

Animal Welfare (Circuses) Code of Welfare 2005

A code of welfare issued under the Animal Welfare Act 1999

Code of Welfare No. 6
ISBN 0-478-07820-X
ISSN 1171-2942

1 January 2005

National Animal Welfare Advisory Committee
C/- MAF
P O Box 2526
Wellington
NEW ZEALAND

*Animal Welfare (Circuses) Code of Welfare 2005
1 January 2005*

Preface

The Animal Welfare Act 1999 came into force on 1 January 2000. It establishes the fundamental obligations relating to the care of animals. These obligations are written in general terms however. The detail is found in codes of welfare. Codes set out minimum standards and recommendations relating to all aspects of the care of animals. They are developed following an extensive process of public consultation and reviewed every 10 years, or sooner if necessary.

I recommend that all those who care for animals become familiar with the relevant codes. This is important because evidence of a failure to meet a minimum standard may be used to support a prosecution for an offence under the Act.

I issue codes on the recommendation of the National Animal Welfare Advisory Committee. The members of this Committee collectively possess knowledge and experience in veterinary science; agricultural science; animal science; the commercial use of animals; the care, breeding, and management of companion animals; ethical standards and conduct in respect of animals; animal welfare advocacy; the public interest in respect of animals; and environmental and conservation management.

The Animal Welfare (Circuses) Code of Welfare 2004 is issued by me, by a notice published in the Gazette on 16 December 2004, under section 75 of the Animal Welfare Act 1999. This Code comes into force on 1 January 2005.

This code is deemed to be a regulation for the purposes of the Regulations (Disallowance) Act 1989 and is subject to the scrutiny of Parliament's Regulations Review Committee.



Hon Jim Sutton
Minister of Agriculture

Table of Contents

Preface	ii
Table of Contents	iii
1. Introduction, Purpose and Interpretation of Code.....	1
1.1 History	1
1.2 Legal Status of Codes of Welfare	1
1.3 Process for Code Development	2
1.4 Scope	2
1.5 Contents of this Code.....	3
1.6 Revision of the Code.....	5
1.7 Deemed Codes of Welfare and Codes of Recommendations and Minimum Standards.....	5
1.8 Interpretation and Definitions	6
1.9 Glossary	8
2. Obligations of Owners and Persons in Charge of Animals	10
3. Circus Operation	12
3.1 Acquisition, Holding, Transfer and Breeding of Animals.....	12
3.2 Safety and Access to Animals.....	14
3.3 Staff and Staff Training	15
4. Food and Water	17
5. Shelter, Accommodation and Housing.....	19
6. Environmental and Behavioural Enrichment	21
7. Animal Training and Performances	23
8. Species-specific Standards.....	24
8.1 Lions.....	24
8.2 Elephants	25
8.3 Primates	26
9. Disease and Injury Control	28
10. Transport	30
11. Quality Assurance System.....	31
11.1 Records.....	31
Appendix I: Defences.....	33
Appendix II: Codes of Welfare	36

1. Introduction, Purpose and Interpretation of Code

1.1 History

The original codes of recommendations and minimum standards for the welfare of animals were prepared by the Animal Welfare Advisory Committee (AWAC), which was established in 1989 by the Minister of Agriculture to advise him on matters concerning animal welfare. The codes were of a voluntary nature and had no legal standing under the Animals Protection Act 1960.

The Animal Welfare Act 1999 (the Act) established the National Animal Welfare Advisory Committee (NAWAC), which replaced AWAC, and provided for the issue of codes of welfare with legal effect. One of the responsibilities of NAWAC is to advise the Minister on the content of codes of welfare following a process of public consultation.

1.2 Legal Status of Codes of Welfare

Codes of welfare are deemed to be regulations for the purposes of the Regulations (Disallowance) Act 1989. As such they are subject to the scrutiny of the Regulations Review Committee of Parliament.

Codes of welfare contain minimum standards and may also contain recommended practice and recommended best practice. Only minimum standards have legal effect and in two possible ways:

- evidence of a failure to meet a minimum standard may be used to support a prosecution for an offence against the Act
- a person who is charged with an offence against the Act can defend himself/herself by showing that he/she has equalled or exceeded the minimum standards (see Appendix I).

Recommendations for ideal husbandry practice under New Zealand conditions set out standards of care and conduct over and above the minimum required to meet the obligations in the Act. They are included for educational and information purposes.

Any person or organisation aggrieved at the operation of a code of welfare has a right to make a complaint to the Regulations Review Committee, Parliament Buildings, Wellington.

This is a Parliamentary select committee charged with examining regulations against a set of criteria and drawing to the attention of the House of Representatives any regulation that does not meet the criteria. Grounds for reporting to the House include:

- the regulation trespasses unduly on personal rights and freedoms,
- the regulation is not made in accordance with the general objects and intentions of the statutes under which it is made, or
- it was not made in compliance with the particular notice and consultation procedures prescribed by statute.

Any person or organisation wishing to make a complaint should refer to the publication Making a Complaint to the Regulations Review Committee which can be obtained from the website:

<http://www.clerk.parliament.govt.nz/publications/MAComplaint.pdf>

or by writing to: Clerk of the Committee
Regulations Review Committee
Parliament Buildings
Wellington.

1.3 Process for Code Development

A draft code may be developed by anyone including NAWAC or the Minister. It is then submitted to NAWAC. Provided the draft meets criteria in the Act for clarity, compliance with the purposes of the Act, and representatives of persons likely to be affected by the code have been adequately consulted, NAWAC publicly notifies the code and calls for submissions. NAWAC is then responsible for recommending the form and content of the code to the Minister after having regard to the submissions received, good practice and scientific knowledge, available technology and any other relevant matters.

NAWAC may recommend draft standards that do not fully meet the obligations in the Act if certain criteria specified in the Act are met.

The Minister issues the code by notice in the *Gazette*.

1.4 Scope

This code applies to all persons responsible for the welfare of animals used in circuses, including both New Zealand based circuses and visiting international circuses. Minimum standards for exotic species provided in this code are provided only for those species currently held in New Zealand circuses. Exotic species in visiting international circuses that are not covered in this code will be subject to the provisions of the Act and any additional provisions that may be specified in the import health standard. When exotic circus animals are being held at permanent home or over-wintering bases, the provisions of the *Animal Welfare (Zoos) Code of Welfare* shall apply. Minimum standards for domestic animals held such as dogs and horses can be found in species-specific codes of welfare.

The care of circus animals, if it is to be done well, requires both experience and the observance of high standards. Unless that work is done well, the welfare of the animals cannot be adequately protected. This code is intended to encourage all those responsible for its implementation to adopt the highest standard of husbandry, care and handling, to equal or exceed the minimum standards.

