

# JAVA NEWS No.104 English ver.

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## Good News

### Kewpie stops animal testing for their food products and cosmetics!



“Kewpie and its commissioned vendors do not conduct experiments on animals unless required by laws or ordered by administrative offices.”

Kewpie Corporation, the largest manufacturer of mayonnaise in Japan, posted the policy about animal testing noted above on their official website in October of 2019. And JAVA asked the company to meet us in person, because we wanted to know how they had decided to stop animal testing, and wanted to find out what we don't know from the posted policy such as its exceptional cases, the progress of research and development on alternatives and so on.

We visited their research facility on November 26 when they made it clear for us that they had stopped animal testing for their food products and cosmetics.

#### Kewpie is acutely conscious of the trend of cosmetics.

It took only about half a month for Kewpie to make decisions that they don't conduct animal testing, nor outsource animal testing, nor fund for animal testing, after they got such requests from PETA, a U.S. animal rights group, in July 2018. They deal with ingredients for cosmetics makers as well as food products for general consumers, and early on they caught the trend that the number of consumers who do not want animal testing is on the rise, for that they already have had their animal testing downsizing and they were able to comply with PETA's requests so quickly.

Besides their ingredients are vegetable-centric and basically what people usually eat, and they adopt such a product design that they can avoid development of ingredients that need animal testing.



#### Exception rules

They describe “unless required by laws or ordered by administrative offices”, it is because they cannot deny they might receive some requests from administrative offices. However, which does not mean they suppose some specific cases.

#### Research and development of alternatives

Although they actively adopt established alternatives, they do not tackle them on their own. JAVA told

Kewpie that alternatives certainly are needed for abolishing animal testing and requested their offering of manpower and money through related academic conferences and consortiums.

\*Kewpie also manufactures and sells pharmaceutical ingredients. For pharmaceutical ingredients they adopt alternative methods whenever possible, but they continue testing on animals in some cases.

## <Animal testing for agricultural chemicals>

**While the numbers of testing on birds, fish, silkworms, etc. are down, testing on bees is up**

### The background so far

Agricultural Chemicals Regulation Law was amended and promulgated on June 15, 2018. Assessment of the impact of agricultural chemicals to aquatic animals and plants (fish, crustaceans, etc.) have already been conducted and this amended law have widen its target to “flora and fauna in the human living environment” which includes parts of the land.

JAVA, in August of that year, explained the domestic and international trend of the 3Rs to the Minister of the Environment, and then submitted a petition calling for respecting the 3Rs, etc. as much as possible such as adopting test methods without using animals for “Registration standard of Agricultural Chemicals for flora and fauna in the human living environment” and so on.

### New guidelines for the registration of agricultural chemicals

After that, new guidelines for registration of agricultural chemicals were issued in March 2019. These guidelines were amended in June. Accordingly, tests are required to assess the impacts to “flora and fauna in the human living environment” when agricultural chemicals are registered, and there are some changes for the test using animals as stated below.

### Animals with less tests required than before

#### Tests on fish

The new guidelines have one less test using fish as “Fish (larvae) acute toxicity test” was eliminated that the old guidelines had before Agricultural Chemicals Regulation Law was amended.

#### Tests on avian

The new guidelines have one less test using avian as “Avian dietary toxicity test” was eliminated that the old guidelines had.

#### Tests on silkworms

The old guidelines required “Acute oral toxicity studies” and if those studies revealed strong toxicity they also required “Residual



toxicity studies” in a way of giving foods mixed with agricultural chemicals. One of the studies using silkworms eliminated, the new guidelines have only “Residual toxicity studies.”

## **Animals on which tests no longer are required**

### **Test on insects**

The new guidelines do not have “Natural enemy insects, etc. toxicity test” which was on the old guidelines.

## **Animals on which more tests are required than before**

### **Tests on bees**

The old guidelines required either “Acute oral toxicity studies” or “Contact toxicity studies”, but the new guidelines require both “Adult bee single dose oral toxicity test” and “Adult bee single contact toxicity test”. It is because the influences on bees should be studied in more detail. And three other tests using bees are added, which are “Adult bee repeated dose oral toxicity test”, “Bee (larvae) oral toxicity test” and “Field test for evaluating influences on bee colonies.”

