



## Media Release

**25<sup>th</sup> February, 2011**  
**For Immediate Release:**

### **International symposium to focus on advances in the welfare of livestock at slaughter**

Plans for the international symposium marking the Centenary of the Humane Slaughter Association (HSA) are well advanced with the meeting set to bring together internationally recognised speakers for the two-day event at the Portsmouth Historic Dockyards, UK on the 30<sup>th</sup> June and 1<sup>st</sup> July 2011.

There have been very great advances in methods for humane killing over the last hundred years but challenges remain. The symposium will present and discuss recent scientific and technical advances in the humane slaughter of farmed animals, the uptake and application of these advances around the world, and future priorities and how they might be tackled.

Thirty-one speakers include Dr Temple Grandin of Colorado State University, Dr Andrea Gavinelli of the European Commission, Jia Zili, Director of the Beijing Chaoyang Anhua Animal Product Safety Research Institute, Professor Neville Gregory, Royal Veterinary College, UK, Dr Martin von Wenzlawowicz, Bsi Schwarzenbek, Germany, and Dr Bert Lambooi of the Wageningen University and Research Centre, Netherlands. There will also be a large number of poster presentations

It is intended that the proceedings of the symposium will be published and made available to all delegates, and promoted to interested individuals and organizations around the world.

During the symposium the HSA, an independent charity that works to improve animal welfare during transport, marketing and slaughter, will also be presenting its Centenary Humane Slaughter Award for significant advances in the humane slaughter of farmed livestock.

The full programme and other details, including registration form, are available at the HSA website ([www.hsa.org.uk](http://www.hsa.org.uk)) or from the HSA office. Contact HSA, The Old School, Brewhouse Hill, Wheathampstead, Herts AL4 8AN, UK. Telephone +44 (0)1582 831919, email [info@hsa.org.uk](mailto:info@hsa.org.uk).

-ENDS-

Media contact:

James Kirkwood, HSA Chief Executive and Scientific Director. Tel: +44 (0)1582 831919, email [kirkwood@hsa.org.uk](mailto:kirkwood@hsa.org.uk)

Notes to Editors:

## Programme of speakers

### Day 1 (30th June)

#### Session 1

- **A Gavinelli** and D Simonin (European Commission, Belgium)  
*Future challenges of the new European regulation on the protection of animals at the time of killing and its relevance to international trade*
- **V Sandilands**, N Sparks, L Baker, ABM Raj and T Pennycott (Scottish Agricultural College and University of Bristol, UK)  
*Methods for whole house gassing of poultry*
- P Rodríguez, P Llonch, C Fuentes, **A Dalmau** and A Velarde (IRTA, Spain)  
*Assessment of unconsciousness during slaughter without stunning in lambs*
- **E Lambooij** and JW Van de Vis (Wageningen University and Research Centre, The Netherlands)  
*Electrical stunning of farmed fish*

#### Session 2

- **G Limon**, J Guitian and NG Gregory (Royal Veterinary College, UK)  
*Current methods of livestock slaughter in Bolivia*
- **GJ Coleman** and PH Hemsworth (Monash University and The University of Melbourne, Australia)  
*The attitudes and behaviour of stock people at Australian sheep and cattle abattoirs*
- **G Aletta Bjørlykke**, B Olav Kvamme, A Raae, B Roth and E Slinde (Institute of Marine Research, University of Bergen, Nofima Norconserv A/S and University of Life Science, Norway)  
*Slaughter of Atlantic salmon (*Salmo Salar*, L) in the presence of carbon monoxide (CO) and the importance of neuroglobin (NGB)*
- **RW Elwood** (Queen's University, UK)  
*Do crustaceans experience pain?*

#### Session 3

- **T Grandin** (Colorado State University, USA)  
*Auditing animal welfare and making practical improvements*
- **TJ Gibson**, AL Ridler, CR Lamb, A Williams and NG Gregory (Royal Veterinary College and University of Cambridge, UK)  
*Effectiveness of captive bolt guns as a killing method without exsanguination for horned and un-horned sheep*
- **EMC Terlouw**, C Bourguet and V Deiss (INRA, France)  
*Stress at slaughter in cattle: role of reactivity profile and environmental factors*
- **NJ Kells**, NJ Beausoleil, CB Johnson and MA Sutherland (Massey University and AgResearch, New Zealand)  
*Assessment of the relative welfare impacts of three gas treatments for the euthanasia of suckling piglets*

## Session 4

- **M von Wenzlawowicz** and K von Holleben (Bsi Schwarzenbek, Germany)  
*Identifying reasons for stunning failures in slaughterhouses for cattle, sheep and pigs – a field study*
- **M Cullinane**, E O'Sullivan, G Collins, DM Collins and SJ More (Department of Agriculture Fisheries and Food, The Veterinary Department of Cork County Council and Centre for Veterinary Epidemiology and Risk Analysis, Ireland)  
*A statutory period of validation on veterinary certificates for emergency or casualty slaughter of animals is essential in the interest of animal welfare*
- **JA Lines**, P Berry and P Cook (Silsoe Livestock Systems, PB Technical and Food Animal Initiative, UK)  
*Improving the poultry shackle line*
- **JA Woods**, C Stull and T Grandin (J Livestock Services Ltd, Canada; Horse Welfare Alliance of Canada; University of California, USA, and Grandin Livestock Handling Systems, Inc., USA)  
*The welfare of horses at slaughter: the development of recommended handling guidelines and animal welfare assessment tool for horses*

