



ANIMAL WELFARE

National Animal Welfare Advisory Committee

Annual Report 1 January to 31 December 2011

National Animal Welfare Advisory Committee
C/o Ministry for Primary Industries
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Wellington 6140
New Zealand

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June 2012

NAWAC
National Animal Welfare Advisory Committee

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1 Chairman's comment

Over the past year the focus for NAWAC has again been on the development of codes. Although only one new code, the Transport Code, was issued during the year, the Committee has completed its deliberations on and recommended two new codes to the Minister. These were the Goat Code and the Meat Chicken Code, both of which attracted a lot of submissions the Committee had to consider. Work also proceeded on the development of new code for camelids, the preparation of advice to the Minister on the need for a revision of the Dairy Code to address housing systems, the revision of the Layer Hen Code and some initial consideration of the issue of dubbing. The review of the Layer Code has taken a great deal of time as the Committee has worked through over 300 submissions and Committee members have visited farms all over the country to gain a direct understanding of the issues faced by the industry. By the end of the year the Code was largely completed and after peer review it should be recommended to the Minister by May 2012.



The Committee has also been heavily involved in developing advice for MAF and the Minister on aspects of the proposed revision of the Animal Welfare Act. Issues that are being considered include the future roles of the Committee, the effectiveness of Codes of Welfare and alternatives, the welfare of wildlife and methods for increasing the transparency of NAWAC's processes and activities.

During 2011 the committee had one new member, Penny Fisher. Phil Cowan retired after completing two three-year terms. Phil has been a particularly active Committee member and gave substantial and thoughtful input to the revision of both the Pig and Layer Hen Codes. I would also like to acknowledge the valuable contribution by Katie Bicknell in helping NAWAC to implement a more objective and transparent tool to assist in making decisions on some of the more controversial problems we have to grapple with. This process is described in more detail elsewhere in the report.

Once again I would like to acknowledge the careful and thoughtful contributions from all NAWAC members as we have worked through the challenging issues we have to consider and their combined ability to put aside any personal interests and strive for consensus in the best interests of animal welfare.

In spite of major changes within MAF, including the disbanding of the Animal Welfare Directorate, the Committee has continued to receive the excellent technical and policy support that is essential to the effectiveness of our work.

Finally I would like to acknowledge the continuing support of the Minister for the work of the committee.

Dr John Hellström

Chairman

2 Animal Welfare Infrastructure in New Zealand

A variety of individuals and groups have an interest in the welfare of animals in New Zealand. The organisations with formal input into animal welfare policy and practice are summarised in the diagram below. In addition to these groups, members of the public provide input into codes of welfare through the consultation process.



3 The Committee

3.1 Legal status of the Committee

NAWAC is a ministerial advisory committee established under the Animal Welfare Act 1999. The Animal Welfare Act 1999, which sets core obligations on those responsible for the care of animals, came into force on 1 January 2000 and has been amended by Animal Welfare Amendment Acts in 2000, 2001, 2002, 2005 and 2010.

3.2 Functions

The functions of NAWAC, as set out in section 57 of the Animal Welfare Act, are to:

- advise the Minister of Agriculture (now the Minister for Primary Industries) on any matter relating to the welfare of animals in New Zealand, including legislative proposals concerning the welfare of animals and areas where research into the welfare of animals is required;
- make recommendations to the Minister relating to manipulation of animals and surgical procedures to be performed on animals;
- advise the Minister in relation to whether particular traps or devices should be declared prohibited or restricted, and any conditions that should be attached to the sale or use of any restricted trap or device;
- make recommendations to the Minister concerning the issue, amendment, suspension, revocation and review of codes of welfare; and
- promote, and assist other persons to promote, the development of guidelines in relation to the use of traps or devices or both and the hunting or killing of animals in a wild state.

3.3 Legal requirements and selection of appointees

NAWAC consists of a chairperson, the National Animal Ethics Advisory Committee (NAEAC) chairperson, and up to nine other members with 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;
- environmental and conservation management; and
- any other area the Minister considers relevant.

