The welfare of livestock on-farm: beyond the five freedoms

Dr Michael Appleby
Five freedoms (www.fawc.org.uk)

- Freedom from hunger and thirst
- Freedom from discomfort
- Freedom from pain, injury and disease
- Freedom to express normal behaviour
- Freedom from fear and distress
<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Outcomes</th>
<th>Inputs</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Freedom from hunger and thirst</td>
<td>by ready access to water and a diet to maintain health and vigour</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Freedom from discomfort</td>
<td>by providing an appropriate environment</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Freedom from pain, injury and disease</td>
<td>by prevention or rapid diagnosis and treatment</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Freedom to express normal behaviour</td>
<td>by providing sufficient space, proper facilities and appropriate company of the animal’s own kind</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Freedom from fear and distress</td>
<td>by ensuring conditions and treatment to avoid mental suffering</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
Five freedoms (www.fawc.org.uk)

Outcomes

Inputs
Farm Animal Welfare in Great Britain: Past, Present and Future

October 2009
Legal minimum standard of welfare – beyond the Five Freedoms

• Freedom from …

• UK Animal Welfare Act 2006
  – duty to protect welfare by taking steps to ensure that the needs of an animal are met

• Positive aspects of welfare

Keeling, Uppsala: Reward, positive emotions and animal welfare
Quality of life

Good welfare

A good life

A life worth living

A life not worth living

Poor welfare
Quality of life

• All farm animals should have a life worth living and a growing number should have a good life
• Proposed legal minimum standard of welfare: a life worth living
The welfare of livestock on-farm
International action

• EU
  – Animal Welfare Action Plan
EU Animal Welfare Action Plan 2006

1. Upgrading minimum standards
2. Researching the 3 Rs to raise awareness and create a greater consensus on animal welfare, including engaging with developing countries to explore trade opportunities
3. Introducing standardised indicators
4. Ensuring keepers and public are informed
5. Continuing to support and initiate further initiatives based on welfare friendly production systems.
International action

- EU
  - Animal Welfare Action Plan
- Intergovernmental organizations
  - International Finance Corporation
Quick Note
Creating Business Opportunity through Improved Animal Welfare

Good Practice Note
Animal Welfare in Livestock Operations
International action

- EU
  - Animal Welfare Action Plan
- Intergovernmental organizations
  - International Finance Corporation
  - UN’s Food & Agriculture Org.
    - Good Agricultural Practices
    - Capacity building
    - Information portal
  - OIE (World Animal Health Org.)
    - Animal welfare guidelines

Guidelines

Integrated assessment
FAWC recommendations for a legal minimum standard of welfare

- Government as guardian of farm animal welfare
- Standards for minimum welfare and a good life defined by quality of life
- Stockmen educated and trained to high standard
FAWC recommendations for a legal minimum standard of welfare

• Citizens educated about food and farming
• Animal products labelled according to welfare
• Welfare claims on farm and in food supply chain audited
The welfare of livestock on-farm: beyond the Five Freedoms

- From cure to prevention
- From negative to positive
- From inputs to outcomes (and inputs)
- From design to performance
The welfare of livestock on-farm:
- beyond the Five Freedoms
- from cure to prevention
- from negative to positive
- from inputs to outcomes (and inputs)
- from design to performance
- from optional to essential
Quality of Life

Good Welfare

Balance of good and poor welfare

Banner principles met

Label

Needs and wants met

Policy intention

Public concern and demand

A good life

Good quality of life

All

Good substantially outweighs poor welfare

All vital needs, all mental needs and most wants

Clearly beyond minimum legal standard

Little concern and some demand

A life worth living

Minimum UK standards

All

Good outweighs poor welfare

All vital needs, most mental needs and many wants

Minimum legal standard

Expectation

A life not worth living

Unlawful

Not all

Poor to bad welfare

Vital needs only, few, if any, want

Avoidance of unwarranted suffering

Great concern, no demand

Good welfare

Needs and wants met

Policy intention

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Farm Animal Welfare Council, 2009