UNIVERSITÀ
DEGLI STUDI
DI PADOVA

Curriculum Vitae

Family Name: Boschi
Given Name: Elena
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Education:

- PhD in Animal and Food Science, Università di Padova (2019-)
- M.Sc. Master's in Food Safety and Security (2018-2019)
- M.Sc. Master's in Biotechnologies for Food science (2014-2017)
- B.Sc. Bachelor's in Biotechnologies (2010-2013)

Research areas:

- Genetics and Genomics
- Animal Breeding

PhD project:

The Ph.D. research topic has the aim of identifying and select innovative pig phenotypes to include novel traits in pig breeding programs. The project will make use of genomic, metabolomic, and phenomic approaches, in collaboration with 2 additional research units, from the University of Milan and the University of Bologna. The Ph.D. project will focus in particular on traits related to “boar taint”, to select pig lines with a reduced amount of indole, skatole, and androstenone in fresh meat of intact male pigs. The project addresses, for the first time in an integrated way, the questions of the genetics factors affecting “boar taint” level in heavy pigs that is a hot topic for the production system, considering the rising concern in the EU about surgical castration of male pigs, also for traditional products (i.e., PDO). Compounds responsible for “boar taint” will be quantified by RP-HPLC in biopsies of adipose tissue collected from the neck of 800 intact male pigs. To guarantee animal welfare and health, a trained veterinarian will carry out all sampling procedures using local anesthesia. Pigs will be also genotyped using a high-density porcine DNA-chip. Genotypes will be imputed up to 60k using existing genotype information collected on the same pig boar line. Genomic information will be used to design novel breeding plans including genomic selection in heavy pig commercial lines with reduced incidence of “boar taint”. The correlation between “boar taint” compounds and fertility traits will be also investigated.

Supervisor:

Paolo Carnier

Publications:

https://scholar.google.com/citations?authuser=1&user=SZxhLqQAAAAJ