

# JAVA NEWS No.113 English ver.

This “JAVA NEWS No.113 English ver.” is a summary of JAVA NEWS No.113 published in Japanese on October 31 2024.



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## Action regarding “Revision of the Animal Welfare Act”

“The Act on Welfare and Management of Animals” (hereinafter referred to as “the Animal Welfare Act”) that consideration is pushed forward for revised in 2025. JAVA moved forward with the activity for revisions as same as the last time, cooperating with the animal protection organizations “the Animal Right Center Japan” and “PEACE”, and also started an on-line signature activity on September 1<sup>st</sup>, 2024.

**Please sign in the page of online signature platform, change.org!**

<http://www.change.org/AnimalLawJp> (Japanese)

A deadline for aggregating: it will be collected until just before the revision.

**Notification:** Requests for donations displayed after signing or on the signature page are donations to Change.org, not for JAVA, Animal Rights Center Japan and PEACE. Signing is free.

### **We strongly wish a revision of the law especially about laboratory animals and industrial animals is realized at this time**

We demand many revisions for the whole of the Animal Welfare Act, but in that, we particularly strongly demand revisions about laboratory animals and industry animals. In the past amendments, the revision for dogs and cats was prioritized, in regards to laboratory animals and industrial animals, the situation was that time for consideration is significantly less than the time for dogs and cats. Furthermore, the repulsion from the people involved in animal experiments is huge, so the revision we demand is not being implemented.

### **Requests about the laboratory animals: Mandate the use of alternative methods to animal testing and ensure 3Rs**

1. Make all 3Rs “obligatory”  
Among the 3Rs, the current act states that only the minimization of pain and distress is a “duty of effort”, while the use of alternative methods to animal testing and the reduction of the number of experimental animals provided are “matters to be considered”.
2. Make it mandatory to nation (relevant ministries and agencies) to consider and promote using alternative methods when they are available.
3. Make it the responsibility of the government to develop, evaluate and disseminate alternative methods.
4. Add related facilities of laboratory animals to animal handling businesses.

### **Requests about the industrial animals: Establish new provisions regarding industrial animals and bring them up to international standard level**

1. Make it mandatory to convert to having animals in environments that satisfy the five freedom of animal welfare.
2. Make it mandatory to consider international standards and the latest trends.

3. Make it mandatory that when slaughtering or killing industrial animals, the animals must be rendered unconscious before proceeding to the next stage of slaughter. ※arrange the transition period of around five years.
4. Make it mandatory to maintain the appropriate livestock density and at least, give them the space that are able to lie down without touching other animals or walls. ※In the case of a new establishment, immediate imposition, the current farm arranges the transition period of around two years.
5. Make it mandatory to use anesthesia and the pain-killer when performing the surgical resection and the surgical operation. ※arrange the transition period of around three years.
6. Revise “Standards relating to the Care and Keeping of Industrial Animals” according to the standards of the World Organization for Animal Health (WOAH), and make it an observance obligation.
7. Add related facilities of industrial animals to animal handling businesses.

Our three groups are demanding the revision which raises the Animal Welfare Act to international standards, and protects all animals fairly. Please cooperate with our signature activity.

### **Progress of consideration and discussion in the federation of diet members**

The coalition of diet members for zero disposal of dogs and cats took a major role in the last revision of the Animal Welfare Act. The Animal Welfare Act revision project team (hereinafter PT), established in this coalition is continuing consideration and discussion for the revision. JAVA is taking part in this PT as a member of the advisory committee.

In September 2024, each session of PT about laboratory animals and industrial animals were held. In the session on laboratory animals, after conducting interviews with a scholar who is an expert about Western laws on animal experiments, a veterinarian who worked at animal experiment facilities, and the laboratory animal sale company, we did the discussion for the revision. In the session on industrial animals, after conducting interviews with a manager of ESG investment in a major securities company, livestock researcher, and a veterinarian who is an inspector at slaughterhouse, we did the discussion for the revision. In both sessions, JAVA and other two groups were asked opinions, and we emphasized the importance of the revision.