Members are appointed to NAWAC by the Minister after consideration by the Cabinet Appointments and Honours Committee and the Cabinet. Appointments are generally for a three-year term, although members may be reappointed for a second term and, in exceptional circumstances, a third. Members serve in their personal capacity and not as representatives of their employer or nominating body.

3.4 Membership

Members	Expiry of Appointment
Dr John S Hellström BVSc, PhD, Director Biosecurity Ltd (independent chairman)	31.10.12
Dr Kathryn B Bicknell BSc, PhD, Senior lecturer in economics, Lincoln University (independent appointment)	31.10.12
Ms Susan E Brown CA, BBS, Chartered Accountant (nominated by the Ministry of Women's Affairs)	31.10.13
Mr Hilton E Collier BAgSc, Registered Farm Management Consultant (nominated by Te Puni Kokiri)	31.10.12
Dr Philip E Cowan BSc (Hons), PhD, Science Leader Pest Control Technologies, Landcare Research NZ Ltd (nominated by Landcare Research NZ Ltd)	31.10.11
Dr Penelope (Penny) M Fisher BSc, MAppSc, PhD, Wildlife Toxicologist & Research Leader, Landcare Research NZ Ltd (nominated by Landcare Research NZ Ltd)*	31.10.14
Dr Barbara Nicholas BSc, BD, Dip Tch, PhD, Ethicist (independent appointment)	31.10.12
Mr Donald O Nicolson farmer, National President Federated Farmers of New Zealand to July 2011 (nominated by Federated Farmers of New Zealand)	31.10.13
Dr Karen M Phillips BVSc, MACVSc, Veterinarian (nominated by New Zealand Veterinary Association)*	31.10.14
Mrs Jenifer M Prattley National Vice-President Royal New Zealand Society for the Prevention of Cruelty to Animals (nominated by Royal New Zealand SPCA)	31.10.12
Dr David R Scobie BAgSc (Hons), PhD, Scientist (nominated by New Zealand Society of Animal Production)	31.10.12
Dr Virginia M Williams BVSc, MANZCVS, DipProfEthics (chairperson of NAEAC)	31.10.12

* Dr Penny Fisher was appointed to the Committee for a three-year term and replaced Dr Phil Cowan. Dr Karen Phillips was reappointed for a second term on the Committee.

3.5 Deputy chairperson

Mr Hilton Collier served as deputy chairperson for 2011.

3.6 Secretariat

Ms Penny Timmer-Arends served as Secretary of NAWAC in 2011. Dr Cheryl O'Connor, Dr Mark Fisher, Ms Kirsty Grant, Ms Linda Carsons, Ms Paula Lemow, Dr Nicki Cross and Mrs Margaret Handscomb of MAF also provided excellent support and assistance to the Committee.

3.7 Fees

The daily fee for members was \$400 (\$550 for the chairperson). This fee is paid for attending meetings plus preparation time. Members are also reimbursed for travelling expenses. In addition, the chairperson and, on occasion, other members may be paid additional fees for representing the Committee at other meetings, including a large amount of subcommittee work in developing codes of welfare, or for carrying out significant extra work on the Committee's behalf. The following table shows fees paid in 2011.

Member	Fees paid during 2010 (gross)
J Hellström ¹	\$32 853.83
K Bicknell	\$8 800.00
S Brown	\$3 632.00
H Collier	\$3 600.00
P Cowan ²	\$3 000.00
P Fisher ²	\$ 400.00
B Nicholas	\$4 800.00
D Nicolson	\$ 0.00
K Phillips	\$3 800.00
J Prattley	\$2 400.00
D Scobie ²	\$6 000.00
V Williams	\$4 200.00

- 1 The Chairman undertook extensive liaison with animal welfare, industry and other groups, and with MAF, regarding the writing and content of draft codes of welfare and regarding other NAWAC business, in addition to preparing for and conducting formal NAWAC meetings and special meetings.
- 2 Dr Cowan's, Dr Fisher's and Dr Scobie's fees were paid directly to their employer as recompense for time lost from their primary employment.