Under the Animal Welfare Act 1999 the “owner” of an animal or the “person in charge” is responsible for meeting the legal obligations to animal welfare. In the case of circus animals the owner of the animal(s) may place them in the care of others for the purpose of performing, housing or transport.

Responsibility for meeting the minimum standards relating to the provision, design and maintenance of the facilities and equipment, the allocation of operational responsibilities and the competence and supervision of performance of staff will lie with the owner of the circus animals, and may also lie with the person in charge of the animals, depending on the role of that person.

Advice is given throughout the code and is designed to encourage owners/operators to strive for a high level of welfare. Explanatory material is provided where appropriate.

Responsibility for meeting minimum standards during the operation of particular tasks will lie with the person responsible for carrying out that particular task. That person is “in charge” of the animals at that particular point in time. In practice, the identification of the person in charge will depend on the minimum standard in question.

This code provides for the general principles of the care and use of circus animals. The incorporation of the code in quality assurance programmes will ensure compliance (see section 11 - Quality Assurance System).

Other codes that are relevant, and that are either being produced for the first time, or are in the process of being reviewed, include codes concerned with the transport of animals, zoos, emergency slaughter and species-specific codes. Where relevant these other codes should be consulted (see Appendix II).

The draft of this code was written on behalf of NAWAC. Industry representatives and other interest groups were consulted. As required by the Act, NAWAC publicly notified the draft code of welfare on 2 October 2003.

1.5 Contents of this Code

Section 69 of the Animal Welfare Act 1999 provides that a code of welfare may relate to one or more of the following -

- a species of animal
- animals used for purposes specified in the code

- animal establishments of a kind specified in the code
- types of entertainment specified in the code (being types of entertainment in which animals are used)
- the transport of animals
- the procedures and equipment used in the management, care, or killing of animals or in the carrying out of surgical procedures on animals.

In deciding to issue a code of welfare, the Minister must be satisfied as to the following matters set out in section 73(1) of the Animal Welfare Act 1999 -

- that the proposed standards are the minimum necessary to ensure that the purposes of the Animal Welfare Act 1999 will be met; and
- that the recommendations for best practice (if any) are appropriate.

Despite the provisions of section 73(1), section 73(3) of the Animal Welfare Act 1999 allows NAWAC, in exceptional circumstances, to recommend minimum standards and recommendations for best practice that do not fully meet the obligations of –

- sections 10 and 11 - obligations in relation to physical, health and behavioural needs of animals
- section 12(c) - killing an animal
- section 21(1)(b) - restriction on performance of surgical procedures
- section 22(2) - providing comfortable and secure accommodation for the transport of animals
- sections 23(1) and 23(2) - transport of animals
- section 29(a) - ill-treating an animal.

In making a recommendation under section 73(3), section 73(4) requires NAWAC to have regard to:

- the feasibility and practicality of effecting a transition from current practices to new practices and any adverse effects that may result from such a transition
- the requirements of religious practices or cultural practices or both
- the economic effects of any transition from current practices to new practices.

This code provides for the physical, health, and behavioural needs of animals. These needs include:

- proper and sufficient food and water
- adequate shelter
- opportunity to display normal patterns of behaviour
- physical handling in a manner which minimises the likelihood of unreasonable or unnecessary pain or distress
- protection from, and rapid diagnosis of, any significant injury or disease –

being a need, which, in each case is appropriate to the species, environment, and circumstances of the animal - *section 4 Animal Welfare Act 1999*.

This code also takes account of -

- good practice
- scientific knowledge
- available technology.

1.6 Revision of the Code

This Code is based on the knowledge and technology available at the time of publication, and will be reviewed in the light of future advances and knowledge. In any event this Code will be reviewed no later than 16 December 2014 (being 10 years from the date on which this code was issued by the Minister).

Comments on this code are always welcome and should be addressed to:

The Secretary
National Animal Welfare Advisory Committee
P O Box 2526
Wellington.

Further information can be obtained from the MAF website:

<http://www.biosecurity.govt.nz/animal-welfare>

1.7 Deemed Codes of Welfare and Codes of Recommendations and Minimum Standards

Deemed codes of welfare, and codes of recommendations and minimum standards and guidelines that were endorsed by AWAC prior to the commencement of the Animal Welfare Act 1999, are listed in Appendix II of this Code. The deemed codes of welfare are valid until 31 December 2004 unless revoked prior to that date.

On 19 December 2002 the Animal Welfare Amendment Act 2002 amended the Animal Welfare Act 1999 to deem the regulations and circular listed in Appendix II to be a code of welfare known as the Animal Welfare (Commercial Slaughter) Code of Welfare 2002.

The Code of Recommendations for the Welfare of Circus Animals and Information for Circus Operators expired on 31 December 2004.

1.8 Interpretation and Definitions

1.8.1 Interpretation

Minimum Standards

Minimum standards are identified in the text by a heading and use the word “must” or similar words. They are highlighted in boxes within the text.

Recommended Best Practice

The Act provides that codes of welfare may contain recommendations for best practice.

Recommended best practice is taken to mean –

The best practice agreed at a particular time, following consideration of scientific information, accumulated experience and public submissions on the code. It is usually a higher standard of practice than the minimum standard, except where the minimum standard is best practice. It is a practice that can be varied as new information comes to light.

Recommendations for best practice will be particularly appropriate where it is desirable to promote or encourage better care for animals than is provided as a minimum standard.

Recommended best practices are identified by a heading and, generally, use the term “should”.

Good Practice

The Act does not define “good practice”. NAWAC takes “good practice” to mean a standard of care that has a general level of acceptance among knowledgeable practitioners and experts in the field; is based on good sense and sound judgement; is practical and thorough; has robust experiential or scientific foundations; and prevents unreasonable or unnecessary harm to, or promotes the interests of, the animals to which it is applied. Good practice also takes account of the evolution of attitudes about animals and their care.

Scientific Knowledge

The Act does not define “scientific knowledge”. NAWAC takes “scientific knowledge”, relevant to its areas of responsibility, to mean knowledge within animal-based scientific disciplines, especially those that deal with nutritional, environmental, health, behavioural and cognitive/neural functions, which are relevant to understanding the physical, health and behavioural needs of animals.

Such knowledge is not haphazard or anecdotal; it is generated by rigorous and systematic application of the scientific method and the results are objectively and critically reviewed before acceptance.

Available Technology

The Act does not define “available technology”. NAWAC takes “available technology” to represent, for example, existing chemicals, drugs, instruments, devices and facilities which are used practically to care for and manage animals.

1.8.2 Definitions

Act

“Act” means the Animal Welfare Act 1999.