※ This is information as of September 5<sup>th</sup>, 2024.

## Cruelty to cows at the Ibaraki Prefectural Livestock Research Center Partial improvements by the prefecture announced, but many problems remain

The cases of abuse and poor living conditions for cows at the Ibaraki Prefectural Livestock Research Center: In the last issue (JAVA NEWS No.112 English Ver.), JAVA has filed criminal complaints and requested improvements from the prefectural government. Subsequently, in June 2024, the prefecture published a document titled “Status of Efforts Related to Animal Welfare at the Livestock Research Center” on its website. This document outlines the findings of an external expert survey conducted in August 2023 and mentions several improvements made in response to the findings. However, it is clear that these measures are far from sufficient.

### Improvements announced on the prefecture’s website

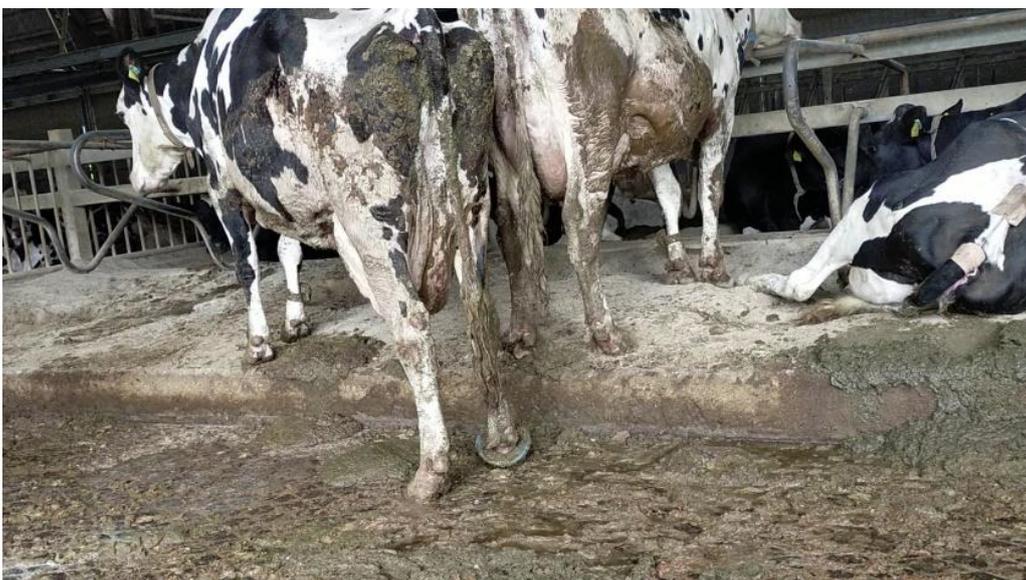
\*All photos of the < After Improvement > are from the Ibaraki Prefecture’s website

#### ■ A survey of experts found that “interpersonal relationships regarding livestock are good”

The survey measured the cows reaction toward external experts, who were not part of the daily operations. This is an indicator of how cows are treated daily, but it is not sufficient on its own. It is necessary to conduct unannounced inspections to observe how cows react to workers actually handle the cattle. Without including these two aspects in the investigation, it cannot be definitively concluded that acts of violence or abusive treatment have ceased. Measures such as installing surveillance cameras are also essential to create an environment that minimizes the likelihood of abusive behavior.

#### ■ Ensured the comfort of free-stall beds in the dairy barn

<Before Improvement >



### <After Improvement >



The effort to loosen the hardened cow bedding to maintain softness is commendable. However, ensuring this softness over the term remain a challenge, as cows need beds they can easily dig with their hooves. Furthermore, as seen in the photos, the bed size (upper front section) remains too short for the cattle to fully stretch their bodies while lying down. If enlarging the bed size is not feasible, switching to a management system where cows can freely access indoor and outdoor facilities is essential.