3.8 Operations

3.8.1 Meetings

NAWAC holds four ordinary meetings per year. Attendance at the ordinary meetings for 2009-2011 is shown below. Due to disruptions to travel caused by heavy snowfalls, the August meeting was held by teleconference. Additional subcommittee meetings were held to consider codes of welfare.

Member	10/03/09	20/05/09	19/08/09	25/11/09	24/02/10	18/05/10	18/08/10	17/11/10	15/02/11	17/05/11	17/08/11	27-28/10/11
P O'Hara	•	•	•	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	–
J Hellström	–	–	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•
K Bicknell	–	–	–	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•
S Brown	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	•	•	•	•
P Burrows	•	•	X	•	•	•	•	X	–	–	–	–
H Collier	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•
P Cowan	•	•	X	•	•	•	•	•	•	X	•	•
J Martin	•	•	•	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	–
B Nicholas	–	–	–	–	–	•	•	•	X	•	•	•
D Nicolson	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	X	•	X	X	X
K Phillips	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•
R Poland	•	•	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	–
J Prattley	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•
B Ross	•	•	X	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	–
D Scobie	–	–	–	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•
G Verkerk	•	•	•	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	–
V Williams	–	–	–	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•

• Present, x Absent, – Not applicable

3.8.2 Strategic planning day

On 16 February, NAWAC undertook a strategic planning exercise. See section 8 for details.

3.8.3 Joint NAWAC/NAEAC meeting

As a prelude to the committees' input into the development of a New Zealand Animal Welfare Strategy and the review of the Animal Welfare Act 1999, NAWAC and NAEAC held a joint meeting in Wellington on May 18. The key questions discussed were:

- What is the relationship between societal values and sciences in developing animal welfare standards?
- Where do ethics sit in the NAWAC/NAEAC criteria for decision making?
- How do we think the ethical component of animal welfare decision-making should be addressed in the Animal Welfare Act review?

3.8.4 Site visits

Committee members made the following site visits during 2011:

- a gamebird facility at Shannon to observe the dubbing procedure;
- three indoor commercial meat chicken operations and a commercial free-range meat chicken operation near Christchurch;
- a full range of layer hen systems i.e. barns, conventional cages, free-range and colony cages.

3.8.5 NAWAC guidelines

NAWAC has, from time to time, prepared non-binding guidelines to assist in its activities. These outline the approach NAWAC takes, and provide guidance for members working through complex and contentious issues. A review of the guidelines was initiated during 2010, and completed in 2011. See appendix 2 for a full list of completed NAWAC guidelines.

3.8.6 Annual reports

An annual report detailing NAWAC's activities is published each year (see appendix 2).

Copies may be obtained from:

The Secretary
National Animal Welfare Advisory Committee
PO Box 2526
Wellington 6140

Email animalwelfare@mpi.govt.nz

The annual report is also available on the internet at: <http://www.biosecurity.govt.nz/regs/animal-welfare/nawac/annual-reports>

4 Codes of Welfare

4.1 Process for development of the codes and consultation

The formal process for the development of codes of welfare includes:

- NAWAC's determination of development priorities for codes of welfare; these are agreed on an annual basis.
- The agreement between the code writing group and the Manager (Codes of Welfare) MAF Animal Welfare Standards on the terms of reference for the writing group, timetable, progress reporting and identification of the representatives of affected persons (including organisations) who should be consulted. Any person or organisation may draft a code of welfare and submit it to NAWAC for consideration, or NAWAC may appoint a writer or writing group to prepare a draft code.
- Submission of the draft code to NAWAC. NAWAC will usually appoint a subcommittee and chairperson to undertake the detailed analysis of the draft code, of public submissions and of any submissions from the code writing group.
- NAWAC's determination that the draft code complies with the purposes of the Act, is clearly written and affected persons have been consulted. When NAWAC is satisfied that all these criteria have been met, the draft of the code will be released for public consultation, with the release publicly notified and submissions invited.
- Public consultation, the analysis of submissions and NAWAC's consideration of the submissions. Public consultation on codes ensures that the range of views held within the community is taken into account.
- In exceptional circumstances – having regard to the feasibility, practicality and economic effects of changing from current to new practices, and the requirements of religious and cultural practices – NAWAC may recommend minimum standards that do not comply with the general requirements of the Act (see section 73(3)).
- NAWAC may undertake a second consultation process, giving interested groups an opportunity to comment on any proposed changes to the draft and/or to present any new information.
- Submission of the draft code and report on the code to the Minister. As required by the Act, NAWAC will take into account good practice and scientific knowledge, available technology, public submissions and any other relevant matters before recommending the code to the Minister. The code report sets out the reasons for the recommendation and the nature of any significant differences of opinion.

