

Name and contact details

Emiliano Lasagna

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Current Position

Associate Professor; Department of Agricultural, Food and Environmental Sciences; University of Perugia (UNIPG), ITALY

Profile

Prof. Lasagna is a member of the group “Animal breeding and Genetics”, which has been interested in animal breeding and genetics of beef cattle and sheep for about twenty-five years. At the beginning his scientific skills pointed at quantitative genetics.

He carried out research activities in animal breeding in collaboration with the main Italian national breeders associations.

Soon his interests turned to molecular genetics. Regarding that, his activity includes analyses by AFLP, PCR-based techniques, microsatellite molecular markers, SNPs, gene expression by Real Time-PCR applied to the genomic and mitochondrial DNA.

His study field involves genetic characterization of Italian and European sheep breeds and the double muscling phenomenon (myostatin gene) in Marchigiana beef cattle breed.

He coordinates a breeding plan of a Marchigiana experimental herd at the University of Perugia.

He also coordinates a DNA bank of Chianina reared in Umbria region.

At present he is involved in studies on the effect of some SNPs on beef cattle (Chianina and Marchigiana) and sheep (all Italian beef breeds) productive traits.

In the last years he started to study the genetic characterization by molecular markers in autochthonous chicken breeds. Now he is collaborating the projects that aims to study the genes involved in the environmental stress tolerance (density of livestock and high temperature) and in resistance to climate change.

Education and training

Education:

- 2005: PhD in Animal Science, University of Padua, Italy.
- 1999: MSc degree in Animal Science, University of Perugia, Italy.

Academic career:

2021	Associate Professor, University of Perugia, Italy.
2006-2020	Researcher, University of Perugia, Italy.
2003-2005	PhD student in Animal Science, University of Padua, Italy.

Organization of network and consortia

- Member of the Editorial Board – Electronic Journal of Biotechnologies (2015 -)
- Member of the Editorial board of “Egyptian Journal of Animal Production (EJAP)” as Associate Editor in “Animal Breeding and Genetics, Molecular Genetics” (2020 -)
- Member of the Editorial Board – BMC Genomic Data (2021 -)
- Guest Associate Editor of an "article collection" in Frontiers in Genetics "Global Green Strategies and Capacities to Manage a Sustainable Animal Biodiversity" (2020 - 2022)
- Guest Editor of a "special issue" in Animals " The Myostatin Gene: Future Challenges in Animal Science " (2021 - 2022)
- Member of the Editorial board of “Mediterranean Agricultural Sciences” (2021 -)
- Member of the Editorial board of “Animal Production Research” (2022 -)

- Member of the Italian Goat Consortium (<http://www.goatit.eu/>) (2017 -).
- Member of the Animal Science and Production Association – (2007 -).
- Member of the World Poultry Science Association – Italian Branch member (2015 -).
- Member of the International Society of Animal Genetics (ISAG) (2020 -).
- In 2018/2019 duty lab responsible for the pigs Comparison test organized from International Society for Animal Genetics (ISAG) and member of the standing committee.
- In 2020/2021 and 2022/2023 duty lab responsible for the cattle Comparison test organized from International Society for Animal Genetics (ISAG) and member of the standing committee.

Training of young researchers:

Supervised 2 PhD students since 2006 (1 of which currently are still working on his PhD thesis).

(Co-)supervised 3 PhD students since 2006 (1 of which currently are still working on his PhD thesis).

Have been on the PhD evaluation committee of students at University of Cordoba, Spain (4 students).

Research leadership and funding

- 2010-2012 MIUR PRIN project number 2008FN93B3, 2008 call. Member of the Research Unit within UNIPG. Title: Genetic biomarkers for heat stress tolerance in chickens.
- 2011-2013 Principal investigator in a research project on “Epigenetic changes as a stress biomarker in aviculture”. Project funded by the “Fondazione Cassa di Risparmio di Perugia”.
- 2012-2014 Principal investigator in a research project on “Muscle Hypertrophy in Marchigiana beef cattle breed”. Project funded by National Association of Italian Beef Cattle Breeds (ANABIC).
- 2015-2016 Principal investigator in a research project on “Use of local genetic resources to produce meat with high nutritional value”. Project funded by the “Fondazione Cassa di Risparmio di Perugia”.
- 2014-2020 project: “Protection of biodiversity of Italian poultry breeds”—TuBaVi. PSRN: Support for the conservation, use and sustainable development of genetic resources in agriculture. Sub-measure 10.2. - Member of the Research Unit within UNIPG.
- 2021-2024 project: “Protection of biodiversity of Italian poultry breeds”—TuBaVi2. PSRN: Support for the conservation, use and sustainable development of genetic resources in agriculture. Sub-measure 10.2. - Member of the Research Unit within UNIPG.
- 2021-2024 project: “Italian Biodiversity Environment Efficiency Fitness” I-BEEF2: support for the conservation, use and sustainable development of genetic resources in agriculture (Sub-measure 10.2). Member of the Research Unit within UNIPG.