

TOEKENNINGEN DOBBERKE STICHTING 2020



De Dr. J.L. Dobberke Stichting voor Vergelijkende Psychologie bevordert onderzoek naar gedragsbiologie bij levende wezens, in het bijzonder diergedrag. De Stichting is opgericht in 1950 door mejuffrouw S.L. van Stolk en in 2005 ondergebracht bij de KNAW.

The neuroendocrine correlates to within-cage hierarchal structures in pair-housed mice

Steffen van Heijningen
PhD student, Universiteit Groningen

Phenotypical changes on a metabolic, physiological and psychiatric (behavioural) level are greatly influenced by the social context of mice. Increasing the understanding of social behaviour in mice, and approaching a more 'naturally relevant' experimental setup, will contribute to the translatability of preclinical research.

Investigating the relationship between feather pecking, foraging behaviour and enrichment with insect larvae in laying hens

Saskia Kliphuis
PhD student Universiteit Utrecht

Feather pecking in laying hens is a key behavioural problem in the egg industry. The provision of insect larvae as foraging enrichment has the potential to reduce feather pecking.

Applying early socialization to increase pig welfare in commercial farming

Ellen Meijer
Assistant professor Universiteit Utrecht

In this study, an inexpensive, practical solution to allow early socialization in commercially-housed suckling piglets will be examined, focussing on both parameters for emotional welfare in pigs, as well as production parameters. We expect that early socialization will improve emotional state, cognitive capability and production-related parameters such as growth.

How do animals trade off their benefits and costs in reproduction? The allocation of reproductive efforts and its hormonally-mediated mechanism in a social burying beetle.

Wenxia Wang
PhD student, Universiteit Groningen

Elucidating the underlying mechanism of reproductive trade-offs and its hormonally-mediated process will contribute to our understandings of the evolution of animal behaviour and the role of physiology in it. This

project aims to integrate hormonal and behavioural studies to understand the role of hormones on parental allocation between current and future reproduction and sexual conflict over parental care strategies.

Spatial coupling of food and mating

Xiaocui Wang
PhD student Universiteit Groningen

We propose to use low-cost, low-footprint but high-throughput video recording and tracking system to continuously track the location of the male and female to determine their spatial distribution before and during matings to understand whether and how food is spatially coupled with mating.

Disentangling the role of group composition on social interactions in a mouse model for autism

Ilse van der Werf
Postdoctoraal onderzoeker Radboud Universitair Medisch Centrum

Using a mouse model for autism, we want to investigate the role of group composition on behaviour. We will do this by monitoring a range of social interactions and analyzing the effect of different ratios of unaffected versus affected mice in a group on the displayed social behaviour.