



RSPCA/AHVLA meeting on:  
**Welfare of agricultural animals in research**  
– cattle, goats, pigs and sheep –



**Southern England**  
**Wednesday, 26 June 2013**



Aim of the meeting: To bring together animal technologists, researchers, veterinarians and students with an interest in the welfare of cattle, goats, pig and sheep used in research and testing – for a programme of talks and discussion sessions, and opportunities to make contacts and to share ideas and experiences.

- 9.00 Registration and tea/coffee
- 9.50 Introduction – *Adrian Smith, Norecopa*
- 10.05 **Keynote presentation – Cognition and emotions in agricultural animals**
  - *John Webster, University of Bristol*
- 10.35 **Welfare challenges in high disease containment research**
  - *Hugh Simmons, AHVLA & NADIR*
- 10.55 **Clicker training in minipigs at Huntingdon Life Sciences**
  - *Finula Sharpe, HLS*
- 11.15 Tea/coffee and biscuits
- 11.45 **Pain assessment and alleviation**
  - *Eddie Clutton, University of Edinburgh*
- 12.05 **Assessing pain using the Lamb Grimace Scale (LGS)**
  - *Matt Leach, University of Newcastle*
- 12.25 **Lifetime experiences and actual severity**
  - *Colin Macaldowie, Home Office Inspector*
- 12.45 Lunch and posters
- 1.45 **Introduction to discussion sessions**
  - *Adrian Smith, Norecopa*
- 2.00 **Discussion session – topic 1 (to be decided by delegates)**
- 2.40 **Discussion session – topic 2**
- 3.20 Concluding comments
- 3.30 Close

Delegate fee: £60 including lunch; Contact: [Research.Animals@rspca.org.uk](mailto:Research.Animals@rspca.org.uk)

Discussion topics could include the following:

- Is there a need for a UK network to enable those using and caring for agricultural animals in research and testing to exchange information and share good practice?
- Do you think you can uphold the Five Freedoms for the animals in your facility? What role can you play and how do you access information to help with this?
- How do you assess suffering (discomfort, pain, distress, effects of disease) and positive welfare?
- Are there any areas where you would like more training? How is your facility addressing the new requirement in the revised Animals (Scientific Procedures) Act 1986 (ASPA) to demonstrate competence?
- Have you ever encountered resistance to refinements, such as better handling, enrichment, or training animals? How did (or could) you deal with this?
- Are you involved in the Animal Welfare and Ethical Review Body or any refinement programmes? How do these bodies factor in to protocols for housing, husbandry and care at your establishment?

Registered delegates will be asked if there are any other topics they would like to discuss before the meeting, and will have the opportunity to vote for the two topics to be discussed on the day.

