

## Gastrointestinal microbial ecology and its health benefits in Dogs

K.B. Kore\*, S.S.Patil and B.T. Phondaba<sup>1</sup>

Centre of Advanced Studies in Animal Nutrition,  
Indian Veterinary Research Institute, Izatnagar 243 122  
Corresponding author E-mail: kumarkore@gmail.com, Mobile: +91 9358528510  
1. Dairy Cattle Nutrition, National Dairy Research Institute, Karnal

### Abstract

Gastrointestinal microbial balance is the most important prerequisite for normal functions of digestive system, physiological and immunological homeostasis in dogs as well as in other animals. It helps in prevention of pathogenic colonization, provides energy through SCFA by nutrient breakdown, and improves mineral-vitamin supply to host, augment host immune status. Hence, it is imperative to explore the potential means to improve the gastrointestinal microbial diversity which in turns boost up dog health.

**Keywords:** Gastro-intestinal microbes, Ecology, Dog, Nutrition, Health.