

It remains to be seen whether this journal makes a real impact in the sociological field and whether it can survive in competition with similar publications, notably *Anthrozoös* and *Centaur*.

The first issue of *Society and Animals* is, however, a well produced and interesting contribution to our understanding of man's relationships with non-human animals. It deserves well - if for no other reason than the belief held by many people that real progress in improving animal welfare will come about through changes in the attitude of those of us who come in to contact with and use non-human animals.

Society and Animals, Volume 1 (1) Edited by Kenneth Shapiro and Arnold Arluke (1993). The White Horse Press: Cambridge. 110pp. Paperback. Obtainable from the publishers, 1 Strond, Isle of Harris, Scotland PA83 3UD, UK or PSYeta, PO Box 1297, Washington Grove MD, 20880-1297, USA (ISSN 1063 1119) Subscription price £16 (individuals), £32 (institutions), £12 (students) annually for two issues.

Emergencies on livestock farms

Experienced livestock keepers know full well that they will have to cope, throughout the year, with a whole series of minor and, at times, major emergencies involving their animals. One of the talents of the good stockperson is his/her ability to anticipate trouble and to take early remedial action. In extensive husbandry systems the problems largely revolve around the weather, the provision of shelter and supplementary food. In intensive husbandry enterprises where large numbers of animals are often kept within buildings and are looked after by a relatively small staff, the crises result more from building failures and the breakdown of mechanical and electrical equipment.

One of the fears expressed by livestock farmers and especially those keeping their stock under intensive conditions, is 'what can I possibly do to save my animals if there is a farm fire or a major failure of the power supply?'

The main purpose of the recently published MAFF booklet entitled '*Emergencies on Livestock Farms*' is to alert farmers to these problems and to encourage them to prepare ahead, in the expectation that, sooner or later, some of these emergencies will actually occur on their own farms.

Such matters as alarms and emergency ventilation systems, casualty slaughter, fire emergencies, maintenance of essential mechanical equipment and services, the provision of emergency food/water supplies and the training of staff are covered in some seventeen pages of text.

This is a useful, well prepared publication. It should be read and acted on by all farmers and stock keepers. The advice, if implemented, could result in a considerable reduction in potential economic loss, waste and animal suffering.

Emergencies on Livestock Farms Ministry of Agriculture, Fisheries and Food (1992). 17pp. Obtainable free of charge from MAFF Publications, London SE99 7TP, UK.