

to show the position and size of the brain in relation to external features. The booklet also contains information on the selection of appropriate firearms and ammunition, safety aspects, carcase disposal and routine maintenance of equipment. It is written clearly and concisely in handbook style and is well illustrated. With the exception of the information on legislation (which deals specifically with UK law), the subjects covered are relevant to humane despatch of livestock anywhere in the world and the booklet is highly recommended for all who may be involved in this work.

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*Humane Killing of Livestock using Firearms: Guidance Notes No. 3.* 1999. Humane Slaughter Association. 23pp. A4 paperback. ISBN 1871561116. Obtainable from the Humane Slaughter Association, The Old School, Brewhouse Hill, Wheathampstead, Herts AL4 8AN, UK (E-mail: info@hsa.org.uk). Price £3.50.

### ***Stray Dog Control***

Control of stray and feral domestic dog populations is a problem in many parts of the world. These animals can be a threat to human health and a threat to wild animals, and their own welfare is often a matter of concern. The World Society for the Protection of Animals' (WSPA's) new booklet on stray dog control provides a compendium of information on various aspects of the subject. It is intended, so the introduction informs us, as a supplement to the *Guidelines for Dog Population Management* published jointly in 1990 by the World Health Organisation and WSPA.

The booklet provides brief introductory reviews of various aspects of stray dog control followed by eight annexes which form the meat of the publication. These annexes include descriptions of the stray dog control programmes of the Waltham Forest Council (on the outskirts of London) and of Dundee District Council (Scotland), reviews of equipment for dog control and of identification systems and kennel design, and tips on dog catching. There is also an annexe on 'suggested legislative provisions for companion animals' based on the Council of Europe's Convention on the Protection of Pet Animals, and one presenting the Federation of European Companion Animal Veterinary Association's policies on neutering and mutilations and its position statement on dangerous dogs.

Although subtitled 'a practical guide to stray control programmes for dogs', the booklet is not a step by step account of how to do this. The material provided in the annexes is relevant as practical information or background but, by itself, it does not comprise a complete do-it-yourself guide. Problems of controlling feral dog populations in rural areas are given little attention here, the focus being on stray dogs. The introduction states that dog registration and identification are essential requirements for the successful implementation of a dog control programme but, whilst this may be the ideal, one wonders how feasible it would be in many parts of the world. The booklet is a valuable contribution to the literature on stray dog control and can be recommended for all those involved in the development and implementation of these programmes.

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*Stray Dog Control: a Practical Guide to Stray Control Programmes for Dogs.* 1999. World Society for the Protection of Animals. 53 pp. A4 paperback. Obtainable from the World Society for the Protection of Animals, 2 Langley Lane, London SW8 1TJ, UK Single copies available free of charge.

### ***Managing African Elephants***

The background to the production of this publication – *Managing African Elephants* – by the Elephants Managers and Owners Association (EMOA) is outlined in the foreword. EMOA was formed in 1994 following recognition at a workshop in South Africa in 1994 of the need for a

special organization to deal with the problems that had emerged as a result of translocations of elephants. The objectives of EMOA are listed at the back of the publication and they include: to advise and assist elephant owners on the appropriate management of their elephants; to initiate, promote and monitor research, technology transfer and data management on elephants; and to advise on and promote welfare issues of elephants. EMOA has accumulated a great deal of information on the translocation and care of elephants, much of which derives from experiences translocating animals from the Kruger National Park as part of the population control programme there. This information has been assembled into this publication which is directed at 'buyers, sellers, managers and owners of elephants'.

The chapters provide an outline of the biology of the African elephant, and cover considerations and prerequisites for acquiring elephants, acquisition, confinement, special considerations for keeping juveniles only, diseases, management of habitat and elephants, and management strategies for controlling population size. Although welfare is rarely mentioned specifically, many of the provisions and recommendations are clearly welfare motivated. EMOA does not support the translocating and keeping only of juveniles. Where translocation is to be used as a method of preventing overpopulation, EMOA is adamant that entire family units should be translocated and that calves should not be separated from their mothers. Where translocations become necessary in order to preserve genetic diversity in small isolated populations, EMOA recommends that for social reasons males should be exchanged, not females.

These guidelines provide a valuable distillation of practical information on aspects of the management of African elephants. Many species of wild animals are translocated or brought into captivity very much more frequently than are elephants and it is regrettable that there are not more books like this to discourage these activities when there is no good justification for them and to provide practical guidance when there is.

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*Managing African Elephants: Guidelines for the Introduction and Management of African Elephants on Game Ranches.* 1999. Edited by Marion E Garai. 72 pp. A4 paperback. Obtainable from the Elephant Managers and Owners Association, PO Box 98, Vaalwater, 0530 South Africa (E-mail:jumbo@emoa.org.za).

### Assessing animal welfare at livestock markets

In September 1998, the UK Government launched the *Strategy for the Protection of Animal Welfare at Livestock Markets*. This report details the findings of a series of market inspections by the State Veterinary Service (SVS) to assess the extent of compliance with the current legislation and codes of practice. Carried out in the late autumn and early winter of 1998, almost all livestock markets in Great Britain were visited (484 inspection reports covering 204 markets). Table 1, taken from the report, gives a breakdown of the animals present at inspection.

**Table 1** Number of inspection reports and animals present

	Cattle	Calves	Sheep/ Goats	Pigs	Rabbits/ Poultry	Horses	Total
<i>Reports</i>	167	73	166	42	14	22	484
<i>Animals present</i>	36 927	8631	215 054	7086	5327	3638	276 663

Factors such as time spent in market (see Table 2), numbers of animals present in markets that were unfit (674 animals out of 276 663), the provision of bedding and water, stocking density and handling (see Table 3) were assessed.