We highly regard that several tests were eliminated from the guidelines. Japan could catch up with the US and the EU where “Avian dietary toxicity test”<sup>\*1</sup> and “Silkworm acute oral toxicity studies” have already not been required. But it is very regrettable that tests using bees increased. JAVA keeps lobbying the government to eliminate tests using animals as many as possible.

<sup>\*1</sup> In the EU this test is required in some cases.

## **JAVA has participated in an EU-sponsored symposium on the Economic Partnership Agreement (EPA) between Japan and the EU**

On January 30, JAVA was invited to participate in the EU-sponsored symposium, “Practical implementation of the TSD chapter within the EU-Japan EPA and examples of the involvement of economic and social stakeholders and other actors to contribute to sustainable trade” held at the Delegation of the European Union to Japan in Tokyo.

## **EU-Japan EPA and animal welfare**

Why did JAVA participate in a trade symposium? You might think. It is because the Agreement between the European Union and Japan for the EPA, which came into force in February 2019, does not merely decide to reduce or abolish tariffs, but also stipulates the protection of intellectual properties, the environment, and laborers. And in Chapter 16 “TRADE AND SUSTAINABLE DEVELOPMENT” of the Agreement, there is an article on “Joint dialogue with civil society” which states, “The Parties shall convene the Joint Dialogue with civil society organizations situated in their territories to conduct a dialogue on this Chapter.” Furthermore, Chapter 18 “GOOD REGULATION PRACTICES AND REGULATORY COOPERATION” of the Agreement



includes the following articles on the welfare of animals, which is why JAVA was invited.

1. The Parties will cooperate for their mutual benefit on matters of animal welfare with a focus on farmed animals with a view to improving the mutual understanding of their respective laws and regulations.
2. For that purpose, the Parties may adopt by mutual consent a working plan defining the priorities and categories of animals to be dealt with under this Article, and establish an Animal Welfare Technical Working Group to exchange information, expertise and experiences in the field of animal welfare and to explore the possibility of promoting further cooperation.

### **Nine organizations, including JAVA, were invited**

Due to the limited number of participants invited from Japanese organizations and the EU participants, there were 18 people (including organizers) from the EU and 13 from Japan at the symposium. Nine organizations were invited from Japan. Among them, 4 were animal protection organizations, and the rest were organizations concerning human rights, employment, economy, and sustainability. Meanwhile, the participants from the EU were members of organizations concerning animal protection, environmental protection, trade and labor issues, industry, and members of the European Economic and Social Committee (EESC).



EU participants

### **JAVA appealed for the abolition of animal testing for cosmetics**

At the symposium, our director Hiromi Kamekura from JAVA introduced the organization and explained the current state of animal testing for cosmetics in Japan and the movement of other countries to ban it, and asked



for the attendees' support in encouraging the Japanese government and the cosmetics industry through trade to stop animal testing.

Participants from Japan (The third and fourth from the left are head of the secretariat and director of JAVA)

## **The great difference between the EU and Japan**

### **The attitude to listen to the voice of the civil society in the EU**

After that, there was a 30-minute lecture by an expert on trade and sustainable development explaining what kind of system the EU has in incorporating the opinions of civil society in legislation and policy, and to what extent civil society's opinions are incorporated.

After this lecture, we moved on to questions and discussions, and various questions came out from the Japanese participants. In particular, many participants were surprised that the EU had such an attitude of actively engaging in dialogue with civic groups, and complaints erupted, saying that “the Japanese government has no intention of listening to the opinions of its citizens' groups.” But it seems that the government's lack of intention to listen to the opinions of civil society groups were not limited to Japan. The participants from the EU stated that, even in the dialogues between the EU and Central American countries and South Korea they've had in the past, the governments of these countries were reluctant to listen to the opinions of their citizens at first. However, with the good influence of the EU, the attitudes of these governments changed as they continued to meet with citizen groups of their countries. It is our hope to make this change happen in Japan as well.

Participating in this symposium gave us an opportunity to realize again the importance of utilizing the EU-Japan EPA to improve the welfare of animals in Japan and for us to be actively involved in these joint dialogues.

