

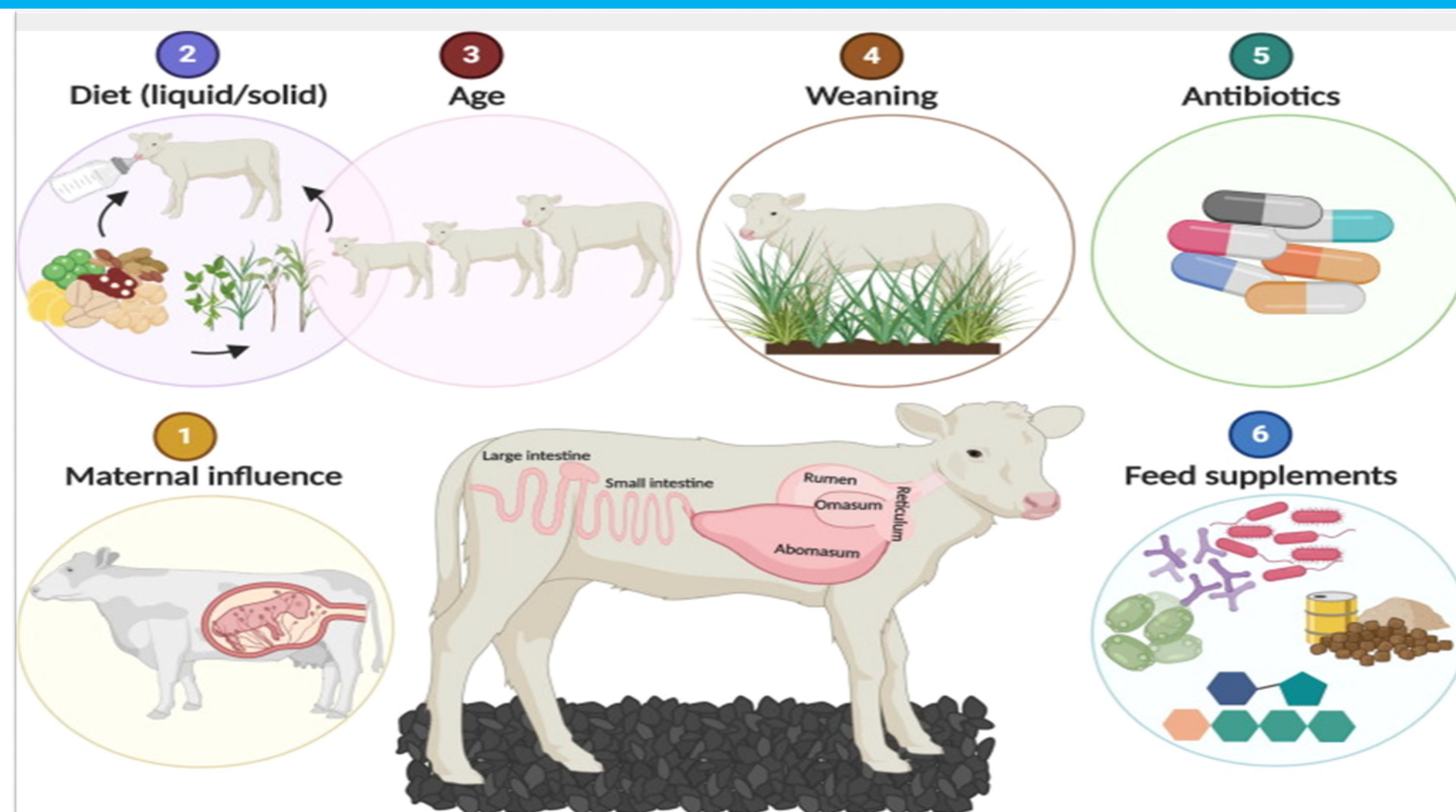


examining the role of microbes and their interplay with the ruminant animal during life events and how it affects performance, health, welfare and the environment

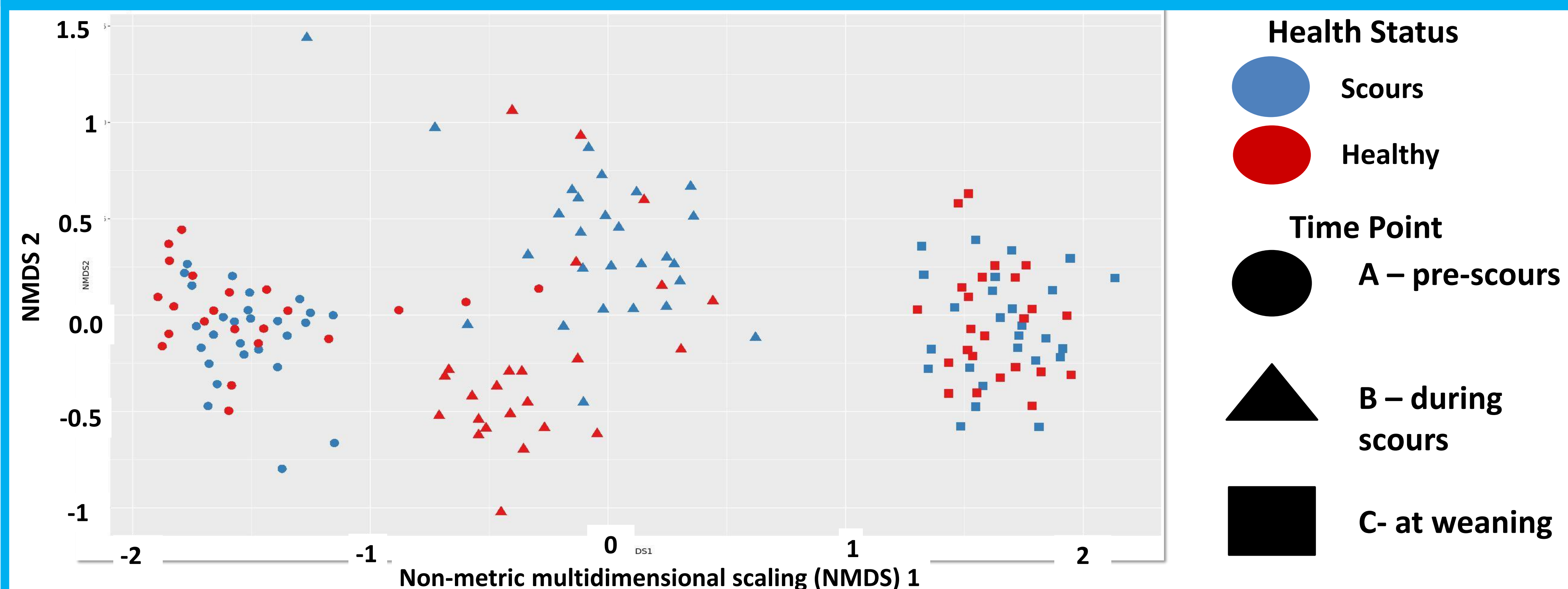
Defining the microbiome

A community of microorganisms in a particular environment

Factors influencing development



Diversity of the faecal microbiome over the pre-weaning period



Take home messages

- Diversity in the microbiome is a key feature of ruminants
- Greater understanding of gastrointestinal tract microbial function and dynamics will lead to improvements in ruminant performance, health and welfare