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Title: Electroencephalogram responses in goats subjected to pre-slaughter stress

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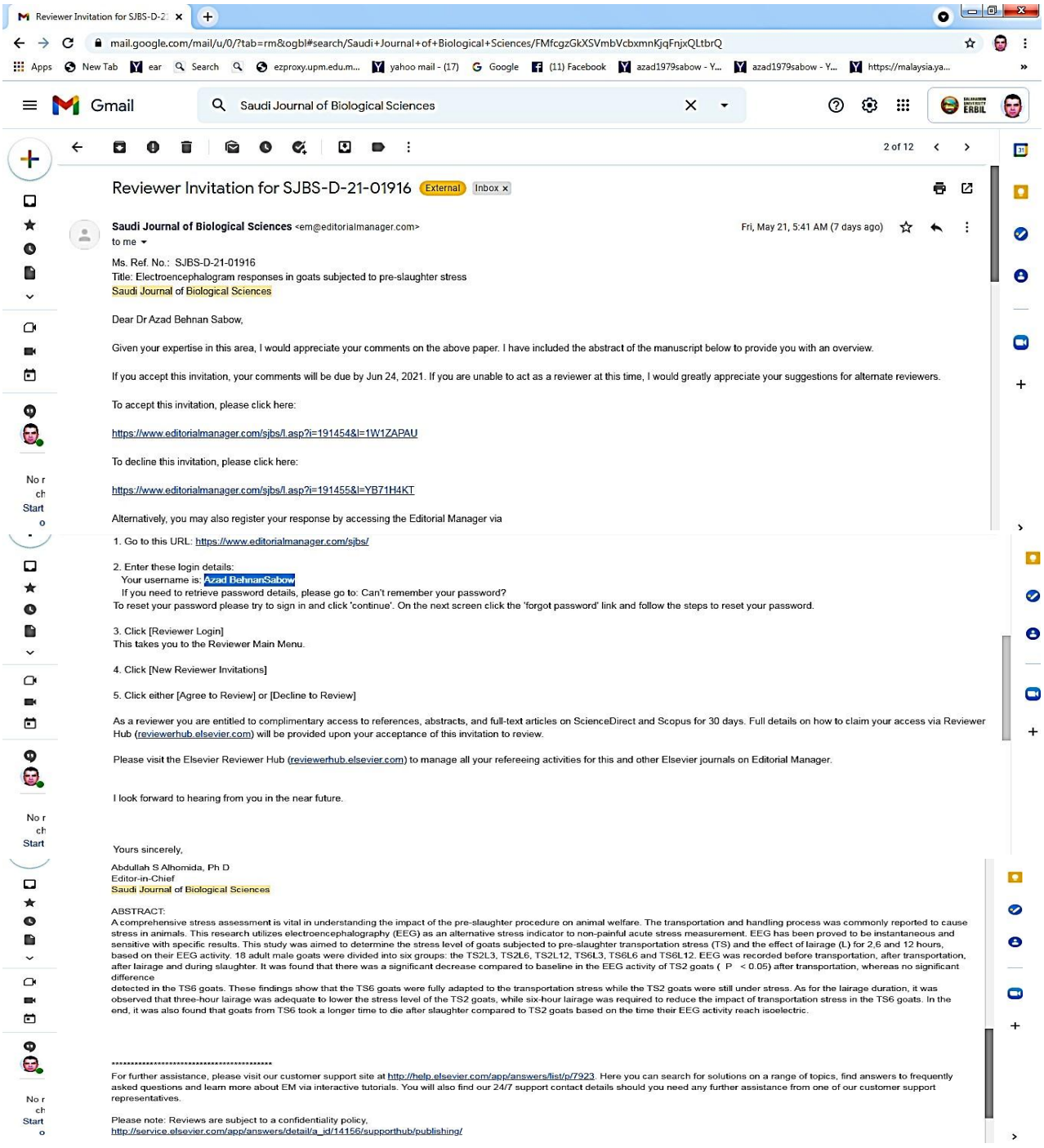

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Ms. Ref. No.: SJBS-D-21-01916
Title: Electroencephalogram responses in goats subjected to pre-slaughter stress
Saudi Journal of Biological Sciences

Dear Dr Azad Behnan Sabow,

Given your expertise in this area, I would appreciate your comments on the above paper. I have included the abstract of the manuscript below to provide you with an overview.

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I look forward to hearing from you in the near future.