## Day 2 (1st July)

### Session 5

- **JW van de Vis**, H Digre, I Grong Aursand, L Grimsmo, D Burggraaf, W Abbink, B van Marlen, IJ Velzeboer and E Lambooj, Wageningen University and Research Centre, The Netherlands; SINTEF Fisheries and Aquaculture, Norway and Scienta Nova, The Netherlands)  
*Electrical stunning of captured fish*
- **NG Gregory**, M von Wenzlawowicz, K von Holleben, HR Fielding and TJ Gibson (Royal Veterinary College, UK and Bsi Schwarzenbek, Germany)  
*Complications during halal slaughter and shechita in cattle*
- **S Wiberg**, B Algers, A Gamble, S Gunnarsson, T Garling, J Hultgren, C Kolstrup, H Lerner, P Lundqvist, L Nordenfelt and G Widell (Swedish University of Agricultural Sciences, University of Gothenburg and Linköping University, Sweden)  
*Welfare of animals and employees in connection with slaughter or euthanasia of animals*
- **D Quilquini** and I Alpigiani (Agriconsulting Europe S.A, Belgium and University of Parma, Italy)  
*The Italian approach to welfare during transport of deers bred for meat: implementation of Regulation (EC) 1/2005*

### Session 6

- **Jia Zili** and Sun JJ (Beijing Chaoyang Anhua Animal Product Safety Research Institute, China and World Society for the Protection of Animals)  
*WSPA and APSRI humane slaughter programme in China – STEPS®*
- **JN Gilliam**, JK Shearer, J Woods, J Hill and JD Taylor (Oklahoma State University, USA; Iowa State University, USA; J. Woods Livestock Services, Canada, and Agriculture and Rural Development, Food Safety and Animal Health Division, Canada)  
*Captive bolt euthanasia of cattle: determination of optimal shot placement and evaluation of the cash special euthanizer kit for the euthanasia of cattle*
- **K van Driel**, M Farish, H van de Weerd, J Talling, M Mitchell and P Kettlewell (Food and Environment Research Agency, Scottish Agricultural College, and ADAS, UK)  
*Journey duration and welfare of pigs transported to slaughter in the UK*
- **K von Holleben** and M von Wenzlawowicz (Bsi Schwarzenbek, Germany)  
*Licensing poultry gas stunning systems with regard to animal welfare – investigations under practical conditions*

## Session 7

- **CB Johnson**, TJ Gibson, KJ Stafford and DJ Mellor (Massey University, New Zealand)  
*Pain perception at slaughter*
- **P Lonch**, P Rodriguez, A Velarde, V Abreu de Lima and A Dalmau (IRTA, Spain and UNESP Jaboticabal, Brasil)  
*Aversion to the inhalation of nitrogen and carbon dioxide mixtures compared to high concentrations of carbon dioxide for stunning rabbits*
- **C Berg**, L Nordensten, J Hultgren and B Algers (Swedish University of Agricultural Sciences, Sweden and Swedish National Board of Agriculture, Sweden)  
*Stun and meat quality of sheep under commercial conditions*
- **FG Roberts**, AJ Lucas and S Johnson (Kingston Maurward College, Integra Food Secure Ltd and Tesco Stores Ltd, UK)  
*The use of a single empirical outcome measure to assess welfare in slaughter plants: between and within sector comparisons of the supply base for a major retail multiple*

## Session 8

- DEF McKeegan, **MA Gerritzen**, JM Sparrey, TGM Demmers and CM Wathes (University of Glasgow, UK; Wageningen University and Research Centre, The Netherlands; Livetec, UK and Royal Veterinary College, UK)  
*High expansion gas-foam: a humane agent for emergency killing of poultry?*
- **V Deiss**, C Bourguet, T Fassier, M Lullier, C Terlouw and A Boissy (INRA, France)  
*Reduction of stress reactions of lambs at slaughter by improving their reactivity to human beings*
- **T Cassidy** and A Wilson (Food and Veterinary Office, Ireland)  
*Equivalency between EU and third country standards for animal welfare at slaughter (findings from inspections of the Food and Veterinary Office of the European Commission)*

## The HSA

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)

The Humane Slaughter Association, The Old School, Brewhouse Hill, Wheathampstead, St Albans, Herts. AL4 8AN. Tel: 01582 831919, Fax: 01582 831414  
Email: [info@hsa.org.uk](mailto:info@hsa.org.uk) Web: [www.hsa.org.uk](http://www.hsa.org.uk)

Humane Slaughter Association and Council of Justice to Animals  
Registered in England Charity No: 209563