In closing, we would like to thank Ms. Stephanie Ghislain, Trade & Animal Welfare Project Leader of Eurogroup for Animals, a member of the EU's DAG, who recommended JAVA to the EU as a participant of this symposium.



EUROPA HOUSE of the Delegation of the European Union to Japan where the symposium was held

# **Towards the Realization of Veterinary Education without Inflicting Pain to Animals**

## **Report on the Visit to Yamaguchi University Joint Faculty of Veterinary Medicine**

Yamaguchi University Joint Faculty of Veterinary Medicine (herein after Yamaguchi University) located in Japan decided to stop implementing highly invasive practice using living animal bodies by the end of March 2021. Those who agree with the school's idea and support them by crowdfunding are given a privilege to learn about the school's policy and see their training models. One of the JAVA's Directors visited the school on December 2, 2019.



### **What is Yamaguchi University Joint Faculty of Veterinary Medicine?**

Yamaguchi University and Kagoshima University have founded the same faculty in each university to share education materials, human resources, and facilities to construct a new veterinary training curriculum. This system also strategically promotes the mutual supplemental faculty and facility placement to achieve international-level training.

The faculty mission is to train experts with a rich understanding in humanity and morality, to follow codes of conducts, and contribute to global society.

### **New Target Objectives of Yamaguchi University**

Professor Koichi Sato (D.V.M.,PhD), Dean of Joint Faculty of Veterinary Medicine, and other professors kindly explained the school's policy and animal models for about two hours. The school's new target objectives are as follows:

#### **1) Yamaguchi University has aimed to obtain EAEVE**

European Association of Establishments for Veterinary Education (EAEVE) is an important external accreditation. EAEVE acknowledged the culmination of their efforts over the seven years and Yamaguchi University was evaluated by EAEVE on December 11, 2019 as the first certification authority of EAEVE in Asia.

#### **2) Purchase of animal models by crowdfunding**

Conventionally, animal living bodies were used to study physical examination, medication methods and surgical methods but the Yamaguchi University decided to use animal models and simulators instead of using living animal bodies to eliminate painful practices.



### 3) Establishment of Clinical Skills Lab

The lab equipped with various kinds of animal models purchased by crowd funding is open to students 24 hours.

### 4) Establishment of Zero Project Working Group

Zero Project Working Group aims to realize the high risk invasive training of animal bodies to zero based from the perspective of animal welfare and animal ethics.

## Training Models

### Picture (1) Uterine Model of a Cow

Artificial insemination and pregnancy judgement methods can be studied by using the uterine structure of a cow equipped in this model. Before, when the model was introduced, the students practiced with the living animal to study those methods. There is now a model to reproduce difficult delivery and students can practice delivery assistance with the model.



### Picture (2) Calf Model

Calf Model to be used to practice how to tie a string to keep it connected to a pole



## Dog Model

**Picture (3) Echo model to study how the normal organs in abdominal cavity look by Echo**



**Picture (4) Dog model to study auscultation of heart sounds**



**Picture (5) Tracheal Intubation model for training to inject inhalation of anesthetic gas accurately to the tracheal**

In addition to the models introduced above, there were some more models including the blood collection model. Most of them were purchased from Canada and the United States.





**Picture (6) Horse Model**

The size of this horse model is the actual horse size. Organs like cecum, colon, spleen and others are placed in the horse model. The internal organs are removable. Other than intramuscular injection and blood collection training, studying genital conditions by touching the uterus and ovaries is possible. Students aim to be able to accurately diagnosis diseases of horses and provide adequate treatments for them.

Many animal models and various types of models were equipped, allowing the students to have blood collection, roentgen and endoscope training all year around. Both the graduates and any veterinarians can have life-long training by using those models.

### **Here is some more information:**

Questions and Answers: (J stands for JAVA: Y stands for Yamaguchi University)

J: About how many numbers of animals used for training has been reduced by adopting animal models?

Y: It depends on the kinds of animals, but it is about one third overall.

J: What kind of animal models are you planning to introduce?

Y: We are trying to introduce mouse models because 200~300 mice are used for training per a year.

J: What efforts are you making to increase the introduction of animal models?

Y: We have asked some companies to make animal models and vice versa. However, it is often difficult to make a price compromise. Our goal is not only to purchase animal models, we are also aiming to make animal models and simulators by cooperating with some companies based on our experience and knowledge we have.

