



BIOGRAPHY OF HICHEM BEN SALEM

Prof. Hichem Ben Salem is a permanent member of the laboratory of Animal and Forage Productions at the National Institute of Agronomic Research of Tunisia (INRAT). In 1998, he earned a PhD in Animal Nutrition from the University of Dijon in France. Along his career as scientist at INRAT (since 1991), Prof. Hichem Ben Salem is in charge of research programs focusing on the potential use of alternative feed resources (fodder shrubs, cactus, range vegetation, crop residues, agro industrial by-products, secondary compounds-containing forages, etc.) in sheep and goat feeding. He also investigated livestock response to different stressors (anti-nutritive factors in the diet, drinking water restriction or salinity, etc.) in terms of digestion, production performance and meat and milk quality. He is also working on the determination of water and carbon footprints of livestock production systems and meat and milk as indicators of the adaptation of livestock production systems to climate change. He coordinated a set of national and international projects funded by different donors (e.g. FAO, IFAD, IAEA, UE, IDRC, etc.). Pr. Ben Salem authored and coauthored around 100 papers published mainly in international peer-reviewed journals and book chapters. He was also an invited editor of several special issues of Elsevier's journals (Animal Feed Science and Technology and Small Ruminant Research). The H-index of Prof. Hichem Ben Salem is 30 (Scopus database, February 2023). He is currently the Director General of the Institution of Agricultural Research and Higher Education (IRESA) of Tunisia, which is in charge of the research, academic, finance and administrative coordination of 10 agricultural research high schools and 11 agricultural high education. Prof. Ben Salem was also the Director of the Research Program "Diversification and Sustainable Intensification of Production Systems" at the International Center of Agricultural Research in the Dry Areas (ICARDA, 2014-2016), Director General of the National Institute of Agricultural Research of Tunisia (INRAT, 2011-2013) and head of the laboratory of animal and forage productions (2005-2013) at INRAT. He is member of the executive board of CIHEAM (International center of the Mediterranean agricultural high education the coordinator of the FAO-CIHEAM Network on Sheep and Goat Nutrition since 2000 and regional coordinator for the Mediterranean area of the FAO-ICARDA Cactus Network (2014-2022).