

OIE Conference on Evolving Veterinary Education for a Safer World 14 October, 2009: Paris

“The Scientific Assessment of Animal Welfare”

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Introductory Comments

- Animal Welfare vs Animal Welfare Science
- Animal Welfare Science vs Animal Welfare Sciences
- Animal Welfare and Veterinary Science
- Animal Welfare Chairs
- OIE Animal Welfare Collaborating Centres



OIE Animal Welfare Definition (Policy)

“Animal welfare is a complex international public policy issue, with important scientific, ethical, economic, cultural, religious and political dimensions and which also raises important international trade policy issues”.



OIE Animal Welfare Definition (Scientific)

“means how an animal is coping with the conditions in which it lives. An *animal* is in a good state of *welfare* if (as indicated by scientific evidence) it is healthy, comfortable, well nourished, safe, able to express innate behaviour, and if it is not suffering from unpleasant states such as pain, fear, and distress. Good *animal welfare* requires *disease* prevention and veterinary treatment, appropriate shelter, management, nutrition, humane handling and humane *slaughter/killing*. *Animal welfare* refers to the state of the *animal*; the treatment that an *animal* receives is covered by other terms such as animal care, animal husbandry, and humane treatment”.



Animal Welfare Science Concepts

- Biological Functioning
- Natural Living
- Affective States



Animal Welfare Sciences

- Physiology
- Behaviour/Ethology
- Veterinary Science
- Agricultural Science
- Psychology
- Pharmacology
- Social Science



Five Domains of Animal Welfare Comprise

- Nutrition
- Environment
- Health
- Behaviour
- Mental



Animal Welfare Science Measures

- Physiological
- Behavioural
- Immunological
- Infra Red Thermography
- EEG
- Affective State Judgements



Welfare Quality Project

- Science and Society improving animal welfare
- 5 years, 44 Institutes and Universities
- 13 EU plus 4 Latin American countries
- 18 million EU
- Assessment Protocols for pigs, poultry and cattle
- www.welfarequality.net





- Other International Initiatives

- RCVS
- ACVSc
- IACLAM
- EFSA & AWRA
- Further reading
- AVMA/AAVMC conference
- OIE intergovernmental leadership

**Thank you for your
attention**





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