J: What do you think of Educational Memorial Program (EMP)?

Y: We need donation of animal bodies (after death). However, it is difficult to obtain them in Japan while it seems to be easier in some other countries because of the difference in concept towards death. It is also quite time consuming to go to get the animal bodies. But we are considering the plan to implement it positively.

J: What are the reactions of the students who used animal models?

Y: The students seem to have deepened their understanding by studying repeatedly what they did not quite understand. They also feel almost no stress about time limit when they work with animal models during

training and the stress from causing harm or pain to animals is gone. The students seem to be more tense and attentive in treating animals now than before when models were not used.

J: What benefits did they bring to the professors?

Y: We can teach the students repeatedly when we use models and we can teach them according to the level of understanding of each student. Since we do not have to worry about the stress inflicting on animals, the students are given equal learning conditions.

We hope many more Japanese veterinary schools will follow the examples of Yamaguchi University and we will also continue working to realize veterinary schools without harming animals.

## **<Amendment to the Animal Welfare Act> A sentence regarding “disposition of dead animals” is deleted!**

With the amendment to the Animal Welfare Act, various regulations and guidelines related to the Law are also being revised. JAVA, together with the Animal Rights Center and PEACE who have been working together to negotiate the amendment to the Animal Welfare Act, continue to reach out to the Ministry of the Environment and members of the Diet. Some rules and guidelines have already been revised.

### **An accomplishment of JAVA’s long-standing activity Removal of “disposition of dead animals”**

“Measures for taking custody of dogs and cats and the accommodating of injured animals, etc.” is one of the guidelines that were revised along with the amendment to the Animal Welfare Act. This guideline describes how the local governments should handle dogs and cats whose owners have claimed that they “cannot keep them anymore”, and how to shelter stray animals that have been injured. This is an important guideline that affects the criteria for local governments to take over dogs and cats, as well as killing them or finding new owners. In this latest revision that took place in 2019, a sentence that states that bodies of dead animals such as killed dogs and cats may be used economically by using their skins, meat, bones, etc. has been removed.

In Japan, for many years, local governments have disposed dogs and cats that were brought in to their facilities for animal testing and other purposes. JAVA has been opposed to how animals are disposed whether they are dead or alive, since its inception in 1986, as such disposition is made possible by the unacceptable acts of abandonment by its owners and killing by the local government. JAVA has been calling for a ban of such practice.

However, although such guideline existed then, there were no local governments that actually disposed live animals for animal testing by the end of March 2005. Based on this fact, when the Animal Welfare Act was amended in 2012, the statement in the guideline that permitted the disposition of live dogs and cats for animal testing purposes was deleted.

On the other hand, the decision to delete the disposition of dead animals for was postponed at the time of the amendment in 2012, as the Ministry of the Environment claimed that it has not been able to confirm the nationwide status of the implementation of such practice. In response to this, JAVA conducted a survey and found out that only three municipalities; Nara Prefecture, Tottori Prefecture, and Yokohama City were disposing dead animals at that time. Since then, as a result of JAVA's continuing negotiation, all of these remaining municipalities ended this practice by 2013. Therefore, there were no municipality that actually disposed dead animals in spite of the guideline that allowed so. JAVA strongly appealed this to the Ministry of the Environment.

The idea of making use of dead animals by disposing them for economical purposes can dilute the guilt of owners that abandon their animals. This not only prevents us from stopping those who repeatedly abandon their companion animals but also hinders the reduction of the number of animals that are being killed. It has also been a barrier in raising public awareness towards animal welfare. Therefore, this latest revision of the guideline which now does not allow local governments to dispose dead animals for economic use is a major accomplishment that JAVA has long aimed for.

## Report on Participation in the 32<sup>nd</sup> Annual Meeting of the Japanese Society for Alternatives to Animal Experiments

The 32<sup>nd</sup> Annual Meeting of the Japanese Society for Alternatives to Animal Experiments was held at the National Institute of Advanced Industrial Science and Technology (AIST) in Tsukuba-city, Ibaraki-pref., from 20<sup>th</sup> November to 22<sup>nd</sup> November 2019, with about 600 participants. The theme of the meeting was “Toward Innovative Technologies for Universal Alternative Experiments”.

