



European
Commission

Health and
Consumer Protection
Directorate-General



Community Action Plan on the Protection and Welfare of Animals *2006-2010*

Denis Simonin - Unit D2 Animal Welfare and Feed

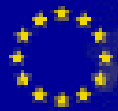
Directorate General Health and Consumer Protection -
European Commission

The views expressed here are purely those of the writer and may not in any circumstances be regarded as stating an official position of the European Commission.



Introduction

- Growing public concern EUROBAROMETER
- Animals are “sentient beings”
- International development (OIE, IFC)
- CAP reform



Main objectives

- Clear road map for 2006-2010
- Promoting AW at international level
- Greater coordination of resources
- More consistent approach of different aspects including socio-economic impacts



Five areas of action

- Upgrading standards and secure enforcement
- Developing Research
- Introducing animal welfare indicators
- Informing and promoting AW
- Supporting international initiatives





Standards and Enforcement

- Many species not covered by EU law
- Animal Welfare part of OFFC
- For more transparent and harmonised checks
- CAP (cross-compliance, RD, organic farming, etc.)
- Impact assessment



Research

- Creation of a European Centre for the protection and welfare of animals
- Certification of welfare indicators
- Developing a European label for AW
- New technologies for better enforcement



Animal Welfare indicators

- The example of broilers
- Science-based
- Measurable and objective
- Towards differentiation of EU products
(EU label for animal welfare ?)

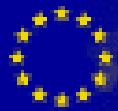


Welfare indicators (2)

Welfare Quality:

www.welfarequality.net

Areas of Concern	Animal Based Parameters (Cattle)	Resource and Management Based Parameters (General)
Hunger, thirst or malnutrition	Body condition & dehydration Mortality	Provision of food and water on farm, during transport and prior to slaughter Management strategies
Physical comfort and security	Difficulties rising or lying Slipping and falling (on farm and during loading) Cleanliness of animal Panting after stress or effort	Housing design (e.g. space, flooring, bedding and litter) Air quality Duration of transport Method of slaughter
Health: injuries	Injuries on farm/at slaughter Fresh blood on floor Mortality and life expectancy	Handling strategies Log book of injured and culled animals Treatment procedures
Health: disease	Mortality and life expectancy Occurrence of disease Carcass damage	Log book of diseases, treatments and culls Identification and treatment
Pain	Lameness Routine mutilations (e.g. dehorning) Effectiveness of stunning Meat quality at slaughter	Presence of sharp edges Use of electric prod Stunning method



Welfare indicators (3)

Welfare Quality:

www.welfarequality.net

Normal/natural social behaviours	Frequency of allo-grooming (grooming each other) Occurrence of other natural social behaviours.	Grouping and regrouping of animals Physical contact with members of the same species
Normal/natural other behaviours	Abnormal behaviours (e.g. tongue-rolling) would receive a negative score	Presence of resources thought to be important
Human-animal relationship	Avoidance distance Fear Aggression	Attitudes and skills of farmers, drivers and slaughterhouse staff
Negative emotions	Fear (freezing, running away) Vocalization (on farm and at slaughter) Qualitative assessment	Stunning method
Positive emotions	Play (in young) Qualitative assessment	Environmental enrichment



Information and promotion

- EUROBAROMETER survey
- Consumer expectations vs. knowledge
- Consumer choice on farming methods
- Further training and awareness for all stakeholders



International initiatives

- AW and competitiveness of EU producers
- Working with the OIE
- Promoting EU values at WTO and through bilateral agreements
- Creating opportunities for Developing Countries



Conclusion

- New approach
- AW as a business opportunity
- Reshaping EU legislation for AW indicators
- Promoting AW efforts domestically and internationally
- NEED STAKEHOLDERS INPUT



Thank you for your attention

→ For more details consult our website:

→ http://europa.eu.int/comm/food/animal/welfare/index_en.htm

→ Ongoing initiatives and legislative references

→ Links to EFSA and OIE websites