Animal

This code applies to animals as defined in section 2 of the Act:

“Animal” -

- (a) Means any live member of the animal kingdom that is –
 - (i) A mammal; or
 - (ii) A bird; or
 - (iii) A reptile; or
 - (iv) An amphibian; or
 - (v) A fish (bony or cartilaginous); or
 - (vi) Any octopus, squid, crab, lobster, or crayfish (including freshwater crayfish); or
 - (vii) Any other member of the animal kingdom which is declared from time to time by the Governor-General, by Order in Council, to be an animal for the purposes of this Act; and
- (b) Includes any mammalian foetus, or any avian or reptilian pre-hatched young, that is in the last half of its period of gestation or development; and
- (c) Includes any marsupial pouch young; but
- (d) Does not include—
 - (i) A human being; or

- (ii) Except as provided in paragraph (b) or paragraph (c) of this definition, any animal in the pre-natal, pre-hatched, larval, or other such developmental stage.

Food and Feed - The words “food” and “feed” are used interchangeably.

1.9 Glossary

Circus	means a group of animals under the same ownership or control and that is usually a mobile entity, that primarily performs for public exhibition and may also be displayed for educational purposes.
Circus animal	means any domestic or non-domestic, including exotic, animal kept in a circus for the purpose of public exhibition or performance.
Circus operator	means the person who is responsible for running the circus and as such is in overall charge of the animals. The circus operator is not necessarily the owner of the assets of the circus.
Compatible individuals	means animals that have compatible behavioural needs and as such obtain behavioural enrichment from each other.
Consulting veterinarian	means a veterinarian with specialist expertise in the health and care of circus species.

Enrichment	means to present captive animals with cognitive challenges, allow opportunities for appropriate social interaction and exploration, give animals some control over their environment, and to meet species-specific behavioural needs through the provision of shelter and opportunities for hiding, foraging and exercise.
Exotic animals	means any species which are not domestic, companion or farm animals and that have not been approved for general release under the Hazardous Substances and New Organisms Act 1996 but must remain in permanent containment (these animals are also known as 'new organisms' under the Hazardous Substances and New Organisms Act).
Home or over-wintering base	means a base where circus animals may be held during a non-performing period such as winter.
Primates	means all non-human animals of the Primate order including lemurs, apes and monkeys, their size either small (e.g. capuchin and macaque) or large (chimpanzee and larger).
Social group	means a group of animals of a particular species living in a community, rather than alone, that is reflective of the way in which its members would normally form or congregate in the wild.
Stereotypic behaviour	means a sequence of movements that is repeated several times with little or no variation and which has no obvious purpose.

2. Obligations of Owners and Persons in Charge of Animals

The owner or person in charge of an animal has overall responsibility for the welfare of the animal in his or her care. The legal obligations set out below are not an exhaustive list of the obligations in the Act.

- (1) The owner or person in charge of an animal must –
 - (a) ensure that the physical, health, and behavioural needs of the animals are met in a manner that is in accordance with both good practice and scientific knowledge
 - (b) where practicable ensure that an animal that is ill or injured receives treatment that will alleviate any unreasonable or unnecessary pain or distress being suffered by the animal or that it is killed humanely.
- (2) The owner or person in charge of an animal must not without reasonable excuse -
 - (a) keep an animal alive when it is in such a condition that it is suffering unreasonable or unnecessary pain or distress
 - (b) sell, attempt to sell, or offer for sale, otherwise than for the express purpose of it being killed, an animal, when it is suffering unreasonable or unnecessary pain or distress
 - (c) desert an animal in circumstances in which no provision is made to meet its physical, health and behavioural needs.
- (3) No person may -
 - (a) ill-treat an animal
 - (b) release an animal that has been kept in captivity, in circumstances which the animal is likely to suffer unreasonable or unnecessary pain or distress
 - (c) perform any significant surgical procedure on an animal unless that person is a veterinarian
 - (d) perform on an animal a surgical procedure that is not significant in such a manner that the animal suffers unreasonable or unnecessary pain or distress.

Defences are set out in Appendix I. The Animal Welfare Act 1999 contains specific procedural requirements before these defences can be relied on, and these requirements are described in Appendix I.

3. Circus Operation

Introduction

The health and welfare of animals in a circus is totally dependent on both the physical and social environment they are kept in and the standard of care they receive. The relationship between circus animals and their keepers is also vital in maintaining optimum health and welfare.

The circus operator is responsible for the welfare of the animals. While these duties are not necessarily performed directly by the circus operator, he or she needs to ensure that the circus staff are adequately performing their responsibilities. This implies that the circus operator should employ staff experienced with the species they are to handle or arrange sufficient training for staff to enable each animal's requirements to be recognised and met.

In endeavouring to provide entertainment to the public, circus operators should aim to highlight the natural capabilities of the animals. No performance should be allowed that places an animal under unacceptable stress levels, encourages physical activity beyond the animal's normal capability or puts its physical or mental condition at risk.

3.1 Acquisition, Holding, Transfer and Breeding of Animals

Introduction

In taking in an animal, circus operators are making a commitment to that animal for its future management.

Minimum Standard No. 1 — Animal Acquisition and Holding

- (a) Where a circus animal is to be acquired, the circus operator must have the facilities necessary for and staff capable of providing for the needs of that species before the animal is transferred.
- (b) Individual exotic animals must not be transferred to a circus if it is likely that they will have to live in solitary conditions.
- (c) Circuses must hold a minimum of two or more compatible individuals of a particular exotic species, except when:
 - (i) on the advice of a consulting veterinarian, it is in the best interests of that particular individual animal to remain with the circus; or
 - (ii) a circus animal dies leaving a solitary member of its own species, and the circus operator has made all reasonable efforts to acquire additional compatible individuals or relocate the surviving individual to a population of compatible individuals.

Minimum Standard No. 1 Continued

- (d) Notwithstanding Minimum Standard 1(c), any circus exotic animal kept without companions of its own species must have one or more companions of another species, including humans, with which they are demonstrably compatible as verified by specialised behavioural or veterinary advice, which must be documented and available for scrutiny.
- (e) Animals displaying continuing signs of distress indicative of being unable to adapt to being held in a circus must not be held or used in circuses.
- (f) Where a circus has animals that are difficult or dangerous to handle, the circus operator must ensure that there are persons on site who are capable of handling those animals under all circumstances.
- (g) Each circus must have a written escape/recapture plan to protect the welfare of any exotic animal that may escape. The circus must review the plan annually and all staff must be aware of how to put it into operation.
- (h) Each circus must have written contingency plans for dealing with exotic animals that become unmanageable, old or infirm, or in the event of the circus not being able to continue operating.

Recommended Best Practice

Exotic species, such as lions, tigers, bears, elephants and large primates that require large living spaces and complex environments should not be held in a circus.

Circus operators should keep exotic animals in social groups that are similar to those found in the wild.