Yours sincerely,

Abdullah S Alhomida, Ph D
Editor-in-Chief
Saudi Journal of Biological Sciences

ABSTRACT:
A comprehensive stress assessment is vital in understanding the impact of the pre-slaughter procedure on animal welfare. The transportation and handling process was commonly reported to cause stress in animals. This research utilizes electroencephalography (EEG) as an alternative stress indicator to non-painful acute stress measurement. EEG has been proved to be instantaneous and sensitive with specific results. This study was aimed to determine the stress level of goats subjected to pre-slaughter transportation stress (TS) and the effect of lairage (L) for 2,6 and 12 hours, based on their EEG activity. 18 adult male goats were divided into six groups: the TS2L3, TS2L6, TS2L12, TS6L3, TS6L6 and TS6L12. EEG was recorded before transportation, after transportation, after lairage and during slaughter. It was found that there was a significant decrease compared to baseline in the EEG activity of TS2 goats (P < 0.05) after transportation, whereas no significant difference
detected in the TS6 goats. These findings show that the TS6 goats were fully adapted to the transportation stress while the TS2 goats were still under stress. As for the lairage duration, it was observed that three-hour lairage was adequate to lower the stress level of the TS2 goats, while six-hour lairage was required to reduce the impact of transportation stress in the TS6 goats. In the end, it was also found that goats from TS6 took a longer time to die after slaughter compared to TS2 goats based on the time their EEG activity reach isoelectric.

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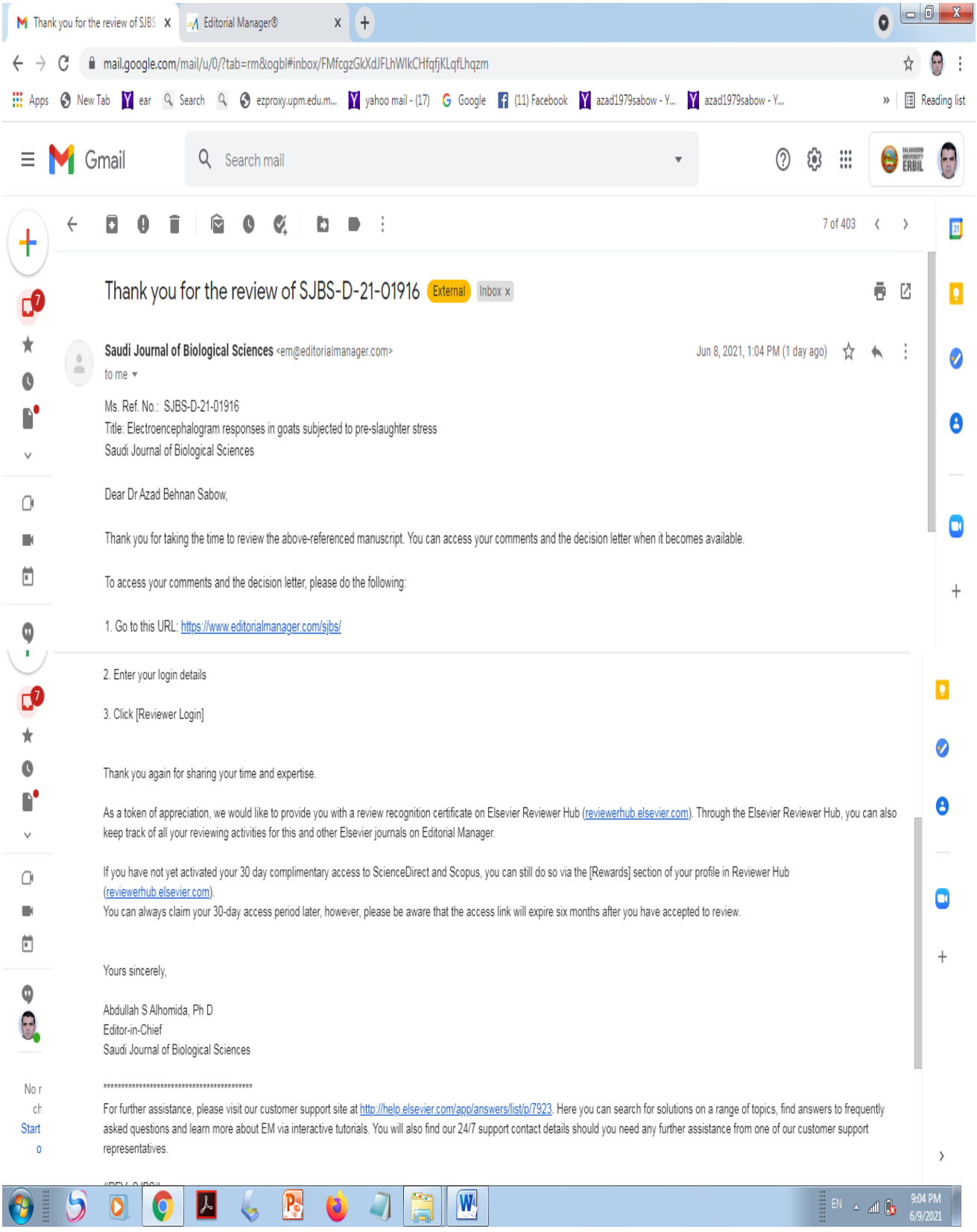

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Title: Electroencephalogram responses in goats subjected to pre-slaughter stress
Saudi Journal of Biological Sciences

Dear Dr Azad Behnan Sabow,

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