Among many research presentations given, we selected the followings to report to our members in JAVA NEWS No.104.

### [Symposium] Expectations for Utilizing Microphysiological System in the ADMET Assays

ADMET stands for Absorption, Distribution, Metabolism, Excretion, and Toxicity, describing the process of how a drug taken into the body is excreted from the body. Some alternative methods currently available can evaluate effects of drugs on individual organs and tissues, but they are unable to evaluate effects on the whole body metabolic action. This is a critical issue for using alternatives.

A microphysiological Systems (MPS), also known as organ-on-a-chip, are biomimetic models that can mimic high organ functions. MPS is expected to be used to evaluate ADMET. There were presentations about it as follows:





## **MPS: global and domestic situation and future**

Satoshi Fujita/AIST

## **Living culture models using micro-fluidic technology for synthetic biology in mammals**

Yoh-ichi Tagawa/School of Life Science and Technology, Tokyo Institute of Technology

## **Application of Bioprinted Human Liver Tissue Model for the Evaluation OF Drug-induced Liver Injury in Discovery Research**

Masato Ohbuchi/Analysis & Pharmacokinetics Research Labs., Astellas Pharma Inc.

## **[Symposium] Challenge and Future Prospect in Cosmetics Safety Assessment after Prohibition of Animal Test**

More and more alternatives have been used since the EU banned animal testing for cosmetic products, however, there still remains issues. In this symposium, presentations addressing “photosensitization” and “systemic toxicity” were given.

## **Development of non-animal photosafety testing**

Satomi Onoue/School of Pharmaceutical Sciences, University of Shizuoka

## **High expectations for human stem cells as an alternative method-its amazing potential**

Wataru fujibuchi/Center for iPS Cell Research and Application, Kyoto University

## **[Symposium] Environmental Enrichment**

Environmental Enrichment is an improvement of laboratory animals' environments to enhance their welfare and health. On the other hand, providing environmental Enrichment for animals is beneficial to scientists as well because it helps researchers treat animals easily. The following presentations touched on those benefits to scientists.

## **Environmental Enrichment**

Shioya Kyoko/National Cerebral and Cardiovascular Center Research Institute

## **3 important factors for social housing for experimental animals**

Toshihiko Watanabe/Chugai Pharmaceutical Co., Ltd.

## **Effort of environmental enrichment for laboratory animals**

Hironari Koyama/Astellas Pharma inc.

## **[Symposium] Current application of alternative methods and future challenges**

Alternative methods used to be an issue mainly for the cosmetic industry, but now using alternatives is becoming a standard in across businesses and industries. In this symposium presentations focused on the current situation of the development and use of alternatives, and future tasks in industries such as cosmetics, chemicals, pesticide, drug medicines, and food.

### **Effort of ILSI Japan for promoting alternatives animal experiments in food safety sector**

Kazutoshi Saito/International Life Sciences Institute



## **“Parliamentary Group for cogitating Animal welfare” was inaugurated**

The founding general meeting of “Parliamentary Group for cogitating Animal welfare” was held on 19 February. It was set up by the diet members who are interested in animal welfare regardless of the party they belong to. More than twenty Diet members and JAVA attended it. The aim of this group is to study about animal welfare issues to materialize sustainable society and human health. The attendees will deepen their knowledge about animal welfare from the lectures by the specialists.

In the first study session, Tohoku University’s emeritus professor, Shusuke Sato, specializing in application ethology and the animal welfare explained the welfare of livestock animals. Furthermore, JAVA and other two animal protection groups explained animal’s problems and solutions Japan has.

We hope the meetings will contribute to the improvement of animal welfare in Japan.



## The massacre of kangaroos in Australia

### MIZUNO and ASICS don't stop using kangaroo leather

In the summer of 2019, LAV, Italian animal protection organization which is in a cooperative relationship with JAVA, requested us to cooperate in their campaign against cruel kangaroo-hunting in Australia called “Harvest” conducted on a large scale.

### The egregious reality of kangaroo-hunting called “Harvest”

According to a report from LAV, the ostensible purpose of “Harvest” is to adjust the sustainable number of kangaroos that have increased too many, but actually it is a real massacre.