The Minister may make any changes to the code, issue it by a notice in the Gazette, refer it back to NAWAC or decline to issue it.

4.2 New codes of welfare

The only new code released during 2011 was that dealing with transport of animals within New Zealand.

Other codes in various stages of development include:

- The goats code – recommended to the Minister in August 2011
- The draft code for camelids – public consultation closed on 9 September 2011 and submissions are under review
- The draft code for temporary housing of companion animals (including boarding establishments) – public consultation is likely to take place during 2012
- The draft code for equines - submitted to NAWAC by Dr Ivan Bridge (on behalf of the Equine Health Association) in February 2011.

4.3 Revised codes of welfare

The meat chickens (broilers) code was submitted to the Minister in October 2011.

Review of the layer hens code continued in 2011 including public consultation on a revised code and associated economic analyses (February-April 2011). The code is expected to be recommended to the Minister in March 2012.

4.4 Code amendments

An amendment of the code for painful husbandry procedures to include dubbing of game fowls, mulesing and develtvetting was considered in 2011. NAWAC has recommended that mulesing be regulated under the Animal Welfare Act and will progress the other procedures when the code is reviewed in 2014. An investigation into welfare issues arising out of the long-term housing of dairy cattle initiated during 2010 was completed in 2011, with an amendment to the dairy cattle code of welfare recommended. The amendment will be drafted during 2012.

4.5 Codes of recommendations and minimum standards

The AWAC (NAWAC's predecessor) codes of recommendations and minimum standards remain as voluntary codes. These codes are progressively being reviewed and replaced by codes of welfare. Where a code of welfare has been issued, it supersedes any information that may be contained in the corresponding code of recommendations and minimum standards. Those codes of recommendations and minimum standards which have yet to be reviewed are listed in appendix 1.

4.6 Publication and availability

Published codes are available from MAF. A number of copies are issued free of charge to groups affected by the code and to key organisations (for example, the Royal New Zealand SPCA, Federated Farmers of New Zealand and the New Zealand Veterinary Association). See appendix 1 for a full list of published codes of welfare and codes of recommendations and minimum standards.

Codes are available from:

Animal Welfare
Ministry for Primary Industries
PO Box 2526
Wellington 6140
New Zealand

Telephone 0800 008333

Facsimile 04 894 5641

Email animalwelfare@mpi.govt.nz

A charge may be made for bulk orders. Codes are not protected by copyright and may be photocopied. Most codes, including all new codes when they are issued, are available on the internet at:

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

5 Other Issues for the Year

5.1 Long-term housing of dairy cattle

NAWAC has a statutory obligation to consider a range of issues that are relevant to the welfare of the animals when developing a code, the so-called 'five freedoms' that are set down as needs in section 4 of the Act. These needs are:

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

Determining the extent to which the content of a particular code satisfies this complex list of objectives is a challenging task. Each code contains a range of minimum standards, and it may happen that a minimum standard which best satisfies one of the basic needs may fail to satisfy another.

To help manage this complexity and ensure that decisions on codes of welfare are documented and transparent, NAWAC has been developing a framework for decision-making using a simple Multi-Criteria Decision Analysis (MCDA) that allows the Committee to rank clearly defined alternative husbandry systems, based on how they perform in terms of the needs set down in section 4 of the Act.