Circus operators should not acquire individual animals from existing social groups where there is a possibility that the animal will not be accepted by the group maintained by the circus.

Circus animals should be acquired from captive populations to ensure they are able to more readily adapt to circus life. Individual animals more accustomed or habituated to a degree of confinement, contact with humans, travelling and training, should be acquired in preference to those less accustomed.

Because circuses are performance oriented and generally travel from site to site, breeding animals and very young animals that are not performing should be held at a home or over-wintering base.

To reduce problems associated with unplanned breeding, exotic animals should be placed in a breeding control programme. The circus's consulting veterinarians should oversee this programme. The breeding control programme should be documented in the quality assurance system.

General Information

Subject to a veterinary report, old and infirm non-performing exotic animals may be kept in circuses where it can be shown that they have a clear attachment to their keepers or other animals. (Non-performing domestic animals may be retained.) In some cases it may be possible for non-performing animals to be relocated to a suitable new environment, such as a zoo or wildlife park.

3.2 Safety and Access to Animals

Introduction

Circuses may hold species not normally accessible to the general public, such as exotic species. This lack of accessibility is part of the attraction of circuses. However the welfare of the animals should not be compromised in order to allow the public access to the animals.

The circus operator should provide all reasonable precautions necessary to safeguard the welfare of the animals. This may include the disposal or relocation of animals whose temperament and/or strength makes keeping them within the circus hazardous.

Animal security checks on-site should be part of the regular circus routine.

Minimum Standard No. 2 — Public Access to Circus Animals

- (a) Members of the public must not be allowed unsupervised access to any exotic animals.
- (b) All animals must be provided with access to an area to which they can retire away from public contact when not in performance.

Recommended Best Practice

Where distractions, loud or unforeseen noises or other such activities put the welfare of circus animals at risk, the circus owner should attempt to stop or limit the disturbance or remove the animals to a safer location.

Consideration should be given to how aggressive mature circus animals, especially elephants and primates, will be managed in a circus.

General Information

Male elephants periodically undergo a condition known as “musth” in which they are more aggressive and sexually active. A musth bull elephant will attack anything that it perceives to be a rival and is therefore potentially very dangerous especially in captivity. Similarly, once male primates reach puberty they can become dangerous and unpredictable.

3.3 Staff and Staff Training

Introduction

The care of circus animals requires both experience and the observance of high standards.

Staff should be familiar with the following:

- animal husbandry and care
- animal handling, restraint and transport
- biology of species under their care
- the normal range of behaviours of the animals with particular emphasis on seasonal and/or day-to-day variations in both individuals and groups
- an understanding of the changes in behaviour associated with ill-health
- indicators of disease, injury or distress
- an understanding of animal welfare generally
- methods to minimise distress experienced by animals
- methods for integrating animals into social groups
- methods of habituating animals to humans before exhibiting them
- the provision of adequate diets for the respective circus animals
- emergency drills to contend with incidents of fire, flood, animals escaping, and animals attacking other animals or persons.

This code establishes minimum standards of care for circus animals, and is intended to encourage all owners and persons in charge of them to adopt the highest standard of husbandry, care and handling, based on the recommended best practices. While this code is based on current knowledge and technology available at the time of issue, it does not replace the need for experience and common sense in the handling of these animals.

The importance of good animal handling and training cannot be over-emphasised. Those responsible for the care of circus animals should be

competent and well trained. Personnel should be appropriately instructed in the care and maintenance of animals and how their actions may affect their welfare. Knowledge of the normal appearance and behaviour of each species is essential for their health and welfare. It is important that those in charge of circus animals should be able to recognise early signs of distress or disease so that prompt action is taken or advice sought.

Owners or persons in charge of circus animals should ensure that their personnel have either the relevant knowledge and training or appropriate supervision to ensure that the health and welfare needs of the animals in their care are met. Personnel should undergo training either formally or on the job by experienced supervisors. Handling techniques should be included as written procedures in the quality assurance system, which should be easily accessible to all personnel.

Any contract or temporary staff should be trained and competent in the relevant activity.

Quality assurance programmes should emphasise the importance of training of personnel.

Minimum Standard No. 3 – Staff and Staff Training

- (a) Circus animals must be cared for by a sufficient number of staff who possess the appropriate ability, knowledge and professional competence so as to ensure that the health and welfare of the animals is maintained in accordance with the minimum standards listed in this code.
- (b) Staff responsible for the care of circus animals must receive training on the normal range of behaviours of the species they care for and in recognising signs of poor animal health and welfare.
- (c) Staff must not be allowed unsupervised or unrestricted access to exotic animals unless they possess the required ability, knowledge and professional competence to ensure the health and welfare of the animals are maintained.

Recommended Best Practice

Staff should have significant and appropriate animal experience or complete a formal training programme, such as the National Certificate in Captive Wild Animals or its equivalent.

4. Food and Water

Introduction

Circus animals should receive a daily diet in adequate quantities and containing adequate nutrients to meet their requirements for good health and welfare.

When considering the amount of food, nutrients and water animals require, a number of factors need to be taken into account:

- physiological state
- extensive or intensive management systems (where appropriate)
- nutritional composition of feed
- age
- sex
- size
- state of health
- quality of diet
- growth rate
- previous feeding levels
- feeding frequency
- genetic effects of strain or breed
- level of activity and exercise
- maximum periods of food deprivation (e.g. during transportation)
- introduction of new feeds
- climatic factors (e.g. inclement weather, droughts, temperature).

Due to the above factors and the considerable variation that occurs between individual animals, food, nutrient and water requirements vary from one individual to another. Animals at work will require more food than non-performing animals. The appropriate level of feeding will be best determined by monitoring the body condition of the animals, and feeding accordingly, rather than feeding a pre-determined level of feed. Therefore it is not appropriate to specify a complete range of the quantities of food and nutrients required as minimum standards.

The provision of food and water at each location is a fundamental requirement for travelling circus animals. Arrangements should be made by the circus operator in advance to ensure that adequate supplies of suitable feed and water are available wherever the circus travels. To this end arrangements should be made for forward-purchase of feed in future locations.

All feed for circus animals should be stored and prepared in a hygienic manner to preserve its quality and areas where food is prepared should be cleaned daily and all utensils cleaned after use. Cleansing products should not be harmful to animals.

Minimum Standard No. 4 — Food and Water

- (a) Each circus animal must receive adequate quantities of food and nutrients to enable it to:
 - (i) maintain good health;
 - (ii) meet its physiological requirements; and
 - (iii) avoid metabolic and nutritional disorders.
- (b) All circus animals must have access to water, when not performing, that is palatable and not harmful to health.

