



Humane Slaughter Association

Media Release

10 April 2019

NEW VIDEO PROVIDING INFORMATION ON THE WELFARE OF FARMED FISH AT SLAUGHTER AND CONSUMER CHOICES IS TRANSLATED INTO NINE ADDITIONAL LANGUAGES

Globally, we humans are eating more farmed fish than any other type of mammal or bird slaughtered for human consumption. The numbers amount to billions and, world-wide, many of these fish are not humanely stunned before slaughter.

In line with the Humane Slaughter Association's (HSA) objective of raising welfare standards for food animals worldwide, and to help guide consumers, the charity has produced an information video (available free to view at <https://hsa.org.uk/publications>) which explains why concerns about fish welfare are becoming more prominent, provides information about the welfare of farmed fish at slaughter and explains how consumers can make choices to improve finfish welfare. The HSA has provided translations of the video into nine additional languages – Spanish, Greek, Italian, German, French, Polish, Portuguese, Japanese and Korean.

Humane stunning methods have been developed for some commonly farmed species. For other species farmed in large numbers there are, as yet, no validated methods of humane stunning. To address this problem, the HSA has announced, and is currently in the process of evaluating, proposals to fund research which may significantly increase the numbers of farmed finfish that are humanely stunned.

This research is very important as, without appropriate knowledge, it is not possible to set high standards. However, it will take time to produce results and in the meantime, using information from the video, consumers can choose to purchase fish which has been reared and slaughtered in more humane ways.

-ENDS-

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Note to Editors:

The HSA is an independent charity recognised internationally for promoting scientific, technical and educational advances towards improving the welfare of food animals worldwide during marketing, transport, slaughter and killing.

Since its foundation over 100 years ago, the HSA has been a significant force in bringing about fundamental and long-lasting improvements in food animal welfare, many of which we now take for granted. The charity is internationally recognised for its livestock expertise and provides education and training in the fields of transport, marketing and slaughter in the United Kingdom and around the world.

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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