

means of extending the second deadline. Furthermore, the European Centre for the Validation of Alternative Methods (ECVAM) has received extra resources for the purpose of meeting the expectations of the Seventh Amendment.

In the light of the foregoing features, it is considered that the Seventh Amendment of the Cosmetics Directive is likely to promote laboratory animal protection, both within and beyond the territory of the EU.

**Directive 2003/15/EC.** *Official Journal of the European Union, L Series 66 11.03.2003: 26*

**Notes of Guidance for testing of cosmetic ingredients for their safety evaluation** (2000) *European Commission, Cosmetex Vol 3*

**Hartung T et al** (2003) ECVAM's Response to the Changing Political Environment for Alternatives. *ATLA 31: 473*

*PG Saluja*

*University of Aberdeen, School of Law*

### **New Zealand's Codes of Welfare for pigs and laying hens**

The fundamental obligations relating to the care of animals in New Zealand were established under the Animal Welfare Act 1999. However, the details of these obligations are found in codes of welfare, which set out minimum standards and recommendations for best practice relating to the physical, health and behavioural need of the species in question. On 1 January 2005, the Ministry of Agriculture and Forestry, New Zealand, issued the latest of these codes, the Animal Welfare (Pigs) Code of Welfare 2005 and the Animal Welfare (Layer Hens) Code of Welfare 2005.

The code of welfare on pigs contains ten chapters: introduction; purpose and interpretation of the code; legal obligations of owners and people in charge of animals; feed and water; shelter and other facilities; husbandry practices and disease and injury control; pre-transport selection; emergency humane destruction; quality management; and stockmanship. Within the code there are 20 'minimum standards' including standards relating to feed, new-born piglets, watering systems, indoor conditions (buildings and maintenance), indoor space, indoor temperature, indoor air quality, the outdoor environment, farrowing, dry sow stalls, tethering, boars, elective husbandry procedures, restraint and handling, movement, weaning, health, inspections, pre-transport selection, and stockmanship.

The code on laying hens contains chapters including introduction; purpose and interpretation of the code; legal obligations of owners and people in charge of animals; management of layer hens; catching, loading, transport, unloading and sale; management practices; and quality management. Within the code there are 18 'minimum standards' relating to hatchery management, food and water, housing, equipment, cage systems, non-cage systems, stocking densities for birds in cages, free-range and barn systems, lighting, beak trimming, moult inducement, identification, ventilation, temperature for incubator-hatched chicks, temperature for growing and adult layer hens, litter

management, disease and injury control, humane destruction, and stockmanship.

Only minimum standards have legal effect; recommendations for best practice, which can be found throughout each document, set out standards of care and conduct over and above the minimum required to meet the obligations in the act, and are included in the codes for educational and information purposes.

**Animal Welfare (Pigs) Code of Welfare 2005** (2005). 63 pp A4 ringbound (ISBN 0 478 07854 4). Also available at <http://www.biosecurity.govt.nz/animal-welfare/codes/pigs/index.htm>

**Animal Welfare (Layer Hens) Code of Welfare 2005** (2005). 50 pp A4 paperback (ISBN 0 478 07809 9). Also available at <http://www.biosecurity.govt.nz/animal-welfare/codes/layer-hens/index.htm>. Both published by the National Animal Welfare Advisory Committee, Ministry of Agriculture and Forestry, ASB Bank House, 101–103 The Terrace, PO Box 2526, Wellington, New Zealand.

*K Parkes*

*UFAW*

### **Major areas of concern for animal welfare in Europe**

Eurogroup, an organisation representing many animal welfare organisations in the European Union (EU), has produced a new edition of its publication *Analysis of Major Areas of Concern for Animal Welfare in Europe*, which aims to provide a better understanding of European animal welfare issues, particularly those relating to laboratory, farm and wild animals. The document sets out the main animal welfare issues which could be affected by European Community legislation and suggests ways in which these areas of concern might be addressed.

Much of the text focuses on farm animals, wild animals, and animals used in scientific procedures. The section on farm animals is by far the largest, addressing specific welfare concerns for all of the major species of animal kept for farming purposes as well as those that are less common such as farmed deer, game birds, rabbits, goats, ratites (ostriches, rheas and emus), and animals farmed for fur. Specific sections are included on the common agricultural policy, organic farming (particularly the need to further develop welfare standards and marketing rules), the transport of farm animals, biotechnology (including yield and growth promoters, selective breeding, assisted breeding technologies, cloning and genetic modification), and humane slaughter (including implementation and enforcement of existing legislation, religious slaughter, the use of electric goads, and home killing of farm animals for domestic use).