5. Shelter, Accommodation and Housing

Introduction

In circuses four types of accommodation may be used:

- accommodation during transport (transport trailers)
- accommodation while at the performance site, which usually comprises:
 - smaller spaces or confined housing (sometimes the transport trailers which double as night quarters) and
 - larger spaces or exercise areas (which can include housing – sometimes detachable enclosures are annexed to the transport trailer)
- accommodation at an over-wintering or home base.

The circus operator should choose a performance site that maximises the exercise areas available to the circus animals.

Each animal of the species that is held and exhibited in a circus has special needs and requirements that should be taken into account when designing and constructing facilities to hold and transport them.

Minimum Standard No. 5 — Shelter, Accommodation and Housing

- (a) Confined housing or night quarters, where appropriate for the species, must provide enough space to enable animals to –
 - (i) stand up in a normal stance without their heads touching the roof; and
 - (ii) turn around and lie down comfortably.
- (b) All accommodation (including fittings and, where used, arena caging) must be designed and constructed to properly confine and thereby protect the circus animals.
- (c) All accommodation must be maintained in good condition, with particular attention paid to eliminating sharp edges and broken wires or other projections, to minimise the risk of injury to circus animals.
- (d) All accommodation must be adequately ventilated to provide fresh air and to dissipate excessive heat and odours.
- (e) Sufficient shelter or warmth must be provided to allow circus animals protection from extremes of wind, rain, sun and temperature as is appropriate to the species.

Minimum Standard No. 5 Continued

- (f) Circus animals must have sufficient access to shade during the hot periods of the day, or where provision of shade is not practicable, other methods of cooling must be available e.g. hosing with water.
- (g) Where circus animals are housed on a sealed surface such as concrete or bitumen, the surface must be covered by a suitable material that insulates against heat and cold.
- (h) Floor surfaces of indoor accommodation must be roughened or otherwise textured so that they do not become slippery and pose a risk of injury to the animals.
- (i) Where bedding is used it must be kept clean and dry.
- (j) Contaminated bedding or stale food or water must not be allowed to accumulate in an animal's accommodation.
- (k) Any loose objects in a circus animal's accommodation that may be potentially hazardous to that animal must be removed.
- (l) Paint and timber preservatives toxic to animals must not be used on accommodation surfaces to which the animals have access.
- (m) Facilities should be provided to allow for the isolation of individual animals, to enable veterinary examination and treatment and to allow for undisturbed convalescence and recuperation.

General Information

Effective drainage is essential for hygiene. Drainage systems should have the capacity to carry away all the effluent from the accommodation area.

Some animals, such as big cats and primates tend to defecate in one given area of their accommodation, therefore food presentation and sleeping areas should be set as far away as possible from these areas to prevent faecal contamination. Alternatively food containers and bedding could be raised above cage floor level.

6. Environmental and Behavioural Enrichment

Introduction

Animals in circuses may have their behaviours restricted by their environment and/or their management. In such circumstances, provision for the animals to remain physically active and psychologically stimulated is crucial to their health and well-being. The intelligence of some animals, e.g. primates, also means that they need constant stimulation or sources of mental stimuli otherwise they become bored and frustrated and may display abnormal behaviour patterns or stereotypic behaviours. These may include excessive grooming, hair pulling, repetitive pacing, running, jumping or rocking, social withdrawal, or self-mutilation.

Environmental or behavioural enrichment can include addressing:

- The physical environment e.g. adding soil or plant litter, partitions to provide different areas for different activities, or adding objects such as toys, swings, climbing elements, grips and perches. These playthings should be regularly changed to provide a periodic change in stimuli. Facilities can be constructed so as to encourage animals to make maximum use of the area available e.g. placing perches to encourage animals to climb.
- The social environment e.g. contact with conspecifics (members of the same species), other species (mixed exhibits) and humans. Stimuli emanating from staff via training to perform helps to cater for the natural behavioural tendencies of some animals. Enrichment programmes can also provide opportunities for animals to engage in play and social interactions.
- Management of the animals e.g. altering the method of feeding so that animals have to manipulate objects or search or work in order to obtain food, or the provision of browse material.
- The provision of adequate opportunity for exercise, either self-regulated, where the animal fulfils its own needs, or controlled by staff.

Minimum Standard No. 6 — Exercise and Behavioural Enrichment

- (a) An appropriate behavioural and environmental enrichment programme must be developed and implemented for each species of animal held.
- (b) All animals must have the opportunity for full social interaction with their companions at least daily.

Minimum Standard No. 6 Continued

- (c) Exercise areas must be available to all exotic animals for a minimum of eight hours each day except when dismantling and erecting the circus, during transport, in severely adverse weather conditions likely to endanger the animals, or when the safety and welfare of the animals could be compromised.
- (d) Exercise areas must be equipped, in accordance with the needs of the animals, with enrichment materials sufficient to aid and encourage normal behaviour patterns and prevent abnormal or stereotypic behaviours.

Recommended Best Practice

Exercise areas should be available to all animals for as long as possible each day.

Circus animals should have the opportunity for full social interaction with their companions for as long as possible each day.

General Information

Provision for contact between circus animals and other species and humans should be encouraged where that contact further enriches the circus animal but does not compromise welfare.

Enrichment may include the provision of toys, furniture, and wood to scratch etc for lions, durable toys, swings, climbing elements, grips or perches for primates, and involving elephants in circus work. It is anticipated that enrichment materials would include bedding material, tree branches, nesting boxes, pools, earth, straw or other materials, vegetation, pathways, shelves and perches above floor level, as appropriate to the species.

Circus operators should be familiar with the particular requirements (nutritional, behavioural, psychological etc) for the exotic species they care for. A thorough knowledge of species in the wild will enable the optimum conditions to be provided in captivity.

7. Animal Training and Performances

Introduction

Circus performances with animals rely on the training of the animals. Effective training can be achieved by developing a rapport with the animals and the use of positive reinforcement. Performances should be based on the exhibition of agility, balance, strength, climbing ability and intelligence of the animals, within the animals' normal capabilities.

Regular training and performing may provide some of the mental stimulation necessary for circus animals, provided the training is based on positive reinforcement only.

The level of training that an animal is able to cope with is very much dependent on the individual animal. Staff should be able to detect signs that the training sessions should be suspended or terminated.

Minimum Standard No. 7 — Training and Performances

- (a) Training and performing techniques must be appropriate for the species and the individual animal's physical and mental capabilities.
- (b) Training sessions must be a reasonable length of time determined by the animal's reaction and condition but without over-working the animal.
- (c) Food deprivation must not be used in training and performing.
- (d) Training methods and performances must be based on immediate positive reinforcement.
- (e) Training and command implements must be used in such a manner that does not cause unreasonable or unnecessary pain, injury or distress to an animal.
- (f) Electric prods must be used with restraint and only in situations where the animal handler is at risk and must not be used:
 - (i) on sensitive areas of the animal, including eyes, nose, anus, vulva and testicles;
 - (ii) by casual or inexperienced animal handlers;
 - (iii) in a manner that causes unreasonable or unnecessary pain or distress to the animal.

