California Animal Nutrition Conference

ABSTRACT GUIDELINES

An abstract is a concise scientific communication that enables readers to evaluate the significance of a study, method, or extension/teaching innovation. Because abstracts become part of the permanent scientific record, they must be written with clarity, precision, brevity, and scientific rigor. Use complete sentences and avoid vague or redundant statements.

An abstract <u>should</u> include:

1. **Introduction:** Briefly state the importance or context of the issue addressed by your study.

2. **Objective(s):** Clearly and concisely state the objective(s) at the beginning of the abstract.

3. **Methods:** Briefly describe essential methodological details (e.g., design, population, sample, instrumentation, and data analysis) sufficient to define the scope of the study.

4. **Results:** Present only key findings relevant to the objectives. Condense and summarize carefully. Any statistical inferences should be reported only if necessary to support interpretation.

5. **Conclusions:** Provide a clear interpretation of the main findings and their implications.

6. **Keywords:** Include up to **four** keywords at the end of the abstract.

7. **Ethical and Transparency Notes:**
   - **AI disclosure:** If AI tools (e.g., ChatGPT) assisted with writing or editing, disclose this in the submission notes (e.g., "AI-assisted editing for grammar and style; authors are responsible for all content and interpretation.").
   - **Funding acknowledgment:** Include a brief statement of financial support (e.g., "This work was supported by the California Dairy Research Foundation.").

Additional notes:

- Abstracts describing teaching or extension activities should present innovative approaches (e.g., a new idea, creative adaptation, or new application of an existing concept) and include an evaluation of effectiveness.

- Include only information that directly enhances the understanding of the methodology or interpretation of the results.

An abstract is <u>unacceptable</u> if it:

1. Contains grammatical errors or meaningless statements (e.g., "Results will be presented.").
2. Presents data without appropriate statistical analysis or measures of variability.
3. Includes no data or results related to the stated objectives.
4. Uses non-metric units.
5. Contains typographical errors.
6. Fails to follow submission requirements.
7. Presents opinion or speculation without demonstrated application in research, teaching, or extension.

<u>Format for abstract submissions:</u>

1. **Length:** Maximum **2,300 keystrokes** (including title, spaces, punctuation, keywords, and any table). The AI and funding disclosure statement does **not** count toward the limit but should not exceed **250 keystrokes**.

2. **Tables:** Only one table is permitted if it effectively conveys results. Maximum **10 columns × 15 rows**.

3. **Submission:** Email both Word and PDF versions to jeremy@agamsi.com by March 6, 2026.

    Please label files as:
    LastName_FirstName_Abstract.docx
    LastName_FirstName_Abstract.pdf

4. Use one side of an **8.5″ × 11″** sheet for title and text. **Margins should be** Left 1.5″; Right/Top/Bottom 1″. Use 12-point Times New Roman font.

5. **Examples:** Refer to pages 170 – 184 of the [2025 CANC Proceedings](#) for sample formatting and style examples.

POSTER PRESENTATION GUIDELINES

Accepted abstracts will be scheduled for poster presentation. Posters will be on display for attendees during the conference. Posters must be mounted **by 3:00 p.m. on Wednesday, May 6th** and remain mounted for viewing through the following day.

Authors must be present for **judging and Q&A** at the 5:00 pm Industry Social hour on Wednesday, May 6th. During judging authors must be prepared to summarize their study in **2–3 minutes** and respond to questions. Awards will be announced on **Thursday, May 7th.**

Detailed setup, viewing, and judging times will be communicated to all participants in advance of the conference.

Poster Format and Display:

- Poster board dimensions: **4 ft (high) × 6 ft (wide)**.
- The top of the poster should display the **title, authors, and affiliations**.
- Title lettering should be at least **1 inch high** and legible from 8 to 10 ft away.
- Text and figure labels should be easily readable from 3 ft away.

Recommended Resources for Poster Preparation:

- How to Make an Effective Academic Poster – UC Davis Undergraduate Research Center (2021)
- Poster Basics – NYU Libraries Research Guide

VIDEO LIGHTNING TALK GUIDELINES
(only for Scholarship Applicants)

All students participating in the scholarship competition should record a **3-minute video** summarizing their research. This brief presentation should clearly communicate your study's purpose, approach, key findings, and relevance in a format suitable for a non-expert audience.

You can use **Zoom**, **PowerPoint recording**, or a similar platform to capture your video. You may choose to present yourself on screen while sharing your slides or narrate your slides with voice-over (your face does not need to appear).

- **File format:** .MP4 or .MOV preferred.

- **Naming convention:** LastName_FirstName_ScholarshipVideo2026.mp4

- **Submission:** Upload your presentation video using this CANC Student Submission OneDrive portal by **March 6, 2026**. For issues accessing the upload portal or other questions, email jeremy@agamsi.com.

Recommended Resources for Lighting Talk Preparation:

Lightning (3 Minute) Talk Guidelines.pdf

Creating a Video Presentation for a Virtual Conference | Undergraduate Research Center

For questions regarding Abstracts, Poster Presentations, or Video Lightning Talks, please contact the CANC Coordinator, Jeremy Toews, at jeremy@agamsi.com or call 916-621-9799.