### ■ Covering beef cattle barn manure gutter with grating

#### <Before Improvement>



When the cows in a tie-stall barn lie down, their hind legs end up on the gratings. The ratings are worn out, bent, or missing in some areas, leaving gaps that make it difficult for cows to lie down properly.

### <After Improvement >



While eliminating gaps in grating has improved safety, the discomfort of lying directly on metal remains. To free from pain and reduce strain, the center should consider adding rubber mats over the grating. As proposed by external experts, it is necessary to have a system allowing cows to move freely between indoor and outdoor areas.

### ■ Shade installed in outdoor paddocks

#### <Before Improvement>



The temperature reached 40 degrees, and several cows were left in the exercise area without shade, despite foaming at the mouth, and panting heavily.

#### <After Improvement>

The photo shows that the installed shade cloth is cheesecloth used for agricultural purposes, which still lets sunlight through and is insufficient for protecting cows from heat. They may want to substitute inexpensive items, but cheesecloth is not adequate heat protection for cows.

Former workers revealed that they don't use cooling systems such as mist or cooling fans in the cows barn and relies only on ventilation fans, which were often turned off after work hours, even



during intense summer heat. External experts have recommended installing a “dry fog” system.

Free-range time is essential for the cows. If it’s not possible to switch to a system where they can freely move between indoor and outdoor facilities, a cooling-equipped exercise will be necessary.

### ■ The fixed nose ring for accident prevention



At the center, all donor cows are fitted with nose rings, used for control when moving cows. Nose rings, which are fitted one of the most sensitive parts of a cow’s body, are outdated and inherently abuse tools used to control cows through pain.

JAVA and other groups have not requested a fixed nose ring. From an animal welfare standpoint, these nose rings should be removed entirely.

### ■ To reduce stress on calves, using pain relievers and dehorning paste

#### <Before Improvement>

The calves were dehorned without the use of anesthesia or sedatives. When dehorning a calf, several workers climbed onto the lying calf and held it down, while the remaining workers held the calf’s head with their feet. When the workers pressed a hot horn-cutting iron, against the horn tissue, the calf screamed in pain.



#### <After Improvement>

Just the using of pain relievers represents progress. However, JAVA and other groups insist that the timing of disbudding and dehorning should be decided for each animal after consultation with animal welfare experts, and administer a sedative and local anesthesia before removing and pain management drugs after removing.

The goal should be to transition to an environment and management system where dehorning is unnecessary (e.g.; preventing cows from butting each other, ensuring the safety of workers)

## ■ Paddock in the cows barn

To prevent muddies after rainfall, mountain sand was piled in the center of the paddocks to create mounds, and the frequency of adding mountain sand was increased to maintain proper drainage.

<Before Improvement >



<After Improvement >



The issue of muddy ground was one that JAVA had previously pointed out, so this improvement is commendable. However, the key will be maintaining these favorable conditions in the long term. To achieve this, it is essential to regularly remove manure and ensure proper drainage by spreading small gravel at the base or installing underground drainage systems. Without such measures, the paddocks are likely to become muddy again during the cold season.

## The current status of numerous issues remain unclear

The center reported on its website that “improvements”, but the following points raised in JAVA’s petition were not mentioned in materials at all, leaving it unclear whether these issues have been resolved.

- Install a roof of sufficient size in the exercise area of the donor cows barn to shelter all donor cows’ in the area.

- Ensure that the outdoor concrete exercise areas are not used to cows for purposes other than brief exercise sessions.
- Revise the method of rumen fluid collection to prevent cows from being distressed for more than 20 minutes by consulting skilled practitioners that the equipment and procedures are appropriate.
- Stop culling cows at the center by administering disinfectants intravenously. Instead, switch to a culling methods that use proper sedatives, anesthetic and euthanasia agents to ensure instantaneous unconsciousness and maintain that state until death.
- Remove the electric stun guns that are kept on-site and prohibit their use.