8. Species-specific Standards

Species-specific minimum standards are only provided in this code for exotic species currently held in New Zealand circuses. Minimum standards for domestic animals such as dogs and horses can be found in the respective species-specific codes of welfare.

8.1 Lions

Introduction

Lions have requirements for large living spaces and social companions and are most active at night. Therefore holding them in circuses should be carefully considered.

In captivity the urge to hunt should be managed carefully otherwise boredom and the associated behavioural problems may set in. Training lions to perform behaviours on command may offset boredom. The natural instincts being utilised during training include—

- the instinct for lions to work as a team
- the expenditure of physical energy
- the performance of certain physical movements such as leaping, rearing, running, etc
- the anticipation of reward.

Minimum Standard No. 8 — Lions

- (a) A minimum exercise area of 50 square metres for 1-4 lions must be provided, plus an extra 10 square metres for any additional lion.
- (b) At least part of the exercise area must be a minimum height of 3 metres and allow the lions access to a climbing facility with areas allowing the animals to rest above the ground.
- (c) Exercise areas must provide the lions with access to the ground, i.e. natural, well-drained earth, or an alternative substrate such as sawdust.
- (d) Housing must contain areas which are kept dry.
- (e) Except where they are being used as night-quarters, transport trailers must not provide the sole area for accommodation at the performance site.

General Information

Folding raised shelving can be used within the transport trailer to provide an elevated area.

Exercise areas can be provided by detachable enclosures annexed to the transport trailer.

8.2 Elephants

Elephants in the wild can have very large ranges depending on the availability of food and water. They spend a great deal of time feeding. Wild females form strong bonds with related females and offspring in matriarchal groups. Males congregate in bachelor groups, or remain solitary when not with females.

Minimum Standard No. 9 — Elephants

- (a) A minimum exercise area of 500 square metres for 1 or 2 elephants must be provided, plus an extra 200 square metres for any additional elephant.
- (b) The ground underfoot in elephant exercise areas must be non-abrasive and drained so as not to cause injury or compromise the health and welfare of the elephants.
- (c) Elephants must not be tethered with metal leg bands or chains except for safety reasons at night, during storms, in an emergency, or for treatment.
- (d) If used, a tether must be around one leg only.
- (e) If used, chains must be covered by polyester webbing or hosing where they go around the animal's legs and the covering must be well lubricated.
- (f) Elephants must have access to high-fibre food to reduce hunger and the motivation to forage and to allow normal digestive function.

Recommended Best Practice

Elephants should be kept in social matriarchal groups.

Elephants should be provided with as much exercise area complexity as possible, including the opportunity to wallow and bathe, and have tree trunks for rubbing.

Elephants should be encouraged to manually work around the circus and used to lift equipment as part of their behavioural enrichment.

A tether should be at least four metres in length for restraint outside, and two metres in length when an elephant is restrained indoors.

Elephants should be provided with fresh non-toxic tree branches or browse material to keep them occupied and avoid undesirable behaviour patterns.

Training of elephants should involve the introduction of new behaviours and the modification of existing routines.

8.3 Primates

Introduction

Primates have large living space requirements, therefore, their accommodation size needs to be maximised. Primates are also very intelligent social animals, therefore, their care should include constant sources of mental stimulation. Providing a complex environment and training on an ongoing basis should be pursued to promote normal behaviour to reduce boredom, frustration, aggression and stereotypic behaviour.

Minimum Standard No. 10 — Primates

- (a) The following minimum exercise areas must be provided for any circus primates from six months after the date of commencement of this code:
 - (i) small primates – 20 square metres per one or two animals plus an extra 2.5 square metres for each additional animal.
 - (ii) large primates – 50 square metres per one or two animals plus an extra 10 square metres for each additional animal.
- (b) The whole of the exercise area must be a minimum height of 2.4 metres and allow primates to access a climbing facility with areas allowing the animals to rest above the ground.
- (c) Where primates are tethered for exercise outside of a caged exercise area, the tether must be at least 5 metres long, and give the animals access to a climbing facility at least 2.4 metres high with areas allowing the animals to rest above the ground.
- (d) Where tethers are used, measures must be taken to prevent the tether becoming entangled where it could compromise the animal's safety and welfare.
- (e) Utilisation of space in primate housing must be maximised by fixing climbing elements, such as solid branches and mezzanine floors, to use the dimension of height.

Minimum Standard No. 10 Continued

- (f) Primates must have access to sheltered and dry places where they can sleep.
- (g) Primates must be provided, when not performing or training, with access to durable toys, swings, climbing elements, grips and perches, to prevent abnormal or stereotypic behaviours.
- (h) Foraging behaviour must be encouraged by the daily hiding of food such as nuts in different places in the primate's exercise area.

Note:

Section 73(3) of the Act provides that NAWAC may, in exceptional circumstances, recommend minimum standards that do not fully meet the obligations of the Act to ensure that the physical, health and behavioural needs of the animal are met. In making this recommendation NAWAC must have regard to, among other things, the feasibility and practicality of effecting a transition from current practices and any adverse effects that may result from such a transition, and the economic effects of any transition from current practices to new practices.

NAWAC considers that current exercise areas for circus primates do not always fully meet the obligations of the Act. Minimum standard 10(a) allows for the continued use of these areas until 6 months after the commencement of this code at which time all exercise areas for primates must comply with the space requirements specified in minimum standard 10(a).

Recommended Best Practice

Primates should be kept in social groups that approximate how they would live in natural or wild populations.

The whole of the exercise area should be a minimum height of 3 metres and allow primates to access a climbing facility with areas allowing the animals to rest above the ground.

Primates should not be routinely tethered unless it provides significant opportunities for exercise and behavioural enrichment which they would not otherwise have available in an exercise area.

General Information

Where animals are temporarily separated for aggression, care needs to be taken not to keep the animal separated from the group for too long, otherwise there may be difficulties reintroducing the animal.

9. Disease and Injury Control

Introduction

Unique problems may be associated with the handling and treatment of many circus animal species. Circuses should engage or contract specialist consulting veterinarians who can be contacted but will have to use local veterinarians to provide care in times of day-to-day illnesses or injuries.