The MCDA approach can also be used to help consider whether and/or how to apply section 73(3) of the Act, the recommendation of standards that do not fully meet the requirements of the Act. In reaching a decision to invoke section 73(3) NAWAC is required to consider the feasibility, practicability and any adverse effects, any social or religious implications and the economic implications of making changes from current practice.

The Act does not require NAWAC to directly consider international developments or societal expectations in its deliberations but they can be considered as proxies for emerging good practice, which the Act does direct NAWAC to consider. These criteria are also included in the MCDA model that NAWAC uses.

5.2 Dubbing

Dubbing is the traditional practice of removing combs and wattles from gamebirds. Mr Ian Selby (Poultry, Pigeon and Cage Bird Association) gave a presentation on dubbing at the May meeting, arguing that the procedure was carried out to reduce injury through fighting rather than for the look of the birds. He said trials of anaesthetic gels appeared to be providing adequate pain relief.

Several committee members met with a gamebird fancier at his property outside Palmerston North in April to view the procedure. Mr Selby was also present as well as a veterinarian who performed the surgery. Two methods of pain relief were demonstrated - injectable local anaesthetic and the application of anaesthetic gel.

At the subsequent NAWAC meeting, a decision was reached to explore operational research funding to test the efficacy of gel anaesthetic and survey how fanciers keep their birds. With funding not available at this time, bird fanciers have been asked to provide feedback on their current practice of using the anaesthetic gel.

5.3 EuroFAWC

This year for the first time New Zealand was represented at EuroFAWC, the European Forum for Animal Welfare Councils, when the chair of NAWAC, John Hellström attended the meeting held in Bergen, Norway on 29 and 30 March. Twenty-seven delegates from sixteen countries and organisations attended the meeting, which was the sixth to be held. The programme included a day of presentations and discussions and a field trip to observe welfare issues associated with the production, transport and slaughter of farmed Atlantic salmon.

Topics discussed included individual country reports identifying a diverse range of animal welfare concerns across Europe, discussion on future directions for EuroFAWC, a presentation and workshop on economics and animal welfare and a session on religious slaughter without stunning. The range of welfare issues of concern included many that NAWAC is also grappling with such as intensive pig and poultry production and an emerging concern about dairy cow welfare as the industry intensifies. Other welfare issues were uniquely European such as plucking of live geese for down production and the use of draught horses in forestry. Some of the emerging issues of note were the management of feral pets, welfare codes for hunting and fish welfare for both recreational fishers and aquaculture.

5.4 Transport code of welfare

The Animal Welfare (Transport within New Zealand) Code of Welfare 2011, released in September was very well received by the pastoral and transport sectors. The code covers all animals transported by land, sea or air within New Zealand. It provides clarity about who is responsible for the welfare of animals at all stages of transportation and gives direction on how this must be achieved. The launch, by the Deputy Chair of NAWAC, Hilton Collier, received widespread and favourable publicity and the code has been rapidly adopted in various forms within industry quality management systems. It is gratifying to see this code, like the earlier dairy, sheep and beef and pig codes being widely adopted within industry guidelines.

6 Research

6.1 Operational research

In order to provide sound information for policy development and to underpin the activities of government departments, MAF commissions operational research in areas where there is a lack of suitable information. Since 1993, more than 100 animal welfare research projects have been funded (see previous reports and <http://www.biosecurity.govt.nz/animal-welfare/nawac/papers/operational-research.htm> for details).

The following four projects were completed during 2011:

- **Kotare Bioethics Ltd** – The animal welfare implications of depriving sheep of feed to facilitate transport and slaughter
- **DairyNZ** – An animal welfare risk assessment of housing systems for dairy cattle
- **Synovate** – What New Zealanders really think about animal welfare
- **Landcare Research NZ Ltd** – How humane are our pest control tools?

Projects due to be completed in 2012:

- **AgResearch Ltd** – A survey of the incidence and causes of lameness in New Zealand broiler chickens
- **Landcare Research NZ Ltd** – Review of best practice for humane and effective vertebrate pest control
- **Massey University** – Indicators of good welfare in horses
- **Prime Consulting International Ltd** – What drives primary sector compliance with animal welfare legislation?