### **Persistent lack of transparency**

JAVA, PEACE, and PETA Asia submitted joint petition requesting the above measures. However, the response from Ibaraki Prefecture has remained vague, stating only that “efforts are being made to improve care and management”.

While Ibaraki Prefecture continues to take such insincere approaches, it is thanks to everyone’s voices that improvements, however small, have been made and disclosed on their website. Let’s continue to press for further changes to resolve the remaining issues and ensure that the cows can live in more comfortable conditions.

### **Request To**

#### **Governor of Ibaraki Prefecture, Mr. Kazuhiko Oigawa**

978-6 Kasahara-cho, Mito, Ibaraki 310-8555, Japan

“My Proposal” Email form: [https://kouchou.pref.ibaraki.jp/kotyo/hp\\_iken\\_toroku.php](https://kouchou.pref.ibaraki.jp/kotyo/hp_iken_toroku.php)

※Information current as of September 1<sup>st</sup>, 2024.

## **JAVA appeals importance of Non Animal Testing Policy to employees at LUSH event**

This year, LUSH, a cosmetics company, celebrated its 25th anniversary in Japan. To commemorate this anniversary, we were invited to speak at the “LUSH ReMind Roadshow”, an all-employee event held in Tokyo in July (JAVA spoke on two of the four days).

Many of the employees joined the company within the past three years. It means that when they started working, animal testing of cosmetics had already been banned in the EU, and several major cosmetics makers in Japan had already declared their intention to abolish such testing.



With this in mind, we focused our talk on the history of JAVA’s cosmetics campaigns since its establishment in 1986, particularly the campaign that successfully pressured Shiseido, Japan’s largest cosmetics company, to abolish animal testing. We also highlighted JAVA’s win of the first “PUBLIC AWARENESS” award at the LUSH PRIZE, a fund established by LUSH in 2012.

Furthermore, we talked that we would seek a legal ban on animal testing of cosmetics in Japan like other advanced countries in the world. We also emphasized the importance of LUSH’s “NON ANIMAL TESTING” policy from a third party perspective. It was impressive that the venue was filled with young employees who listened intently to our presentation.

The person on the right is Hiromi Kamekura, Director of JAVA.

The photo on the slide shows the scene that JAVA received the award at the LUSH PRIZE award ceremony held in London in November 2012.

## Where are the “Japanese Macaques” from? Where are they provided? NBRP “Japanese Macaques” continues to conceal information

Starting from April 2023, our petition campaign has been initiated to request the Minister of Education, Culture, Sports, Science and Technology to abolish the National BioResource Project “Japanese Macaques” for breeding and supplying Japanese macaques for animal experiments. We report on the current status of this project based on the information obtained.

### Only repeating “not disclosed”

JAVA and PEACE, collaborating to end the “Japanese Macaques” project, have repeatedly sent open questionnaires and filed information disclosure requests to the Ministry of Education, Culture, Sports, Science and Technology (MEXT), the Core Center Kyoto University Center for the Evolutionary Origins of Human Behavior (EHUB), and the sub-Core Center National Institute for Physiological Sciences (NIPS) to confirm the keeping and supply status of Japanese macaques and future plans, and we have repeatedly urged

