

Editorial

The rates of foodborne diseases, resistance of pathogens, shortage of low cost fodder is quite high, especially during drought seasons. Given that foodborne diseases usually result from the consumption of contaminated food products, determining the presence as well as the toxigenic effects of pathogens isolated from food products is of great epidemiological and public health significance. Moreover, the discovery of novel bioactive compounds may address microbial resistance that is currently on the increase globally.

Research has to be conducted in developing countries such as South Africa to support livestock farming. Another menace in our soci-

ety is substance abuse. This represents identifiable important threats to public health especially in developing countries. We have attempted in this special issue to focus on research in these themes.

In this Special Issue of the Journal of Human Ecology, papers and review articles relating to a broad spectrum of areas were invited. Papers on food safety, microbial resistance, support systems for livestock farming, substance abuse and livelihood sustainability were reviewed for publication. The aim of this special issue is to provide a common platform to share ideas, technologies and research findings on multi and interdisciplinary research areas.

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