

Rodents and rabbits in research

The edited proceedings of a conference sponsored by SCAW and WARDS, held in Washington DC on 21 May 1993 has now been published by the sponsors. The main parts of the publication consist of the full texts of the papers given at the meeting:

- Stephens M L 'Request for changes in USDA Regulations' (6pp)
- Gebhart G F 'Recognizing stress in rodents and rabbits' (7pp)
- Morton D 'Enrichment techniques for rodents and rabbits' (6pp)
- Cunliffe-Beamer T 'Transgenic rodents' (9pp)
- Wixson S K 'Anaesthesia, analgesia for rodents and rabbits' (29pp)
- Brown M J 'Aseptic surgery for rodents' (6pp)
- Johnson D K 'Adjuvant comparison in rabbits' (3pp).

The Question and Answer Sessions of Stephens', Morton's, Brown's and Johnson's papers are printed at the end of their contributions.

Much interest has been shown over the last few years in the welfare requirement of carnivores and primates kept for biomedical research purposes – the small laboratory species seem, in a relative sense, to have been somewhat neglected. This is not really true and it is most welcome that the work on the careful use and well-being of rodents and rabbits is now reported in the technical literature. The Proceedings of this SCAW/WARDS meeting on current research issues in rodent and rabbit usage presents some of the important material in a readily accessible form.

Rodents and Rabbits: Current Research Issues Edited by Steven M Niemi, Joseph S Venable, Helene N Guttman (1994). Published by Scientists Center for Animal Welfare (SCAW) and Working with Animals Used in Research, Drugs and Surgery (WARDS): Greenbelt. 81pp. Paperback. Obtainable from SCAW, Golden Triangle Building One, 7833 Walker Drive, Suite 340, Greenbelt, MD 20770, USA. Price US\$30.

Laboratory animal welfare and science

The proceedings volume containing the edited texts of the papers etc presented at the 5th symposium of the FELASA meeting held in Brighton (UK) in June 1993 has been published. A further 69 printed papers based on the posters displayed during the meeting are printed in this substantial book. The material is grouped under several headings – a number of which have obvious animal welfare interest, eg:

- Expression and relief of pain (5 papers)
- Planning better experiments (3 papers)
- Behavioural studies and husbandry (UFAW sponsored session; 10 papers)
- Non-invasive remote monitoring (4 papers)
- Animal technology (Institute of Animal Technology sponsored session; 10 papers)
- Necessity and expectation (RSPCA sponsored session; 9 papers)

On scanning the list of papers it is obvious that there is indeed, as the title of the volume indicates, much interest being taken in the welfare of the laboratory species as well as in their rational use in the biomedical sciences.