Reports for all research are available at www.mpi.govt.nz or on request from animalwelfare@mpi.govt.nz

6.2 Sustainable Farming Fund

The Sustainable Farming Fund, which is administered by MAF, supports projects that contribute to the ongoing economic, environmental and social wellbeing of the country's primary producers.

Animal welfare projects completed during 2011 are:

- **Egg Producers Federation** – Evaluation of furnished cage systems for the New Zealand egg market 2007-2010
- **New Zealand Pork Industry Board** – Sustainable dry sow housing and management.

Animal welfare research projects due to be completed in 2012:

- **Waratah Farms Ltd** – Sow farrowing – Freedom crates
- **New Zealand Pork Industry Board** – Best practice free range pork production.

6.3 Research priorities

Animal welfare science can contribute to enhancing animal welfare in many areas. The topics described below were identified as being NAWAC's highest priorities following a comprehensive survey completed in 2007. All relate to issues in the development or review of codes of welfare which are, or are likely to be, contentious. NAWAC will actively pursue funding for these topics, some of which are already being addressed through industry initiatives. They are:

- the welfare and performance of New Zealand broilers compared with international standards;
- comparison of current cage systems with alternative cage (including enriched) and non-cage systems for layer hens;

- the wider use of pain relief when undertaking painful husbandry procedures;
- aggression in sows, especially following mating, and ways to manage it through feeding and housing systems, genetic improvement and stockmanship;
- body condition score of dairy cattle and the point at which welfare is compromised and suffering occurs;
- objective assessment of animal welfare outcomes including determining the key measures, monitoring animals, and assessing compliance and performance; and
- humane slaughter methods for crabs, rock lobsters, crayfish and eels.

7 Communications

7.1 The Minister

Hon David Carter was to attend the August NAWAC meeting, but instead met with the Chair when the meeting was cancelled due to the extreme weather conditions. The Minister reiterated his appreciation for the work NAWAC does and encouraged members to claim for time and expenses incurred so they are not left out of pocket. He also emphasised the importance of the two advisory committees' input into the Animal Welfare Strategy and legislation review process.

7.2 Welfare Pulse

The MAF publication, *Welfare Pulse*, incorporating news of NAWAC activities, was published three times in 2011 (see appendix 2). Articles by NAWAC members and support staff included:

- Editorial (J Hellström, March)
- NAWAC investigates indoor housing of dairy cattle (K Phillips, March)
- Tail docking of lambs (V Williams, March)
- Cattle: freeze branding recommended (V Williams, March)
- Rabies control in Bali (J Tuckwell, March)
- Participation in EuroFAWC 2011 (J Hellström, June)
- Food deprivation – implications prior to transport (B Jenkins and M Fisher, June)
- Multi-criteria decision analysis – a possible framework for difficult animal welfare policy decisions (J Hellström and K Bicknell, June)
- Focus on lameness (V Williams, June)
- Editorial – Quality of life (V Williams, November)
- Fitness for transport – a consistent approach (V Williams with R Wild, November)
- A vet's role in animal ethics (J Hellström, November)
- World Congress (V Williams, November).

7.3 Conferences

NAWAC members, and members of NAWAC's secretariat and support staff, attended – and in many cases gave presentations at – the following conferences and meetings in 2011:

- “Who Drives Animal Welfare in Australia?” Centre for Animal Welfare and Ethics, Queensland, Australia, February
- RSPCA Australia Scientific Seminar ‘All work and no play? Modifying the behaviour of animals’, Canberra, February
- AsureQuality Export Veterinary Workshop, Hanmer Springs, February
- Trans-Tasman Animal Welfare Committee, Wellington, February
- 5th Pan Commonwealth Veterinary Conference, Accra, Ghana, March
- European Forum of Animal Welfare Councils, Bergen, Norway, March
- Whales Ethics and Welfare Workshop, Cornwall, United Kingdom, March
- 1st Meeting of the Regional Animal Welfare Strategy for Asia, the Far East and Oceania Co-ordination Group, Bangkok, Thailand, April
- Dairy Women's Network Conference, Invercargill, April
- Quadrilateral Animal Welfare Working Group, Queenstown, April
- 79th OIE General Session, Paris, France, May

