



**Faisal Almathen, DVM, MSc, PhD**

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Hi, I am Faisal Almathen from Saudi Arabia. I am an Assistant Professor of Animal Genetic and Breeding at College of Veterinary Medicine and Animal Resources at King Faisal University in Saudi Arabia. My main research interest is camel genetic diversity.

I am particularly interested in understanding how major past demographic events, culture and social practices shaped the genetic diversity, morphological variations and structure of Arabian camel populations using genetic data. I am focusing now in identification genetic markers for phenotypic traits through comparative genomic approaches across camel populations (e.g. milk production, disease resistances).

As a member of camel society, I would like to develop and promote national and international research programs to address key need areas to improve camel performance and production capacity using advanced genetic markers technology and universal recording systems.

**Publications:**

- Faye B., Abdallah H., Almathen F., Harzallah B., Almutairi S., 2011. Camel biodiversity. Camel phenotypes in the Kingdom of Saudi Arabia. Camel Breeding, Protection and Improvement Center, project UTF/SAU/021/SAU, FAO publ., Riyadh (Saudi Arabia), 78 p.
- Almathen F., Mwacharo J., Hanotte O., 2012. Genetic diversity and relationships of indigenous Saudi Arabia camel *Camelus dromedarius* populations. Proceedings of the 3rd Conference of the International Society of Camelid Research and Development. Musqat Oman.
- Almathen F., Charruau P., Peters J., Abdussamad M., Raziq A., Faye B., Al-Eknaah M., Walzer C., Hanotte O., Burger P. Out of Arabia, dynamics of domestication revealed by

the global genetic diversity of dromedaries and their ancient wild ancestors (in process of publication).

- Almathen F., Mwacharo J., Hanotte O. Coat colour in the Arabian Peninsula dromedary is associated with mutations in the agouti signalling protein (ASIP) and melanocortin 1 receptor (MC1R) genes (in process of publication).