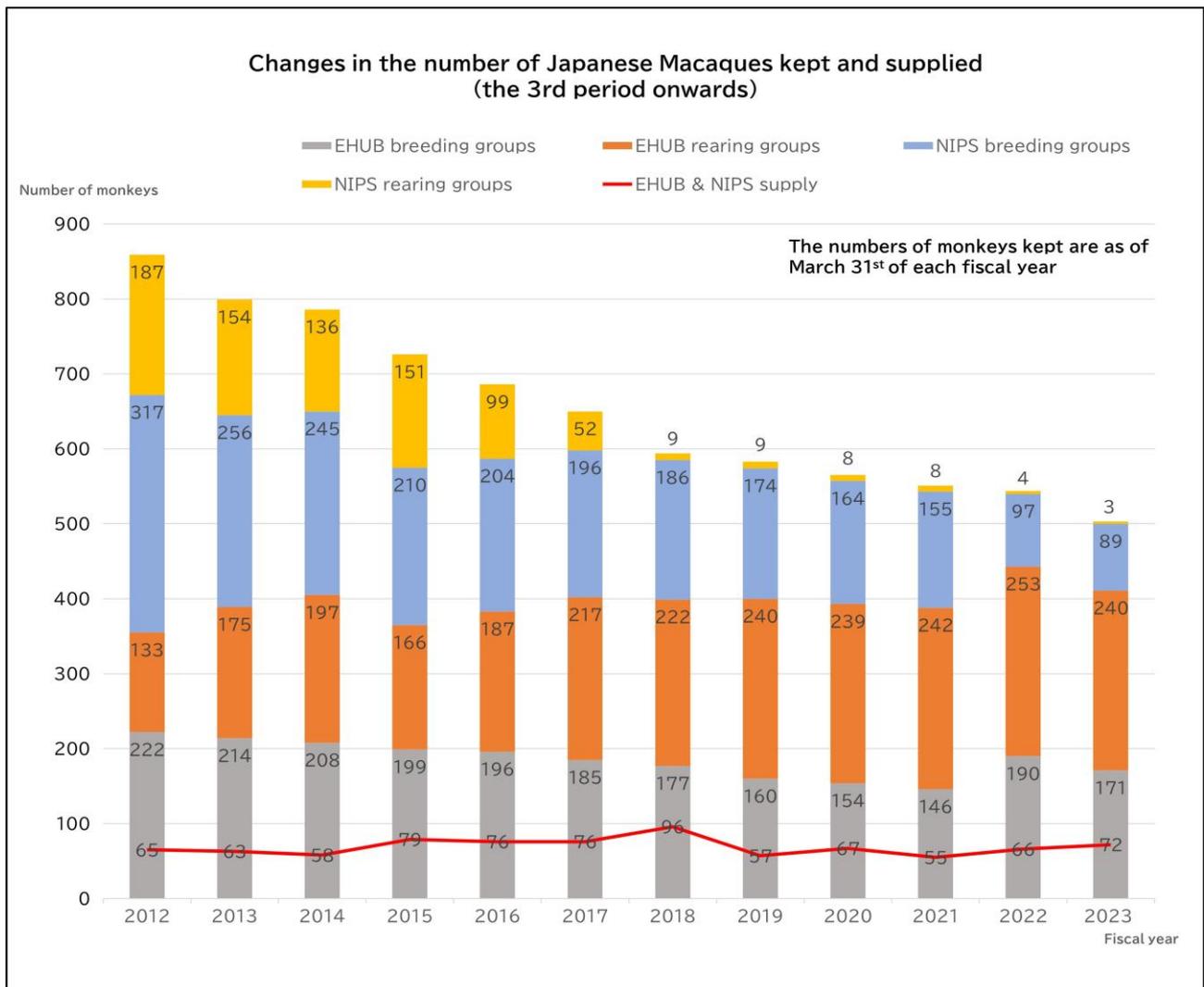
the project’s termination. However, their responses have been consistently “we are not disclosing”, and even information disclosure requests have been met with critical information being consistently withheld.

Despite being a project using approximately 200 million yen (1.3million USD) of taxpayer money annually, they continue to conceal information that citizens should naturally be informed about, such as where the monkeys are sourced from, how many are kept, and where they are provided. This is utterly inexcusable.

### Monkey keeping numbers and experimental provision

Until fiscal year 2021, the official website of NBRP “Japanese Macaques” published the number of animals kept, categorized into breeding groups (mother groups used for reproduction) and rearing groups (offspring bred for experimental provision). Additionally, the number of animals provided to research institutions was also disclosed until fiscal year 2022. However, for unknown reasons, it is no longer published. Therefore, after our confirmation, the number of monkeys, including those revealed, is as follows:

Cumulative number of monkeys provided since fiscal year 2006: **1,120 monkeys**  
 Cumulative number of providing institutions since fiscal year 2006: **40 institutions**



## 50 new Japanese Macaques introduced to EHUB

In the EHUB 2022 annual report issued in February 2024, it was discovered that 50 new Japanese Macaques were introduced to the NBRP “Japanese Macaques”.

