



Media Release

11th March, 2013

For Immediate Release:

HSA Technical Director awarded Associate Fellowship of Royal Agricultural Societies

Charles Mason, Technical Director of the Humane Slaughter Association (HSA), has been awarded an Associate Fellowship of the Royal Agricultural Societies for England, Scotland, Wales and Northern Ireland, in recognition of his 'distinguished achievement in agriculture and land based industries'.

Mr Mason, who has been with the HSA since 1987, was presented with the award on Tuesday 5th February 2013 at a ceremony in the House of Lords. The presentation was made by Baroness Byford, who served as Opposition Parliamentary Spokesman for Food, Farming and Rural Affairs from 1997 to 2007. She has also served as President of the Royal Association of British Dairy Farmers, as a Warden of the Worshipful Company of Farmers in the City of London and she is a Fellow of the Royal Agricultural Society.

The selection was made by the Council for Awards of Royal Agricultural Societies, which annually recognises outstanding efforts in all aspects of practical farming, including research, economics, commercial and administration.

Secretary for the English Panel of the Council for Awards, Malcolm Stansfield MBE said; "Charles Mason's Associate Fellowship has been awarded in recognition of his distinguished achievement in farm animal welfare. He has also contributed significantly as Secretary and Vice-Chairman of the Uppingham Fatstock Show Society, a committee member and senior steward for the Rutland Agricultural Society and as a cattle steward at the Royal Bath and West Show."

The Council for Awards of Royal Agricultural Societies is assisted by national panels in England, Wales, Scotland and Northern Ireland. Associateship of the council (ARAgS) may be awarded to applicants who can demonstrate to two assessors appointed by the council, a significant contribution through innovation, excellence in technical performance, leadership in agricultural organisations or other services to the community.

The HSA is an independent charity that works, in the UK and internationally, through educational, scientific and technical advances, towards the highest worldwide standards of welfare for food animals during transport, marketing, slaughter, and killing for disease control and welfare reasons.

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Photo attached:

Charles Mason, Technical Director of the HSA, receives the award of Associate Fellowship of the Royal Agricultural Societies from Baroness Byford at the House of Lords, February 2013.

Note to Editors:

As an independent registered charity, the HSA is unique in working exclusively to achieve the highest worldwide standards in food animal welfare at markets, during transport and at slaughter through scientific and technical advances, education and training. Its work includes researching, refining and demonstrating humane slaughter methods, publishing material such as guidelines, best practice, books and videos, funding research projects and the development of equipment. Specialist technical staff provide expert and practical advice on all welfare issues relating to food animals.

The HSA is funded by voluntary donations, subscriptions and legacies.

For more information about the HSA's work call 01582 831919, email info@hsa.org.uk or visit www.hsa.org.uk

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