

Animal Health and Welfare for a Sustainable Livestock Sector: Response

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The History of American Humane

- First national animal welfare organization
- World War I
 - Deployed in 1916 at request of U.S. Secretary of War
 - Rescued and cared for 68,000 horses a month
- Twenty-Eight Hour Law
 - Advocated for rights of livestock that cross state lines
- Humane Hollywood
 - No Animals Were Harmed®
- Rescue Team
 - Pearl Harbor, 9/11, California Wildfires, and Hurricanes Harvey, Irma, Maria, Florence, and Michael
 - And now Dorian, 2019



Safety and Scope: Areas of Agreement

“In several countries regulations about these aspects are not in place or there are not resources to enforce them.”

- Zoonotic diseases
 - Example: Challenges for brucellosis control in LIC
 - Funding is problematic
- Antimicrobial resistance
 - Monitoring programs for antibiotic residues requires money, regulatory authority, and commitment

Safety and Scope: Animal Welfare and Human Health

"The scope for
animal welfare
innovation to
enhance
sustainability is
huge."

- They go hand in hand: Poor welfare
 - Food borne disease
 - Increased shedding of contaminating zoonotic bacteria
- Improved welfare
 - Improve productivity and food safety
 - Mitigate risk to humane health
 - Lead to economic benefits
- Scope for animal welfare is HUGE
 - OIE codes are a start
 - Wide gap between regulation and implementation

"Despite these structures, in many countries there is often a wide gap between regulation and implementation."



Challenges

- Organized culling and disposal
 - Not suited for all, especially problematic for LMIC
 - Cost, feasibility, and compliance
- Human health does and should take precedence in LMIC
 - Health care, clean water, security, governance
 - Impediment to management and control of diseases

Zoonoses and Pandemics

- Is the cure worse than the disease?
- Harsh control measures
 - Can result in indiscriminate culling of healthy livestock
- 2001 foot and mouth disease epidemic
 - My experience in March 2001

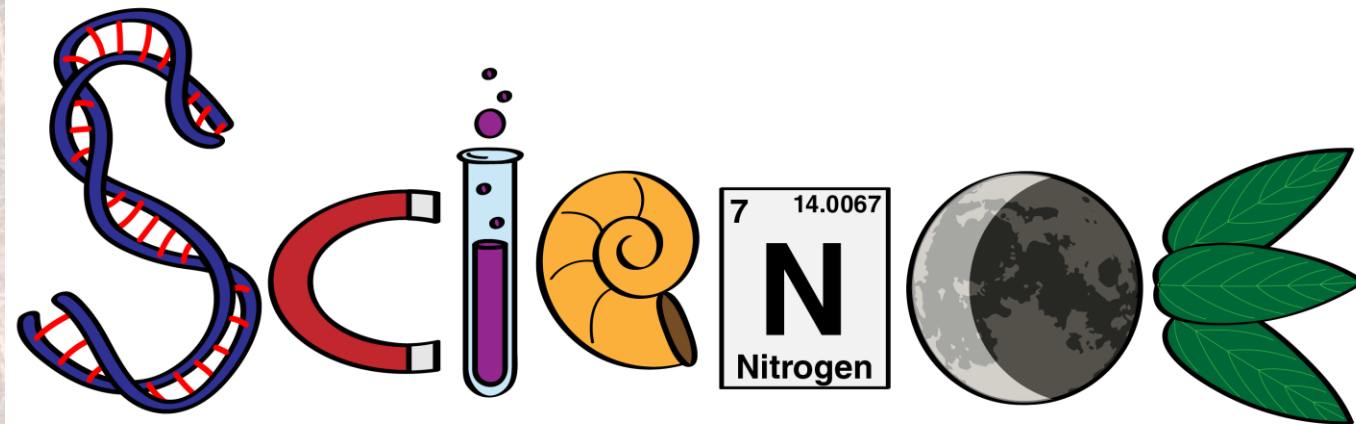


Science! She Blinded me with Science!

(Apologies to Thomas Dolby)

“Ensuring this knowledge is grounded in science is important so that shared knowledge makes genuine differences to animal welfare.”

Well conducted, peer-reviewed scientific research is sorely lacking in the livestock and poultry welfare realm.





Looking Forward

- Will innovation for improved animal welfare be market-driven or regulation-driven?
 - Jury is still out but recent experience in US would point to market-driven e.g. cage free eggs, gestation crates for swine, veal stalls for calves, etc.
- Consider the chicken
 - Interstate transportation not covered in federal law
 - Chickens not covered in the Humane Methods of Slaughter Act.
 - Failure of regulation? Or just not a priority?
Are chickens considered sentient by many people?