Minimum Standard No. 11 — Disease and Injury Control

- (a) A minimum of a daily check for signs of ill-health or injury must be made of all animals except where such inspection is likely to be detrimental to their health or welfare.
- (b) Those responsible for the care of circus animals must be competent at recognising the signs of ill-health or injury in the animals and must consult a veterinarian as appropriate.
- (c) Where a circus holds exotic animals, the circus operator must make contractual arrangements for a consulting veterinarian or veterinarians experienced with each exotic species held in the circus to advise in all matters relating to the health, feeding, exercising, working and welfare of the animals in the circus.
- (d) Where an animal is under veterinary care it must not be trained or perform unless a veterinarian declares that the animal has recovered or is capable of training or performing.
- (e) Copies of all veterinary case notes must be held by the circus operator and made available to the consulting veterinarian(s) if required.

Recommended Best Practice

At locations remote from the consulting veterinarian(s), local veterinarians (if used) should consult with the circus's consulting veterinarian(s).

Euthanasia should only be carried out by a veterinarian, unless it is an emergency.

General Information

An animal in good physical health is active, moves freely, eats and drinks well, has clear eyes and nose, clean skin and coat and is in good bodily condition without being fat.

An animal suffering from ill-health may show some of the following signs—

- lassitude and loss of condition
- separation from the group
- lack of co-ordination
- digestive upsets, appearing as loss of appetite, vomiting, diarrhoea (soiled tail and hind-legs) or constipation
- changes in appearance or consistency of urine or faeces
- pallor or discoloration of the skin
- lameness
- discharges from the eyes or discharges from the nostrils which may be a sign of respiratory disease and may also be associated with a cough, sneezing
- fever
- injuries and wounds.

For some species washing and grooming at regular intervals is essential.

When an animal is cleared by a local veterinarian to work, the clearance should be confirmed in the circus's animal records and a copy sent to the consulting veterinarian(s).

10. Transport

Introduction

Transport is a fundamental part of the circus operation and special care needs to be taken in transporting circus animals. Where transport guidelines exist they should be consulted, or where a code of welfare on transporting circus animals exists, it must be complied with, otherwise transport should generally be in accordance with the *Code of Recommendations and Minimum Standards for the Transport of Animals within New Zealand* or any code that replaces that code. Where appropriate the conditions and facilities as required by the International Air Transport Association (IATA) for the transport of animals should be followed.

Transport accommodation should be specifically designed for the species being carried.

Minimum Standard No. 12 — Transport

- (a) During transportation animals must be able to stand and bear weight on all limbs and be fit enough to travel comfortably and withstand the journey without suffering unnecessary pain or distress.
- (b) Animals must be transported in enclosed vehicles which:
 - (i) are strong enough to contain them;
 - (ii) provide enough space to enable the circus animals to travel in a natural position without risk of injury; and
 - (iii) provide adequate ventilation to prevent over-heating or over-chilling.
- (c) The floor surface of transport trailers must be constructed of a robust non-slip surface and its condition must be regularly checked and maintained.
- (d) Animals must be fed and watered at regular intervals commensurate with the requirements of their age, health and physiological state.
- (e) The duration of travel must be such that it does not compromise the animals' health and welfare.

General information

Excess space in the transport trailer may increase risk of injury during transportation.

Special consideration should be given to the requirements of sick, injured, new-born, pregnant or nursing animals during transport.

11. Quality Assurance System

Recommended Best Practice

To ensure that standards of animal welfare and husbandry are maintained each circus should implement a documented quality assurance system.

The elements of the quality assurance system should provide for the minimum standards and recommendations for best practice of this code.

The quality system should be based on the general principles of Standard AS/NZ 9002 or similar quality system, but it is not essential that the quality system be certified.

A quality assurance system should provide for—

- the means of evaluating animal welfare within a circus
- the provision of proper and sufficient food, water and shelter
- adequate facilities and equipment within each type of animal holding facility
- sufficient exercise and behavioural enrichment
- holding, training and handling practices that are humane, safe for the animals and safe for the staff and public
- a health programme including, where appropriate to the species, preventative measures such as vaccination and parasite control
- detailed animal record keeping, including an accident and illness register
- a breeding control programme.

11.1 Records

General Information

The maintenance of good records is an integral part of a quality assurance system and good circus management.

The circus operator should keep records that provide evidence that the circus is conforming to the requirements of this code.

The following records should be kept:

- animals held, numbers, species, sexes and ages
- dates of acquisition and source of all animals
- genealogy and breeding records of each animal and of the group
- health records of each animal and of the group
- number and cause of death of any animals in the circus

- details of dates of transfers in and out of the circus, including approvals for such transfers
- individual animal diet sheets and a record of all diets.

The circus operator should provide a plan for all the animals in the circus. This should include:

- a schedule of all animal health practices, e.g. worming, vaccinations, and animal husbandry, diet and feeding programmes
- a planned programme of reproductive control or mating as appropriate
- a schedule of routine animal enclosure servicing and maintenance.

The circus operator should also record injuries, ill-health and distress including:

- details of observed deviations from normal animal health or behaviour daily
- comprehensive veterinary case notes and records of preventative and clinical medicine, surgery and other treatments; pathological findings from ante-mortem testing; and results of post-mortem examination and testing
- the dates of the observation of illness, diagnosis, treatment and final outcome
- any laboratory diagnostic and radiographic tests and their results and interpretation
- the generic names, dosages, route and frequency of all medications used to treat the animal
- post-mortem results if applicable.

Appendix I: Defences

1. Strict Liability

In the prosecution of certain offences under the Animal Welfare Act 1999 committed after 19 December 2002, evidence that a relevant code of welfare was in existence at the time of the alleged offence and that a relevant minimum standard established by that code was not complied with is rebuttable evidence that the person charged with the offence failed to comply with, or contravened, the provision of the Animal Welfare Act to which the offence relates. (See sections 13(1A), 24(1) and 30(1A) of the Animal Welfare Act 1999, as amended by the Animal Welfare Amendment Act 2002).

2. Defences

It is a defence in the prosecution of certain offences under the Animal Welfare Act 1999 if the defendant proves that there was in existence at the time of the alleged offence a relevant code of welfare and that the minimum standards established by the code of welfare were in all respects equalled or exceeded. (See sections 13(2)(c), 24(2)(b) and 30(2)(c)).

If a defendant in a prosecution intends to rely on the defence under section 13(2)(c) or 30(2)(c), the defendant must, within seven days after the service of the summons, or within such further time as the Court may allow, deliver to the prosecutor a written notice. The notice must state that the defendant intends to rely on section 13(2) or 30(2) as the case may be, and must specify the relevant code of welfare that was in existence at the time of the alleged offence, and the facts that show that the minimum standards established by that code of welfare were in all respects equalled or exceeded. This notice may be dispensed with if the Court gives leave. (See sections 13(3) and 30(3)).

