

STSM at the University of Liverpool (2th – 7th February, 2020)

I recently completed a STSM in Liverpool at the University of Liverpool. The STSM was supervised by Dragan Antic and John Tulloch. The main purpose of the STSM was to contribute to the systematic review of available literature on the scientific research in intervention measures for sheep, to obtain quantitative information on the reduction of bacterial load in sheep production chain.

A start-up meeting on the first day of the STSM discussed the status of the RIBMINS Working group 3 on sheep interventions and cleared out the work to be finished during the rest of STSM stay. A thorough review of the working process and status, clarified tasks to be completed during and after the STSM completion. Further, a discussion on the theoretical background of systematic review and meta-analysis was raised and contributed to my understanding and clarification of further work in RIBMINS.

I attended an abattoir visit together with undergraduate students from the University of Liverpool Institute of Veterinary Science to get information and knowledge regarding the facilities and process of slaughtering in a selected British slaughterhouse. Also, I attended follow-up lab work by the veterinary students on their curriculum tasks in the Veterinary Institutes' laboratory.

A closing meeting between me and the host contributed further with crucial information and knowledge to the continuous work and methods applied in RIBMINS.

During my STSM we accomplished three main objectives: 1) finalization of 'relevance confirmation' stage of the systematic review in sheep interventions; 2) training in further steps and methods used for the systematic review and meta-analysis task in sheep interventions; and 3) discussion and networking about future potential projects between the two institutions, stemming from the results generated in this task.

The STSM was for me a very effective way to learn, increase network and contribute to future collaborations on further research with results being applicable for both UK and Norway but also with a wider relevance for other countries. I can warmly recommend others to apply and attend a STSM; it was an inspiring experience that added enthusiasm to daily working tasks!



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