NIPS has commissioned monkey keeping to the private company “Amami Wild Animal Research Center”. As the monkeys kept at this research center were at risk of being executed, JAVA and PEACE repeatedly confirmed their treatment with EHUB and NIPS, but has continued to receive only “under consideration” responses. Given these circumstances of the 50-monkey introduction to EHUB, one cannot help but suspect these might be monkeys from the Amami Wild Animal Research Center.

However, both EHUB and NIPS are once again adamant about “not disclosing” the source of these 50 monkeys and refuse to answer whether they were monkeys kept at the Amami Wild Animal Research Center.

## Do they intend to end the project?

As the graph shows, the supply numbers are significantly below the original project goal of 300 monkeys per year, with an average demand of around 60 monkeys.

The international trend is to reduce, eliminate, and transition to alternative methods for animal experiments. Particularly for primates, the direction is toward stricter regulation, and internationally, there are loud criticisms that using primates for animal experiments are inherently ethically problematic.

Moreover, despite being implemented with large amounts of taxpayer money, continuing in an environment of non-disclosure and full of unclear points and questions, the NBRP “Japanese Macaques” should be ended as soon as possible.

While we are calling for the project’s termination, both EHUB and NIPS only say they want to “consider while hearing opinions from related parties”.

## Make your voice heard to the Minister of MEXT!

The currently ongoing 5th period continues until the fiscal year 2026. To end this outdated project by the 5th period, we continue to ask for your cooperation in spreading signatures and directly delivering your opinions to the Minister of MEXT.

### Online Signature Page (Change.org)

\*Collection Deadline: March 31<sup>st</sup>, 2025

<https://www.change.org/stop-NBRPmonkey-en>

<Contact>

MEXT email form (Life Sciences):

<https://www.inquiry.mext.go.jp/inquiry30/>



## Animal slaughter in the name of education: Say NO to schools that offer dissection classes

“Dissection classes in schools” are also “animal experiments”. JAVA has made it possible to abolish dissection classes in many schools. However, there are still many schools that continue them.

### Reasons why JAVA is opposed to dissection classes

JAVA strongly opposes dissection classes and continues to work to abolish them for the following reasons:

- They are very cruel acts that cause animals to suffer and take their lives.
- Whether or not to conduct dissection classes is up to the discretion of the schools and the teachers, and are left unchecked.
- Many students are hurt and suffer as a result of dissection experiences.
- There is a deep connection between animal cruelty and violent crimes.
- Dissection classes have a negative impact on students' mental health.
- Education without animal experiments is becoming more widespread not only in primary and secondary schools but also in universities.
- If we consider the students' mental health first as well as educational effectiveness, it should be encouraged to learn through alternative methods such as computer simulations, videos, and elaborate 3D models.
- Dissection of a cadaver also hurts children and distorts their bioethics.
- It is clearly different from the donated bodies used in veterinary students' practical training.
- Diethyl ether used as an anesthetic not only causes pain to animals, but is also flammable and explosive, threatening human life and health, and is extremely dangerous.

### Many schools have abolished dissection classes, but many still continue to do so

JAVA has been working to eliminate dissection classes from schools for many years. Heartbreaking appeals from students, such as “We have dissection classes, but I don't want to do them”, “It was hard for me to do dissections” and “I want dissection classes to be eliminated from my school” triggered our initiative. JAVA lobbied schools in response to such voices, and many schools have decided to abolish dissection classes.

However, there are schools that stubbornly continue to offer dissection classes, as shown in the table below. In addition to schools, many science classes for children run by private companies also continue to offer dissection classes.

