

Welfare impacts of controlled atmosphere methods for stunning or killing animals - www.ufaw.org.uk/cas2017

29-30th June 2017 **Venue:** Southern England, UK (TBA)huw.g

Background/Aims

Exposure to gases, other inhaled agents such as anaesthetics, or low atmospheric pressures see this is used to kill a range of animals including farmed livestock, laboratory animals and pests or invasive species. There is on-going debate as to whether any or all of these controlled atmosphere methods are humane. This meeting will consider the animal welfare impacts of various controlled atmosphere stunning or killing techniques upon a range of species and in different scenarios. The meeting aims to facilitate a cross-disciplinary examination of the welfare impacts of the various methods, as well as to map out future research priorities.

The meeting will feature invited talks from a range of expert scientists as well as submitted talks on the latest research developments.

Sessions include:

- Controlled atmosphere stunning and killing: use in different scenarios and for different species.
- Respiratory related experiences: What is the potential for various methods to cause respiratory discomfort in animals before loss of consciousness and what evidence do we currently have to evaluate such experiences?
- Other negative experiences: What is the potential for various methods to cause other negative experiences including panic/anxiety, pain, nausea, dysphoria before loss of consciousness, and what evidence do we currently have to evaluate such experiences?
- Practical challenges and considerations: What are the practical barriers to the use of more welfare-friendly controlled atmosphere methods in each field and how might we overcome these? How might we refine current methods to make them as humane as possible?
- Future research priorities: What are the current knowledge gaps about welfare impacts of controlled atmosphere methods, what kind of evidence would be acceptable to fill those gaps, and what specific research is needed to achieve improvements in current practice?

Confirmed Speakers

Prof Dan Weary, Animal Welfare Program, University of British Columbia

Prof Robert Meyer, Professor of Veterinary Anesthesiology, Mississippi State University & Lead, Inhaled Agents Working Group, AVMA Euthanasia Panel

Dr Dorothy McKeegan, BVA Animal Welfare Foundation Senior Lecturer, University of Glasgow

Dr Sally Robinson, Director of Laboratory Animal Science, AstraZeneca, UK

Dr Troy Gibson*, Lecturer in Animal Welfare Science, Royal Veterinary College, UK

Dr Ngaio Beausoleil*, Deputy Director, Animal Welfare Science and Bioethics Centre, Massey University, New Zealand

Dr Rebeca Garcia*, Veterinary Adviser - Animal Welfare Policy, DEFRA, UK

Dr Huw Golledge*, Senior Scientific Programme Manager, Universities Federation for Animal Welfare & Humane Slaughter Association, UK

*Organising Committee

Call for Abstracts

We would like to hear from anyone interested in making a contribution to the meeting on the themes detailed above regarding welfare impacts, research methods and practical challenges associated with the use of controlled atmosphere methods for stunning or killing animals.

Submissions should feature the title of the proposed presentation, the name and full contact details of all contributors. Abstracts must be in English and should be no longer than 400 words. Full details on formatting these can be found on the UFAW website (template: www.ufaw.org.uk/downloads/cas-abstracts.pdf). Time allocated to talks at the meeting is likely to be in region of 15 minutes.

The deadline for submission of abstracts is **27th February 2017**. Please send a copy of your abstract to golledge@ufaw.org.uk

Contact details:

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