3. The strict liability provisions and the defence of equalling or exceeding the minimum standards established by a code of welfare apply to the following offences -

Failing to provide

Section 12(a) A person commits an offence who, being the owner of, or a person in charge of, an animal, fails to comply, in relation to the animal, with section 10 (which provides that the owner of an animal, and every person in charge of an animal, must ensure that the physical, health, and behavioural needs of the animal are met in a manner that is in accordance with both good practice and scientific knowledge).

Suffering animals

Section 12(b) A person commits an offence who, being the owner of, or a person in charge of, an animal, fails, in the case of an animal that is ill or injured, to comply, in

relation to the animal, with section 11 (which provides that the owner of an animal that is ill or injured, and every person in charge of such an animal, must, where practicable, ensure that the animal receives treatment that alleviates any unreasonable or unnecessary pain or distress being suffered by the animal).

Section 12(c) A person commits an offence who, being the owner of, or a person in charge of, an animal, kills the animal in such a manner that the animal suffers unreasonable or unnecessary pain or distress.

Surgical procedures

Section 21(1)(b) A person commits an offence who, without reasonable excuse, acts in contravention of or fails to comply with section 15(4) (which provides that no person may, in performing on an animal a surgical procedure that is not a significant surgical procedure, perform that surgical procedure in such a manner that the animal suffers unreasonable or unnecessary pain or distress.)

Transport

Section 22(2) A person commits an offence who fails, without reasonable excuse, to comply with any provision of subsection (1) (which provides that every person in charge of a vehicle or an aircraft, and the master of or, if there is no master, the person in charge of, a ship, being a vehicle, aircraft, or ship in or on which an animal is being transported, must ensure that the welfare of the animal is properly attended to, and that, in particular, the animal is provided with reasonably comfortable and secure accommodation and is supplied with proper and sufficient food and water.)

Section 23(1) A person commits an offence who, without reasonable excuse, confines or transports an animal in a manner or position that causes the animal unreasonable or unnecessary pain or distress.

Section 23(2) A person commits an offence who, being the owner of, or the person in charge of, an animal, permits that animal, without reasonable excuse, to be driven or led on a road, or to be ridden, or to be transported in or on a vehicle, an aircraft, or a ship while the condition or health of the animal is such as to render it unfit to be so driven, led, ridden or transported.

Ill-treatment

Section 29(a) A person commits an offence who ill-treats an animal.

4. Inspection of premises

Inspectors appointed under the Animal Welfare Act 1999 have the power to enter any land or premises (with the exceptions of dwellings and marae), or any vehicle, aircraft or

vessel, at any reasonable time, for the purpose of inspecting any animal—*Section 127(1)*.

Inspectors include officers of MAF Compliance and Enforcement Group, inspectors from approved organisations (e.g. the Royal New Zealand Society for the Prevention of Cruelty to Animals (RNZSPCA) and the Animal Welfare Institute of New Zealand (AWINZ)) appointed by the Minister, and the Police.

Appendix II: Codes of Welfare

Codes of Welfare

- Animal Welfare (Broiler Chickens: Fully Housed) Code of Welfare No.1, 2003
- Animal Welfare (Rodeos) Code of Welfare No.2, 2003
- Animal Welfare (Zoos) Code of Welfare No.5, 2004
- Animal Welfare (Circuses) Code of Welfare No.6, 2004

Codes of welfare (given transitional status)

- Code of Recommendations and Minimum Standards for the Welfare of Pigs
- Code of Recommendations and Minimum Standards for the Welfare of Layer Hens

List of Regulations and Circular Deemed to be the Animal Welfare (Commercial Slaughter) Code of Welfare 2002

- Clauses 1(a) and 2, and the heading preceding clause 2, of Part 7 of the Schedule 1 of the Fish Export Processing Regulations 1995 (SR 1995/54)
- Regulation 80(1) of the Game Regulations 1975 (SR 1975/174)
- Regulation 76 of the Meat Regulations 1969 (SR 1969/192)
- The Slaughter of Stock, Game, and Poultry Regulations 1969 (SR 1969/194)
- New Zealand Fishing Industry Agreed Implementation Standards 003.4 Live Eels and Rock Lobsters Circular 1995

Published Codes of Recommendations and Minimum Standards

- Code of Recommendations and Minimum Standards for the Sea Transport of Sheep from New Zealand, September 1991 Code No. 2
- Code of Recommendations and Minimum Standards for the Welfare of Sheep, July 1996 Code No. 3
- Code of Recommendations and Minimum Standards for the Welfare of Dairy Cattle, June 1992 Code No. 4
- Code of Recommendations and Minimum Standards for the Welfare of Deer During the Removal of Antlers, July 1992 Code No. 5, Amendments August 1994, August 1997

- Code of Recommendations and Minimum Standards for the Welfare of Horses, February 1993 Code No. 7
- Code of Recommendations and Minimum Standards for the Welfare of Bobby Calves, July 1997 Code No. 8
- Code of Recommendations and Minimum Standards for Care of Animals in Boarding Establishments, August 1993 Code No. 9
- Code of Recommendations and Minimum Standards for the Welfare of Animals at the Time of Slaughter at Licensed and Approved Premises, July 1996 Code No. 10
- Code of Recommendations and Minimum Standards for the Sale of Companion Animals, September 1994 Code No. 11
- Code of Recommendations and Minimum Standards for the Welfare of Animals Transported within New Zealand, November 1994 Code No. 15, Amendments May 1996, August 1998
- Code of Recommendations and Minimum Standards for the Welfare of Animals at Saleyards, June 1998 Code No. 16
- Code of Recommendations and Minimum Standards for the Emergency Slaughter of Farm Livestock, December 1996 Code No. 19
- Code of Recommendations and Minimum Standards for the Welfare of Dogs, May 1998 Code No 20
- Code of Recommendations and Minimum Standards for the Welfare of Ostrich and Emu, June 1998 Code No. 21

Published Guidelines

- Guidelines for the Welfare of Stock from which Blood is Harvested for Commercial and Research Purposes, April 1996
- Guidelines for the Welfare of Yearling Fallow Deer During the Use of Rubber Rings to Prevent Antler/Pedicle Growth, September 1997
- Guidelines for the Welfare of Red and Wapiti Yearling Stags During the Use of Rubber Rings to Induce Analgesia for the Removal of Spiker Velvet, September 1998

<p>Codes and Guidelines may be obtained from:</p> <p>Executive Co-ordinator Animal Welfare MAF Biosecurity Authority Ministry of Agriculture and Forestry P O Box 2526</p> <p>WELLINGTON</p> <p>Tel: 04 474 4129 e-mail: animalwelfare@maf.govt.nz</p>	<p>Or can be inspected at:</p> <p>ASB House Reception Level 3 101-103 The Terrace WELLINGTON</p>
---	--

Codes and Guidelines are available on MAF's website. The web page address is:
<http://www.biosecurity.govt.nz/animal-welfare>