“Harvest” takes place at night. Kangaroos are pointed by the powerful lights mounted on pick-ups and on which the hunters fire. During the years of 2000 to 2018, over 44 million kangaroos were killed. Of these, an estimate (downwards) indicates that at least 4.1% of adult kangaroos (about 120,000 a year) have suffered a slow and painful death. Because they were not killed with a single shot in the brain, but injured. Kangaroos jump and flee in all directions, so many of them are struck by multiple bullets and suffer horrific wounds. They try desperately to save themselves even though they lose their eyes, suffer internal injuries, break their limbs, lost one of their legs, and their jaws are swept away.

“National Code of Practice for the Humane Shooting of Kangaroos and Wallabies for Commercial Purposes” issued by the Australian government provides that hunters shoot to kill kangaroos and wallabies for commercial purposes in a “humane manner”. This legal norm is not realistic. For example, it prescribes “A shooter must aim so as to hit the kangaroo or wallaby in the brain.”, and “Kangaroo and wallaby females should not be killed if they have puppies (in the pouch or otherwise dependent).” In actuality, baby kangaroos that have already gotten out of the pouch and live with their mothers sometimes die in agony for 10 days when their mothers are killed, because they starve to death or are predated by other animals.



Hunters take aim by the strong light attached on the truck



Hunters pulled out a baby kangaroo from its mother's stomach and stepped on it



Kangaroo's head and internal organs left on the site



A child kangaroo whose mother was killed left in the wilderness

### **MIZUNO and ASICS don't intend to abolish the use of kangaroo leather**

As part of the international campaign by LAV, we also approached companies using kangaroo leather and kangaroo meat. As a result of JAVA's research on the Japanese sporting-shoes manufacturers MIZUNO and ASICS, they make sporting shoes and others out of kangaroo leather. Therefore, JAVA gave the actual condition of "Harvest" and presented the letter to abolish the use of kangaroo leather to both companies twice since December 2019.

The responses from both MIZUNO and ASICS show their lack of understanding in regard to this issue. They seem to have no awareness of the problem.



### **The response from MIZUNO**

- MIZUNO procures kangaroo leather from Australian companies affiliated with the Gold Medal of the Leather Working Group (LWG) and Kangaroo Industries Association of Australia (KIAA).
- MIZUNO considers that the above-mentioned suppliers comply with the norm established by the Australian government, therefore, the company thinks there are no problem with the use of kangaroo leather.
- MIZUNO procures leather in compliance with laws.
- MIZUNO has Guidelines for procurement of animal-derived materials, and the parts regarding leather are below.
  - Use skins that are by-product of livestock. (cow, pig, sheep, horse and goat)
  - Use exterminated pest skins. (deer and kangaroo)
  - Do not use skins of endangered species and exotic animals. (snake, crocodile, ostrich etc...)
- MIZUNO cannot judge kangaroo hunting is cruel or not and ethical or not, because this hunting is regarded as pest control.

### **The response from ASICS**

- ASICS recommends to collect ethically and environmentally sound leather from the leather workshops which acquired LWG authentication.
- ASICS has established their material selection guideline.
- The following is extract of a part of the material selection guideline.
  - Animal welfare to be respected and good animal husbandry shall be applied.
  - When using animal materials, collect them from only livestock.
  - Do not collect material from wild animals. However, this does not apply when materials are supplied by an organization whose number is actively controlled under the supervision of a government agency.
  - All leather and skin shall be by-products of the meat industry.
- ASICS recognizes that kangaroo skins it uses have been obtained in a strictly controlled manner by the Australian Government's program, and not in a cruel manner as pointed out by JAVA.
- There is no other material with the same performance as kangaroo leather at this time, so we continue to use it. We will consider using alternatives as they become available in the industry.
- ASICS recognizes that kangaroo skins that it uses are by-product of food.

### **The excuse MIZUNO and ASICS make that they obtain kangaroo leather from companies affiliated with LWG and KIAA does not work.**

Both companies consider there is no problem with the use of kangaroo leather because they procure it from the leather workshops which acquired LWG authentication. However, the methods of animal slaughter and transportation are not included as audit subjects in obtaining authentication of LWG. Therefore, having LWG does not prove that they obtain leather by not cruel way.

