

EDITORIAL

Currently the Editor-in-Chief writes, for each issue of the Journal, a one to one-and-a-half page length Editorial. In it he normally explains changes (if any) in the aims, editorial processing and layout of the publication and then usually goes on to briefly describe the material contained within it.

The idea has been put forward – and is being seriously considered by the Editorial Board – that the Editor-in-Chief's Editorial should at times be replaced by a signed Guest Editorial on a theme chosen by the Guest Editor. This could be complemented by a short administrative note by the Editor-in-Chief. The adoption of such a scheme would allow outside experts to advance their own ideas on some technical aspects of animal welfare. Readers could respond to these ideas via the Letter section of the journal. If this change is instituted it could run from the first issue of the next Volume (February 1995).

This August 1994 issue starts with a 'standard' Editorial which is followed by six refereed pieces made up of three Articles, two Short Communications and a Technical Contribution. The Articles cover the release of rehabilitated juvenile hedgehogs into the wild (Morris & Warwick), the behaviour of broiler chickens in indoor and free-range environments (Weeks, Nicol, Sherwin & Kestin) and the causes of body rocking in chimpanzees (Spijkerman, Dienske, van Hooff & Jens). The two Short Communications are a study of the individual variation in response of farm animals to stressors (Manteca & Deag) and an account of the effects on badgers of the activities of a single, persistent poacher (Griffiths). The Technical Contribution, by Hamilton, describes a portable handling facility for farmed red deer.

The Reports and Comments section covers, amongst other things, published items on genetic engineering, the trapping of animals for fur, stranded cetaceans and the welfare of sheep. There are five signed Book Reviews and a Letter on badgers and bovine tuberculosis in the UK.

The aim of the Journal, as has been repeated several times in the Editorials, is to produce a scientific and technical publication dealing specifically with factual aspects of animal welfare and in particular to publish unique material which might otherwise not be formally reported in any way. Workers in the field are invited to submit such material: they will be given all possible help in getting their findings placed on record.

August 1994

Roger Ewbank
Editor-in-Chief

Who Cares Beyond the Farm Gate?

Millions of animals are routinely slaughtered every day for our food. The potential for the abuse and neglect of these animals is immense...*but who cares?*

The Humane Slaughter Association (HSA) is the only registered charity to specialize in the welfare of animals from leaving the farm to the point of slaughter. It takes a responsible, rational approach to animal welfare, believing that long-term improvements can be achieved through practical training, advice and education. The HSA achieves its aims by:

- Providing technical information and advice on all aspects of animal handling, transport and slaughter.
- Practical demonstrations of humane slaughter.
- Funding essential research through grants and awards.
- Regular visits to abattoirs and markets recommending improvements where necessary.
- Producing educational videos, publications and training for all those involved in animal handling.

The HSA depends on voluntary donations and legacies and relies on your support. For more information please contact: Humane Slaughter Association, 34 Blanche Lane, South Mimms, Potters Bar, Herts EN6 3PA. Tel: 01707 659040 Fax: 01707 649279.

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