



Daniël Berckmans, PE, full professor emeritus at KU Leuven; Adjunct Distinguished Professor at the University of Tennessee; and CTO at BioRICS, is being honored for his exceptional contributions to establishing and advancing the field of precision livestock farming.

As full professor emeritus at KU Leuven, Berckmans works on publishing, promoting finishing PhDs, and co-promoting theses for bioscience engineering. Berckmans also gives seminars, teaches, and gives presentations at conferences to support the M3-BIORES team in the biosystems department. As adjunct distinguished professor at the University of Tennessee in the department of Biosystems Engineering and Soil Science, Berckmans supports and mentors the UT team for Precision Livestock Farming. Berckmans is also CTO at BioRICS. As a founder and board member, his responsibilities include coordinating development as well as testing and implementation of real-time algorithms for monitoring humans and animals.

Berckmans is considered the worldwide academic leader of precision livestock farming (PLF). PLF involves improving individual animal's health and welfare by real-time monitoring of the animal's condition through images, sounds, sensors and biological, physiological, and environmental measurements. In his previous academic capacity as professor at KU Leuven, he headed the Division M3-BIORES with a team of continuously 25 to 30 PhD and up to 20 masters students. He also taught 8 courses with a range of students from second year of undergraduate to last year of graduate school students. In 2015 he was a driving force in starting a new masters program, human health engineering. This program is the first European academic masters program focusing on real-time monitoring of human health conditions, including stress, sleep quality, etc. He coordinated several EU projects, the most recent being an 8-million-euro project with 20 partners with test facilities in 12 countries. Berckmans has promoted over 250 master theses, assumed the role of promotor of 26 PhDs and was member of over 64 PhD commissions in 9 countries.

Berckmans is a 36-year member of ASABE. He is also a member of the scientific board of the World Farmers' Organization that represents a billion farmers.

Berckmans has authored or co-authored 332 articles in peer reviewed journals, 389 papers in conferences, 101 meeting abstracts, and 181 internal reports. These intellectual contributions have collectively resulted in a total of 16,250 citations on Google Scholar. He is co-inventor of 20 patents and co-developed 17 products that went to the world market. He has given over 100 invited keynote lectures in scientific conferences and company events.