- European Commission/New Zealand Animal Welfare Co-operation Forum, May
- Department for Environment, Food and Rural Affairs (UK)/MAF NZ Animal Welfare Liaison meeting, London, United Kingdom, May
- Deer Industry New Zealand Conference, Timaru, May
- Plans for Animals in Natural Disasters Workshop, Melbourne, May
- OIE Permanent Animal Welfare Working Group, Paris, France, June
- Universities Federation for Animal Welfare International Animal Welfare Symposium, Portsmouth, United Kingdom, June
- Humane Slaughter Association Centenary International Symposium, Portsmouth, United Kingdom, June
- New Zealand Veterinary Association Conference, Hamilton, June
- 15th Australasian Vertebrate Pest Conference, Sydney, Australia, June
- Conference of the Association of Pet Dog Trainers, Wellington, June
- New Zealand Society of Animal Production, Invercargill, June/July
- Meeting of the OIE ad hoc Group on Laboratory Animal Welfare, Paris, France, July
- 5th Workshop of the Australian Animal Welfare Strategy, Sydney, Australia, August
- New Zealand Agricultural and Resource Economics Society Annual Conference, Nelson, August
- 45th International Congress of the International Society for Applied Ethology, Indianapolis, United States, August
- 5th International Conference on the Assessment of Animal Welfare at Farm and Group Level, Guelph, Canada, August
- International Conference on Veterinary and Animal Ethics, London, United Kingdom, September
- British Ecological Society Annual Conference, Sheffield, United Kingdom, September
- European Vertebrate Pest Management Conference, Berlin, Germany, September
- 3rd Meeting of the OIE Collaborating Centre for Animal Welfare Science and Bioethical Analysis Management Committee, Wellington, October
- New Zealand Companion Animal Council, Auckland, November
- Joint Annual Scientific Meeting of the Nutrition Society of New Zealand and the Nutrition Society of Australia, Queenstown, November/December
- Regional Animal Welfare Strategy for Asia, the Far East and Oceania Coordination Group meeting 2, Tokyo, Japan, December
- OIE Workshop for National Animal Welfare Focal Points, Tokyo, Japan, December
- Three presentations on animal welfare and compliance as staff training for the Verification Animal and Food Products veterinarians.

7.4 Liaison with other bodies

7.4.1 National Animal Ethics Advisory Committee

NAEAC deals with ethical and animal welfare issues with regard to research, testing and teaching involving animals. NAWAC continues to maintain a close association with NAEAC, ensuring familiarity with the activities of the two committees (the chairperson of NAEAC is an ex officio member of NAWAC).

7.4.2 Others

Throughout the year one or more NAWAC members, or officers of MAF Animal Welfare Directorate acting on behalf of NAWAC, also liaised with a wide network of organisations, including government departments, NGOs, producer boards, researchers and companies, to ensure that NAWAC had up-to-date information to enhance its decision-making.

8 Strategic and Operational Plans

On 16 February, NAWAC undertook a strategic planning exercise for the fourth time since the introduction of the Animal Welfare Act in 1999, which formally established NAWAC and set out its functions and procedures.

Committee members reviewed the mission and vision and the principles that govern the operations of the Committee, developed at the earlier planning workshops in 2001, 2004 and 2006. They also agreed a number of strategic priorities and goals to give focus to the Committee's activities for the next five years.

The major issues and future challenges for the Committee were identified and seven strategic priorities defined. Goals and strategies for their achievement were also developed and will form an important part of the context for the development of operational milestones for the years covered by the Strategic Plan (2011-2015). Progress made towards achieving the operational milestones will be updated at each general meeting and operational objectives will be reviewed annually.

The seven strategic priorities were:

- the review of the Animal Welfare Act 1999;
- ensuring the Minister gets a societal view of animal welfare issues and priorities;
- monitoring trends and results;
- ensuring transparency of NAWAC's processes to underpin its independence;
- the welfare implications of new and emerging technologies and devices;
- ensuring a balanced decision-making process for Committee decisions;
- demonstration of national and international leadership in animal welfare.