Plus, MIZUNO uses the fact that they obtain kangaroo leather from companies affiliated with KIAA as an excuse. But as described above, there are problems with "National Code" that is considered to be matters to

be observed by KIAA. There are no penalties for violating “National Code”, so affiliating with KIAA can’t serve as a justification.

Certainly, the way both MIZUNO and ASICS procure and use kangaroo leather is not illegal. But in October 2019, well-known Italian global manufacturer of sporting shoes DIADORA decided to stop using kangaroo leather by the end of 2020. Therefore, global manufacturers MIZUNO and ASICS should abolish the use of kangaroo leather too, from an ethical perspective without making excuses.

the sources

<http://www.environment.gov.au/biodiversity/wildlife-trade/publications/national-code-practice-humane-shooting-kangaroos-and-wallabies-commercial>

The ends and means of the commercial kangaroo industry: an ecological, legal and comparative analysis. THINKK, University of Technology, Sydney. Ben-Ami, D., Boom, K., Boronyak, L., Croft, D., Ramp, D., Townend, C. (2011)

## Fur News

Fur Free Alliance (FFA), an international federation against fur, of which JAVA is also a member. Member organizations in each country continue to work together to ban fur and fur farms. In this issue, we have introduced the following news.

### **CALIFORNIA BECOMES FIRST US STATE TO BAN FUR SALES**

<https://www.furfreealliance.com/california-becomes-first-us-state-to-ban-fur-sales/>

### **SLOVAKIA NEXT COUNTRY TO CLOSE DOWN FUR FARMS**

<https://www.furfreealliance.com/slovakia-next-country-to-close-down-fur-farms/>

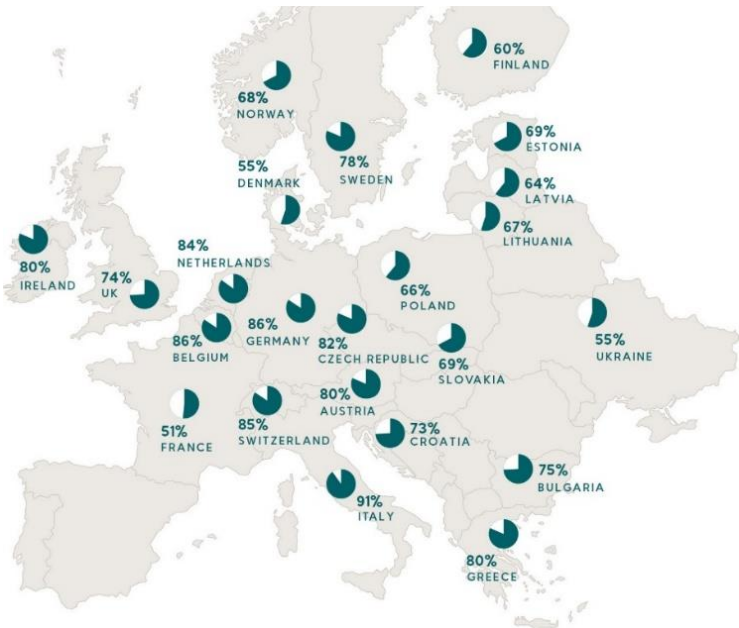
### **BREAKING NEWS: Macy’s and Bloomingdale’s ditch fur**

<https://blog.humanesociety.org/2019/10/breaking-news-macys-and-bloomingdales-ditch-fur.html>

### **OPPOSITION TO FUR is increasing**

Here is a map compiled by FFA on public opinion polls on the pros and cons of fur and fur farms in Europe. The survey years are not uniform, and there are data from countries that have been around for several years, but it serves as a guide for understanding current public opinion. The latest version is shown below (as of November 2019).

In Finland, as of February 2019, the opposition to killing animals for fur was 30%, but this time it has increased significantly to 60%. Although not reflected on the map, in Lithuania, the number of opposition increased from 66.7% (2016 survey) to 81.7% (2019 survey). Thus, it can be said that in European countries, the majority of citizens oppose fur and fur farms, and their proportion is increasing with each survey.



## The Wildlife Protection Law of China has taken a step forward, but it is still insufficient

The new coronavirus (COVID-19) has been spreading all over the world since January 2020. Experts suggested that the source of the infection was likely to be wild animals.