The section on wild animals discusses a number of areas of concern including the wildlife trade, the protection of wildlife and habitats in Europe (eg the catching of wild animals, illegal use of poisons, poisoning of wildfowl, length of the hunting season), and commercial whaling (the

non-consumptive use of whales [eg whale watching], cruelty of killing methods, and the Faroese pilot whale hunt). Attention is drawn to specific concerns about some species including dolphins and porpoises (eg incidental killing in set gill net and pelagic trawl fisheries, the impact of driftnet and purse seine fisheries, deliberate catches, and commercial exploitation), seals and walrus (culling methods), marine turtles (by-catching and slaughter methods), and animals trapped as pests or for fur (the type of trap used).

With regard to the use of animals in scientific procedures, the protection of animals used in experiments (basic scientific research and education), genetic manipulation of animals in research (including welfare concerns regarding mutagenesis, cloning, and xenotransplantation), animal tests and cosmetics, alternatives to animal experiments, and the use of animals in general chemical testing are all discussed.

Each topic within these major sections begins with an overview of the main areas of concern, including details of specific reports, evidence, or incidences supporting the claims. In certain cases, details are given of how the general public have voiced their concerns, such as street demonstrations about the transport of calves and lambs over long distances. Relevant legislation, at the national, Council of Europe, EU, and international level, is referred to throughout. Each topic concludes with a section entitled 'Areas for future action', which includes specific recommendations, such as maximum journey times in the case of transport, as well as more general measures which should be taken, such as better enforcement mechanisms and greater efforts to fully apply specific legislation.

As well as the animal welfare issues that are regulated at EU level (see above), the document also addresses several key issues that do not fall under EU control, because of a lack of legal basis in the EU Treaty. These include the welfare of companion animals and animals in entertainment, including the welfare of animals in zoos, the use of animals in circuses, greyhound racing, traditional events involving cruelty to animals, bullfighting, cockfighting and dog fighting. The document concludes with sections on animal welfare and the European Union treaty system, and animal welfare and the World Trade Organisation. The first of these details the legal basis of community legislation for animal protection including its history and how it works and what future action is required, whilst the latter discusses the problems concerning international trade between countries where welfare standards differ.

As with any publication that aims to encompass such a wide subject area, this review is not particularly comprehensive on each issue. It will, however, be a useful tool for those requiring a brief overview or reference guide of the major animal welfare issues.

**Analysis of Major Areas of Concern for Animal Welfare in Europe** (July 2004). Published by Eurogroup for Animal Welfare. 131 pp A4 paperback. Available from Eurogroup for Animal

Welfare, 6 rue des Patriotes, 1000 Brussels, Belgium; Tel: 32 2 740 08 20; email: info@eurogroupanimalwelfare.org. Price €60.

*K Parkes*

*UFAW*

### **An action plan for the sustainable management of wild deer populations in England**

In December 2004 a new strategy and action plan to encourage and support the sustainable management of wild deer in England was launched. Unifying a range of policy initiatives, the strategy provides a coherent framework for wild deer management by setting out the action which Defra, the Forestry Commission England, English Nature, the Rural Development Service and the Countryside Agency intends to take over the next three years.

The document opens with a foreword by Ben Bradshaw MP, Minister for Nature Conservation, outlining the necessity for such an action plan. This is elaborated upon in the following section which discusses the negative impact of wild deer (both native and introduced species), including the disturbance of activities such as farming and woodland management, injuries to people, the possible transmission of Lyme's disease to humans by ticks, and importantly, in terms of animal welfare, traffic accidents.

The action plan includes a number of sections that are relevant to welfare:

- Ensuring high-quality coordinated advice.
- The modernisation and revision of the law relating to deer management — amendments explicitly aimed at improving deer welfare include (a) the modification of Section 6 of the Deer Act 1991, which relates to actions to prevent suffering, to bring it in line with the Scottish legislation, such that "a person shall not be guilty of an offence in respect of any act done for the purpose of preventing suffering", (b) the introduction of a closed season for Chinese water deer (CWD) in order to improve the welfare of dependent fawns (to be applied to both sexes since they can be difficult to distinguish), and (c) making the release of CWD into the wild an offence (but allowing for the consideration of an exemption to "allow for the immediate release of CWD at the site of capture where there is no practical means of humane dispatch"). Time permitting, it is hoped that some of these changes will be implemented by the end of 2006.
- Training and education — the plan recognises that "high quality training and education are essential for [the] safe, humane and effective management of deer". A number of proposals are made, but, in terms of welfare, the aim to explore ways to improve and consolidate standards of assessment for stalkers and deer is of particular importance.
- Disease control — this section of focuses primarily on reducing the risk of transmission of Lyme's disease to humans and the possibility of increased risk of TB in wild