

the welfare of various types of livestock (see below) whose movements were restricted by disease-control measures. The booklet on sheep covered general guidelines for the management of flock feeding, lambing of ewes away from the farm, regulation of accommodation and stocking rates, humane destruction, and management of non-animal movements (eg deliveries of feedstuff). Although there is some information in these notes that may be of general relevance in dealing with welfare aspects of foot and mouth disease control, the guidelines are very specifically focused on the particular circumstances in the UK during the spring of 2001.

Protecting the welfare of sheep under foot and mouth movement restrictions March 2001. Foot and Mouth Disease Public Information Factsheet 10. Ministry of Agriculture, Fisheries and Food. 8 pp A4. Available from Animal Welfare Division, Area 508, 1a Page Street, London SW1P 4PQ, UK, and also at www.maff.gov.uk. Similar factsheets are available also for beef cattle (Factsheet 7), pigs (Factsheet 8), goats (Factsheet 9), and dairy cattle and growing heifers (Factsheet 11).

Biosecurity

The outbreak of foot and mouth disease in the UK in February 2001, caused by the strain of the virus that has been responsible for epidemics in many countries around the world in recent years, has raised questions about the adequacy of the UK and European defences against exotic livestock infections. The growth in global free trade and the ever-increasing international movement of humans, animals and livestock products present a serious challenge to the maintenance of rigorous biosecurity measures. The introduction of non-indigenous species, whether they be plants, animals, or infectious agents, is known to be a major threat to the conservation of biological diversity and also to the welfare of animals — domestic and/or wild. In New Zealand, this subject has a high public profile and one body, the MAF Biosecurity Authority, is responsible for all of these issues. This authority produces a six-weekly magazine, *Biosecurity* (see below), that covers the fields of biosecurity and animal health, animal welfare, and plant and forest health.

The articles included in the recent (May 2001) issue of this magazine, which include educating people about biosecurity, improving animal health surveillance, reporting on recently discovered non-indigenous organisms and strategies for their control, animal welfare issues, and new phytosanitary requirements for timber imports, emphasise the inter-relatedness of these subjects and the importance of the unifying concept of biosecurity. This contrasts with the situation in the UK and in Europe as a whole, in which animal welfare, domestic animal health, and wildlife and ecosystem conservation tend to be dealt with by separate bureaucracies.

This magazine *Biosecurity* is, so it says inside the front cover, “of special interest to all those with a stake in New Zealand’s agriculture, horticulture, forestry, animal welfare and environment”. It deserves attention, also, outside New Zealand as a model for helping to raise public awareness of the important issues of biosecurity.

Biosecurity May 2001. A magazine published six-weekly by MAF Biosecurity Authority. 23 pp A4 paperback. ISSN 1174-4618. Available from Biosecurity Authority, PO Box 2526, Wellington, New Zealand, and also at www.maf.govt.nz/Biosecurity/index.htm.

Guidelines for nonhuman primate re-introductions

Primate re-introductions are being undertaken with increasing frequency. Some are aimed at restoring primates to their natural habitats as part of a conservation programme, and others are motivated by concerns for welfare of captive animals. These new guidelines — still in draft stage for comment at present — have been developed by the Re-introductions Specialist Group