In China, on February 24<sup>th</sup>, the Standing Committee of China's National People's Congress (NPC) decided to ban on consumption as food and trading wild animals. China has the Wildlife Protection Law, which prohibits the eating of only those animals that nation focuses on. It takes time to amend the law, so the decision is immediate effect.

FFA member ACTAsia continues to seek further amendments to the Wildlife Protection Law. They are developing a signature movement as one of their activities.

<http://chng.it/CygpCbv2Ry>

In addition, JAVA and other FFA members sent letters to the Chinese ambassadors in each country. On March 5<sup>th</sup>, JAVA requested His Excellency Mr. Kong Xuanyou Ambassador Extraordinary and Plenipotentiary of the People's Republic of China in Japan to include the following three points in the legislative amendment.

- Prohibit intensive breeding of wild (captive) animals for commercial purposes such as fur
- Prohibit the use and trade of wildlife and derivative products for all purposes
- Prohibit the eating of wildlife and wildlife markets

We made this request because the immediate effect determined by the previous NPC were not enough to protect wildlife. According to ACTAsia, in China the listed wildlife species to be captively bred for commercial purposes are licensed for five commercial purposes (food, fur/clothing, medicinal, entertainment, experiment). Only food was banned by the immediate effect on February 24<sup>th</sup>. Moreover, many wild animals such as foxes, mink, raccoon dogs, and deer have been moved from the "wildlife" list to the "livestock" list, and are excluded from the food ban and the regulation of the Wildlife Protection Law.

To take advantage of this opportunity, ACTAsia is urging the Chinese government to amend the Wildlife Protection Law, which permanently bans on captive breeding and use of wildlife for all purposes.

the sources

<https://www.actasia.org/news/pei-sus-blog/when-is-wildlife-not-wildlife/>

<https://www.actasia.org/news/qa-coronavirus-chinas-wildlife-trade-and-wet-markets/>

## The march for animals ~compassion for all animals~ We appealed to the public for their understanding about the cruelty of animal testing

On 26 March 2020, “The march for Animals ~compassion for all animals~” was held in Shibuya, Tokyo. The aim of this march was not to criticize, but to put power together to transform society into which animals do not suffer. This march was sponsored by Animal Rights Center Japan, five organizers including JAVA and 42 supporting groups. We unveiled the devastating current status of livestock animals, pet’s market issues. We also promoted vegan movement. JAVA’s objective is stopping animal testing.

We marched for an hour and half, calling out such as “Stop consumption which gives pain to animals, Stop animal abuse, and Protect animal’s rights”. The total of 326 people participated in this march and this was a chance for the public to know about various problems of animals.





## News from other countries

In these pages, we introduced some news articles selected from the newsletters and email news sent from overseas organizations. JAVA NEWS No.104 carries the following four articles. The four articles were translated in Japanese to share them with the readers.

You can read the original articles appeared in JAVA NEWS No.104 at the URL below:

### **Press Release dated 23<sup>rd</sup> March 2020: Stopping Animal Abuse will Prevent Future Pandemics, says Leading Scientist**

<https://www.oxfordanimalethics.com/2020/03/press-release-stopping-animal-abuse-will-prevent-future-pandemics-says-leading-scientist/>

### **Fish Hatchery Investigation Reveals Cruelty**

<https://awionline.org/awi-quarterly/winter-2019/fish-hatchery-investigation-reveals-cruelty>

### **PETA India Saves Camels from Sacrificial Knife**

<https://prime.peta.org/2020/01/peta-india-saves-camels-from-sacrificial-knife/>

### **Oral Rabies Vaccines Humanely Halting the Spread of Rabies**

<https://awionline.org/awi-quarterly/summer-2019/oral-rabies-vaccines-humanely-halting-spread-rabies>

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JAPAN ANTI-VIVISECTION ASSOCIATION (JAVA)

Seiou #703 29-31 Sakuragaoka-cho, Shibuya-ku, Tokyo 150-0031 JAPAN

Phone: 81 (3) 5456-9311 Fax: 81 (3) 5456-1011

E-mail: [java@java-animal.org](mailto:java@java-animal.org) URL: <https://www.java-animal.org/>