### Dissection classes at schools have many more problems than those at universities

An increasing number of medical faculties, such as medical schools, veterinary schools, and pharmaceutical schools do not offer animal dissection classes. When it is done at primary and secondary schools or science classes for children, there are more problems than when it is done at universities or research institutes as follows:

- There is no system in place for submitting animal experiment protocols to the animal experiment ethics committee and having them approved after review. Dissection classes can be carried out with just the teachers' ideas.
- Because schools do not have doctors or veterinarians, it is common for schools to use diethyl ether as anesthesia, even though it is not approved at universities or research institutions.
- Both the administration of diethyl ether and lethal measures such as cervical dislocation are carried out by amateur teachers, resulting in inappropriate handling of animals.

### No need to put up with it anymore, say “Stop the dissection classes!”

Everyone has the right to an education that does not involve sacrificing others or taking their lives, and that does not make them feel sorry for others. Dissection classes are not compulsory; therefore, schools and teachers can stop them at any time. Don't hold back, tell the schools that you want to stop dissection classes

#### Schools that continue dissection classes that JAVA is aware of

School name	grade	Species used	Corpses, organs and tissues to be dissected	Contact information
Keio Shonan Fujisawa Junior&Senior High School	8 <sup>th</sup> grade		pig eyeballs and hearts	E-mail: sfcjs@info.keio.ac.jp
	10 <sup>th</sup> grade		piglet carcass	
Myojo Gakuen High School	12 <sup>th</sup> grade	mice	chicken head pig eyeballs	4-15-22 Mure, Mitaka-shi, Tokyo 181-0002 JAPAN
Kokugakuin Univ. Kugayama Junior High / High School	7 <sup>th</sup> grade	frogs	pig organs	E-mail: kugayama@kokugakuin.ac.jp
	Junior High school Science club		squid	
Ohyu Gakuen Girls' Junior and Senior High School	7 <sup>th</sup> grade		squid carcass pig eyeballs and organs (↓Possibly live ones) clams American crayfish, crucian carp	E-mail: info@ohyu.ed.jp
	10 <sup>th</sup> grade	frogs	pig organs	
Otsuma Tama Junior and Senior High School	12 <sup>th</sup> grade	rats	piglet carcass adult pig head multiple organs, vertebrae, etc.	2-7-1 Karakida, Tama-shi, Tokyo 206-8540 JAPAN
	Science club	mice or rats	squid carcass	
Kichijo Girls' School	7 <sup>th</sup> grade		squid carcass	4-12-20 Kichijyoji Higashicho, Musashi no-shi, Tokyo 180-0002 JAPAN
	10 <sup>th</sup> grade	frogs		
	Biology club		piglet carcass	

## Fur News

An international coalition against fur, Fur Free Alliance (FFA), is made up of 47 animal protection organizations and JAVA is also a member of this coalition. The member organizations are working collaboratively to abolish fur.

JAVA NEWS No.113 carried the following news. And we also gave specific examples of actions to eliminate fur and asked for everyone's cooperation.

[Max Mara Fashion Group announces fur-free policy](#)

[Snare ban among new animal welfare rules](#)

[Fur farming ban bill proposal submitted to the Speaker of the Parliament — signed by more than 120 MPs](#)

## News from other countries

Here, we introduced some news articles selected from the newsletters and email news sent from overseas organizations. JAVA NEWS No.113 carries the following articles. These were translated into Japanese to share them with the readers.

You can read the original articles appeared in JAVA NEWS No.113 at the URL below:

[United Kingdom bans live animal export \(Eurogroup for Animals\)](#)

[EU Statistics on animal experimentation 2022 \(Doctors Against Animal Experiments\)](#)

[Finally: end of rabbit pyrogen test in sight \(Doctors Against Animal Experiments\)](#)

[Years of Advocacy Pay Off With Policy Change That Improves Science and Protects Horseshoe Crabs \(PCRIM\)](#)

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