

## EDITORIAL

It is a major enterprise to establish a new journal. This is true whether the publication is in the field of a pure science or, as is the present case, in the applied area of animal welfare. There is a need to commit substantial resources of both time and money especially when there is the intent to develop a product of quality as well as relevance.

There have been attempts in the past to do this. In August 1977 a commercial publishing house, Elsevier, launched *Animal Regulation Studies* sponsored by the then World Federation for the Protection of Animals - publication of this journal ceased in December 1981. An animal welfare society, The Humane Society of the United States, produced the *International Journal for the Study of Animal Problems* in January 1980 and then stopped it in December 1983 although it was, in some ways, continued until 1986 as annual volumes under another title *Advances in Animal Welfare Science*. In spite of this rather gloomy historical precedent I believe that there is a real need for a quality technical journal in the field of animal welfare.

The intention is to publish the results of high quality scientific research and technical studies that will have direct benefit on the welfare of animals kept on farms, in laboratories, in zoos, as companions or as managed by man in the wild. The journal will act as a focus for the advancement of the science and technology of animal welfare and help ensure that relevant technical knowledge becomes more readily available to those who need it.

Animal welfare has been variously defined - one useful approach is to replace it by the terms health and well-being. However it is thought of, it still has strong moral, philosophical and aesthetic components. It is not easy nor is it really desirable to try and separate the technical/scientific aspects from the interpretative value judgements which have to be made in trying to answer such questions as: what do the facts really mean? how should the results be applied? Nevertheless, it is not the intent in this journal to publish material which is solely of a philosophical or ethical nature - there are other places more suitable for such presentation. Nor is it the intention to attract scientific material from other journals although this might initially happen to a limited extent. The establishment of this new journal is more an attempt to develop a publication which will become the natural home for strongly welfare orientated factual material.

There is also the hope that we will encourage field workers in animal welfare to write up their practical experiences and to submit them for publication. There is much useful and unique material lost through the lack of a place for it to appear in written form.

The future format of the UFAW journal can be seen, I think, in this first issue. There is a signed editorial written by the Editor in Chief - future ones could be by other members of the editorial board or by experts from the broad field covered by the term animal welfare. There is then the group of five contributed articles. In the present issue these are made up of two interpretative/review type papers - a discussion on bullfighting and welfare, and the first of a short series on the emotional brain. These two are followed by three contributions based upon original work - the behavioural responses of park deer to human interference, artificial turf as a foraging substrate for laboratory housed monkeys and the reactions of cattle to head-restraint at stunning. In each case, emphasis has been placed on the animal welfare implications of the investigation.

The 'reports and comments' section supplies brief notes on recent technical publications of particular animal welfare interest. The signed reviews give fuller, more critical coverage of books and videos.

There will, in future parts of the journal, be a correspondence column. It will be open to letters on any factual animal welfare matter and include comment or constructive criticism of material previously published. The author of a challenged article will have the opportunity to respond.

*Animal Welfare* is designed to be used by all concerned with the management, care and welfare of animals including agriculturalists and veterinary surgeons, zoologists and biomedical scientists, administrators and animal technicians, animal house curators and livestock farmers, zoo keepers and officials of animal welfare societies as well as undergraduate and other students. It is being produced in the belief that a quality technical journal dealing specifically with scientific and factual aspects of animal welfare will, by the dissemination of knowledge, lead to an improvement in the health and well-being of the animals used or controlled by man.

Roger Ewbank  
Editor-in-Chief

UFAW is an internationally recognized scientific and educational charity concerned with the welfare of animals. UFAW adopts an objective and realistic approach to animal welfare by looking at the behaviour and needs of animals, making rational judgements based on the facts available and giving expert advice on how particular species should be cared for and managed.

The Federation holds symposia and workshops; carries out and sponsors scientific research into many aspects of the biology and welfare of farmed, companion, wild, zoo and laboratory animals; produces standard texts on animal care and management and publishes technical reports on animal welfare matters.

UFAW was founded as the *University of London Animal Welfare Society* in 1926, became the Federation in 1938 and was incorporated in 1958 as a company limited by guarantee No 579991. It is a registered charity No 207996 and it derives its income from membership subscriptions, donations and legacies.