Appendix 1

Published codes

Codes of Welfare	Publication year
Broiler Chickens: Fully Housed	2003
Commercial Slaughter (plus amendment in 2010)	2010
Companion Cats	2007
Circuses	2005
Dairy Cattle	2010
Deer	2007
Dogs	2010
Layer Hens (plus amendment in 2007)	2005
Painful Husbandry Procedures	2005
Pigs	2010
Rodeos	2003
Sheep and Beef Cattle	2010
Transport of Animals within New Zealand	2011
Zoos	2005

Codes of Recommendations and Minimum Standards

Care of Animals in Boarding Establishments	1993
Emergency Slaughter of Farm Livestock	1996
Sale of Companion Animals	1994
Sea Transport of Sheep from New Zealand	1991
Welfare of Animals at Saleyards	1995
Welfare of Deer During the Removal of Antlers (amended in 1994 and 1997)	1992
Welfare of Horses	1993
Welfare of Ostrich and Emu	1998

Appendix 2

Other publications

Guidelines	Publication date
Guidelines for Writing Codes of Welfare	June 2009
Welfare of Livestock from which Blood is Harvested for Commercial and Research Purposes (NAEAC guideline)	March 2009
Welfare of Red and Wapiti Yearling Stags During the Use of Rubber Rings to Induce Analgesia for the Removal of Spiker Velvet (AWAC guideline)	September 1998
Welfare of Yearling Fallow Deer During the Use of Rubber Rings to Prevent Antler/Pedicle Growth (AWAC guideline)	September 1997
MAF Policy Guides to the Animal Welfare Act	
Guide to the Animal Welfare Act 1999	December 1999
The Use of Animals in Research, Testing and Teaching – Users Guide to Part 6 of the Animal Welfare Act 1999	May 2000

NAWAC Guidelines

No.	Title	
1	Approach to the consideration of draft codes of welfare	Revised July 2011
2	Dealing with practices which might be inconsistent with the spirit of the Animal Welfare Act	Revised July 2011
3	Setting minimum standards where section 73(3) applies	Revised July 2011
4	Process for the development of codes of welfare	Revised July 2011
5	Role of science in setting animal welfare standards	Revised July 2011
6	Wider issues relevant to setting minimum standards	Revised July 2011
7	Taking account of societal expectations, technical viewpoints and public opinion	Revised July 2011
8	Justifying animal welfare trade-offs	Revised July 2011
9	Assessing the welfare performance of restraining and kill traps	Revised June 2005
10	Phasing out one animal management system in favour of another	September 2005
11	Principles of consultation	February 2006

Annual Reports

- 1990 Annual Report
- 1991 and 1992 Annual Report
- 1993 Annual Report
- 1994 Annual Report
- 1995 Annual Report
- 1996 Annual Report
- 1997 Annual Report
- 1998 Annual Report
- 1999 Annual Report
- 2000 Annual Report
- 2001 Annual Report
- 2002 Annual Report
- 2003 Annual Report
- 2004 Annual Report
- 2005 Annual Report
- 2006 Annual Report
- 2007 Annual Report
- 2008 Annual Report
- 2009 Annual Report
- 2010 Annual Report

AWAC News / NAWAC News

- Issue 1 – December 1997
- Issue 2 – December 1998
- Issue 3 – July 2000
- Issue 4 – May 2001
- Issue 5 – February 2002
- Issue 6 – November 2002
- Issue 7 – August 2003
- Issue 8 – December 2004
- Issue 9 – May 2006
- Issue 10 – November 2007
- Issue 9 [sic] – December 2008

Welfare Pulse

- Issue 1 – March 2009
- Issue 2 – July 2009
- Issue 3 – December 2009
- Issue 4 – March 2010
- Issue 5 – July 2010
- Issue 6 – November 2010
- Issue 7 – March 2011
- Issue 8 – June 2011
- Issue 9 – November 2011

