results were individually evaluated and the discrimination index (DI) was calculated. These data were then subjected to data fusion and PCA analysis for a comprehensive evaluation. The results from the individual electronic instrument highlighted the relationship between botanical and geographical origin, especially with regard to volatile profile. Specifically, the E-Eye and the E-Tongue showed a very high DI (98) among all sample groups, accurately distinguishing both the botanical and geographical origin of the analyzed honeys, while the E-Nose demonstrated a greater ability to differentiate between Italian and Tunisian honeys, with some overlap between the volatile profiles of Tunisian orange (TO) and eucalyptus (TE) honeys. The results from the data fusion, which produced a DI of 92, emphasised the capacity of the artificial senses to distinguish both the botanical and geographical origin of honey, confirming their value as useful tools for honey authentication.

O039

Exploring plant-based proteins as an alternative for culture media in cellular agriculture

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The food sector is currently one of the most debated fields, particularly regarding its sustainability. While the livestock industry has actively worked to mitigate its environmental impact, scientific innovation must contribute further to address this challenge. In this context, cultured meat emerges as a revolutionary option, with the potential to overcome many ethical and environmental issues associated with conventional meat production. However, the development of this innovative product faces significant challenges, chief among them being the formulation of culture media that are free of animal-derived components, economically sustainable, and compatible with cellular requirements. For this reason, the aim of this work was to evaluate protein extracts derived from hempseeds (HSs) as constituents of the culture medium for murine C2C12 muscle cells. Specifically, following alkaline extraction and isoelectric precipitation, protein isolates from HSs were tested at various concentrations (1:2 dilutions) on C2C12 cells. The results demonstrated that all concentrations, except for the initial stock solution, effectively supported cell growth and proliferation for up to 48 h, as assessed using the Alamar Blue colorimetric assay. Among all the tested concentrations, 0.6 mg/mL was selected for further analysis and incorporated as a component of an edible bioink used for 3D bioprinting. The experiments showed that 0.6 mg/mL of HS protein extract was capable of sustaining cell viability in 3D structures for up to 7 days, as confirmed by the Live/Dead assay and confocal microscopy analysis. These findings indicate that HSs, characterised by high nutritional profile (94.6 ± 0.12% of DM; 23.1 ± 0.57% of crude protein; 27.9 ± 0.75 of lipids), hold great potential as a sustainable, accessible, and alternative protein source for the formulation of culture media in the context of cellular agriculture. Further research is required to explore other plant-based matrices or

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