



## What is it?

An educational tool for enhancing understanding and awareness of welfare issues affecting animals used for human purposes (e.g., agriculture, research, companionship). The contest teaches ethical reasoning, encourages objective assessment of animal welfare on the basis of scientific theory and data, promotes critical thinking, and improves communication skills.

Students interested in animal welfare are afforded a structured opportunity to practice their assessment skills and present their findings to an expert panel of scientists and veterinarians in a logical and persuasive manner.

## Who may participate?

Three divisions of the contest are offered: undergraduates, veterinary students and graduate students.

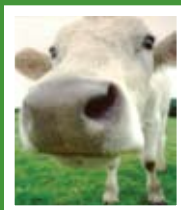
## What goes on?

Students analyze the welfare of various types of animals as presented in comparative scenarios...

...determine whether the welfare of animals in one scenario is better or worse than in the other...

...and present reasons for their decision orally to the judges.

A team problem is also assessed.



### For more information, contact

Undergraduates:  
Dr. Camie Heleski, (517) 355-8427;  
heleski@msu.edu

Veterinary and graduate students:  
Dr. Gail Golab, (847) 285-6618;  
ggolab@avma.org

Or visit our websites at

[www.canr.msu.edu/animalwelfare/](http://www.canr.msu.edu/animalwelfare/)  
[www.avma.org/issues/animal\\_welfare/](http://www.avma.org/issues/animal_welfare/)

## Animal Welfare



## Intercollegiate Judging/Assessment Contest



## Join us

November 21-22, 2009 for the 9th Annual  
Intercollegiate Animal Welfare  
Judging/Assessment Contest



## How do I prepare?

- Solicit a team of interested individuals (3 to 5 students per team). Some previous coursework in animal welfare is helpful.
- Identify a faculty coach. Coaches should meet with students to review relevant background material.\*
- Discuss current animal care practices across a variety of animal uses. Allow students to debate potential welfare concerns and benefits of different approaches to housing, husbandry, and transport.
- Evaluate different scenarios using CDs\*, video tapes, hypothetical data, and other useful media. Students should be encouraged to integrate a variety of physiologic, health, and behavioral indicators of well-being into their assessment of welfare.
- Practice providing oral reasons.\*
- Put skills learned to the test in the next Intercollegiate Contest!

\* A suggested reading list, practice scenarios on CD, example oral reasons, and rule books are available. See "For more information" on the back of this brochure.

## Where

Michigan State University, East Lansing, Michigan

## Tentative Schedule

### Saturday, November 21

#### Morning

Seminars from contest judges  
Student posters and talks

#### Afternoon

Team scenario assessment & reasons

#### Evening

Social event

### Sunday, November 22

#### Morning

Individual scenario assessments & reasons

#### Afternoon

Awards reception

## Traveling trophies

Awarded to the highest placing team in each Division, the trophies feature original artwork by Lynne Millman.



## Here's what previous participants had to say...

"Making assessments based on science and communicating them to the judges was a considerable challenge for the students, and they really rose to it."

—Professor Donald Broom, University of Cambridge, Judge

"[The contest] enhances decision-making abilities, reasoning and communication skills in a competitive, yet friendly atmosphere."

—Student participant

"All in all, a really great experience."

—Professor Daniel Weary, University of British Columbia, Judge

"A great way to educate students on animal welfare issues."

—Student participant

"[Provides] a framework for learning about animal welfare... consolidates that learning in a practical context. It's also great fun."

—Professor Ian Duncan, University of Guelph, Judge & Coach