

 **Project 3.1.5 Animal Welfare and Me****Purpose**

There are federal regulations, state laws, ethical guidelines, and personal beliefs that define and govern the humane and correct use of animals. These regulations and guidelines are there to protect animals from being subjected to cruel and harmful treatment.

In this lesson, you have discussed the differences in how people value animals and how perceptions may alter a person's opinion. It is easy for someone to say he or she cares about animals. Many people believe animals should be treated humanely. In the practice of animal sciences, what does that really mean? In this project, you will probe the question of how you will treat animals on a daily basis.

Materials**Per student:**

- Article pertaining to animal abuse
- Computer with word processing software
- Pencil
- *Agriscience Notebook*

Procedure

In this project, you will start by reviewing an article of possible animal abuse that will be provided by your teacher. After reviewing the article, you will develop a Producer's Code of Care guide to be used in your *Producer's Management Guide*.

Part One – Reading About Animal Abuse

1. Read the article provided by your teacher.
2. Identify areas where you feel the animal could have been treated more humanely.
3. In the margins, record how you would have handled the situation differently.

Part Two – Developing Your Code of Care

1. Develop a standard of care that you will provide for your animal in your *Producer's Management Guide*.
2. Think of areas in which you can improve or guarantee the quality of life for your animal.
3. Below are suggested areas to include in your Producer's Code of Care, but you are not limited to these areas. Consider additional areas unique to your animal and include those based on your experiences in this course.
 - Provisions for feed, water, and habitat
 - Health care and expectations
 - Handling procedures or expectations
 - Transportation and harvesting practices
 - Use in education and research
 - Demonstrating and promoting a positive perception of animal agriculture

