



## Media Release

**24<sup>th</sup> September, 2009**  
**For Immediate Release:**

### **How many animals are slaughtered in the UK?**

The Humane Slaughter Association (HSA) is frequently asked this and many other questions by members of the public, those with a working interest in livestock and, with questions of a more technical nature, by the meat processing and retailing industries. As part of its ongoing educational, scientific and technical work to promote high welfare standards in livestock transport, markets and at slaughter, the HSA – an independent registered charity, has now posted a Frequently Asked Questions (FAQs) section on its website.

Visitors to the website ([www.hsa.org.uk](http://www.hsa.org.uk)) can now view a comprehensive range of livestock welfare questions and answers divided into two sections. First there are those questions that are more of interest to the general public and include introductory information on welfare during transport, stunning and slaughter. Legislation and how it protects welfare at these times is explained along with how animals are handled in licensed UK slaughterhouses, and other key welfare issues.

The second part of the FAQs is essentially for industry professionals, farmers, smallholders, academics and veterinarians wanting more specific, detailed information on topics such as stunning methods and equipment, training services and best practice.

While the new FAQs section will provide a bank of useful information, the HSA welcomes enquiries on livestock welfare issues and technical matters relating to transport, markets and slaughter. The HSA office is at The Old School, Brewhouse Hill, Wheathampstead, Herts AL4 8AN. Telephone 01582 831919, email [info@hsa.org.uk](mailto:info@hsa.org.uk).

The answer, by the way, is approximately two and a half million a day, thirty every second. That's why the welfare of food animals is such a significant issue, and why the work of the HSA is so important.

-ENDS-

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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](mailto:info@hsa.org.uk) or visit [www.hsa.org.uk](http://www.hsa.org.uk)

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