LegumeLegacy

NEWSLETTER

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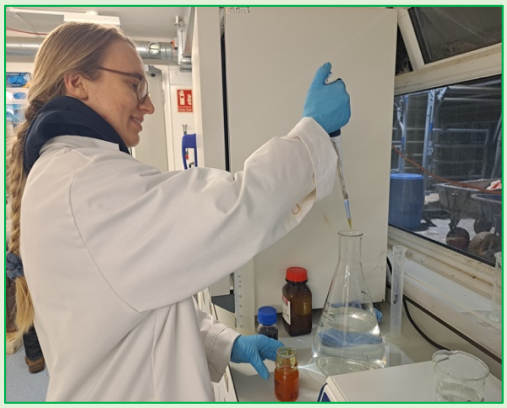
THIS ISSUE



Meret's Interdisciplinary Secondment on In Vitro Rumen Fermentation and Methane Analysis at the University of Reading

Earlier this year, Meret undertook an interdisciplinary secondment at the University of Reading. Despite an unexpected snowstorm disrupting her journey from Aarhus, Denmark, she arrived ready to begin an intensive period of hands-on research training.

The primary objective of her secondment was to undertake hands-on training in animal experimentation, specifically in vitro gas production using the ANKOM system. This technique simulates rumen conditions to evaluate the degradability of feedstuffs, in this case forages, through measurements of total gas and methane production.

As the ANKOM system is relatively new at the University of Reading, Meret and Raniel devoted considerable time to troubleshooting and optimising the system, an aspect of the work Meret found particularly engaging. She was also reacquainted with laboratory-based chemistry procedures, including the preparation of buffer solutions by combining specific reagents to mimic ruminant saliva.

In terms of professional development, she particularly enjoyed contributing to the strong teamwork demonstrated by staff at the Centre for Dairy Research at the University of Reading. Overall, the secondment provided valuable exposure to a different experimental approach, contributing to her broader understanding of grassland-based livestock systems and their implications for nutrient utilisation and methane mitigation.

Raniel Valencia

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LegumeLegacy is an MSCA Doctoral Network

https://legumelegacy.scss.tcd.ie/

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