

he specifically considers include the use of bovine somatotrophin in dairying and transgenic animals.

Cultural aspects of food ethics are considered by Leslie Gofton in chapter eight, within which there is a section on health, ecology and animal welfare. In chapter nine (consumer sovereignty as ethical practice in food marketing), Robert Hamilton considers the 'ethical consumer' and has a section on intensive farming with a brief sub-section entitled marketing, ethics, animal welfare and ecosystem conservation. Within this, Hamilton asserts that differences of opinion about the treatment of animals or care of ecosystems in farming do not justify refusing consumers a choice of products. This seems to imply that if some consumers want products that involve high levels of animal suffering than they should be allowed this free choice. This is strange since, earlier in the chapter, he acknowledges that the treatment of animals and degradation of the ecosystem 'go beyond the individual to society'. He goes on to argue the requirement for detailed information about production and farming methods, presumably so that consumers can then make a more informed choice. Whilst it might be generally agreed that providing consumers with better information on which to base their purchases is desirable, the market mechanism, on its own, cannot be relied upon to safeguard either the environment or the welfare of animals. The final chapter, again by Ben Mepham, looks at ethical issues in research policy. There are two pages in this chapter which consider, research policy and expenditure with respect to animal welfare and focus particularly on the roles of the Biotechnology and Biological Sciences Research Council (BBSRC) and the Ministry of Agriculture, Fisheries and Food (MAFF) in the UK. He questions whether the BBSRC addresses animal welfare concerns within an appropriate context, since it considers, under its programme, novel technologies and livestock improvement. He also notes that MAFF has allocated only 3 per cent of its research budget to animal welfare.

In summary, there are many ethical issues raised in the book regarding food production and consumption, although the implications for animal welfare are not always explored. Those who seek direct relevance and explicit reference to animal welfare issues may therefore find the book a little disappointing, since only one chapter is specifically devoted to the consideration of the use of animals for food. Nevertheless, there is much food for thought in this interesting collection of essays which cover a broad range of food-ethics issues.

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Animal Welfare Legislation in Canada and Germany

Christiane Meyer (1996). Peter Lang GmbH: Frankfurt. 285pp. Paperback. Obtainable from the publishers, Europäischer Verlag der Wissenschaften, Abteilung WB, Postfach 940225, Frankfurt am Main, Germany (ISBN 3 631 30733 0). Price DM84.

This book evolved from a dissertation by the author, who majored in animal welfare and protection. It includes a comprehensive comparison between two totally different types of animal welfare legislation.

The Canadian system is largely a provincial responsibility (apart from a few federally-regulated criminal aspects), with power of enforcement often delegated to NGOs, such as

Societies for the Prevention of Cruelty to Animals. Inspectors in some provinces could even, theoretically, carry weapons and in many provinces are allowed to enter private property without warrants! Additionally, in Canada many professional associations, such as farmers' associations, have voluntary regulations that address welfare problems.

The German system, with one comprehensive federal welfare act, plus a few European Union or Council of Europe regulations has no official participation of NGOs, either in enforcement or in regulation. One flaw I found was that, to some extent, the husbandry guidelines and other regulations currently compiled by the European Association of Zoos and Aquaria and its Taxon Advisory Groups are comparable to the regulations by Canadian professional associations and should have been included. Other similar efforts, eg on circus animals, are currently under way.

The book outlines the strengths and weaknesses of both systems and compares which parts are better, both from practical and ethical viewpoints.

Nevertheless, the book does not address the first question that came to my mind when I received it - why Germany and Canada? There is never any specific reason given (at least I did not find one) as to why these two particular countries were compared. Germany is an obvious choice because the author is German and enrolled at a German veterinary school. But the only reason for choosing Canada, seems to me, that the author practised there for some time.

I am sure European animal welfare experts could learn a lot from the Canadian system's strengths and weaknesses. A system of so many different provinces with totally different types of animal exploitation, ranging from cattle farming to game farms and indigenous peoples' hunting and fishing, could serve as a model for pan-European efforts. However, this should have been stressed by the author and not left to the reader's own discretion. As it is, probably less people than hoped will read this book.

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Birds of Prey: Management and Training

Bryan Paterson (1996). Farming Press Videos: Ipswich. Colour VHS video. 57 minutes. Obtainable from the publishers, Miller Freeman Professional Ltd, Wharfdale Road, Ipswich IP1 4LG, UK. Distributed in North America by Diamond Farm Enterprises, Box 537, Alexandria Bay, New York 13607, USA (ISBN 0 85236 328 1). Price £15.99 plus £2.50 postage and packing.

This video is narrated by Bryan Patterson who is a well-respected British Professional Falconer of 25 years and who spends much of his working time touring schools and country fairs, giving displays with educational commentaries on falconry and birds of prey. The video is principally concerned with mapping the progress of 'Caroline', a novice falconer, as she attends an introductory, residential falconry-course with Bryan. The video is entertaining and informative, although the subject area is so large that many very important factors have unfortunately been left out. To do the subject justice a series of at least five videos would be required.

Although Caroline is attending the residential course, most viewers would be unaware of this and the recommendation that all new falconers should become an apprentice to a master