

Media Release

8th December, 2008 For Immediate Release:

New award for advances in the humane slaughter of livestock launched by the HSA

The Humane Slaughter Association (HSA) – an independent charity that works through education, training, research and technical developments towards achieving high standards of welfare for food animals at markets, during transport and at slaughter – has launched a new award to recognize and encourage significant advances in the humane slaughter of farmed livestock. Applications are now invited for the inaugural, 2009, award.

Very large numbers of farmed livestock are slaughtered daily around the world to provide food and other resources for human benefit. It is important that slaughter methods are as humane as possible – that they approach as closely as possible the ideal of not causing any fear or pain. Great advances have been made in this field in recent decades and work in pursuit of further improvements is continuing.

In order to help give recognition to important contributions and to help promote the pursuit of further advances, the HSA has launched the award scheme for individuals or organisations, anywhere in the world, whose work has resulted in significant advances in the humane slaughter of farmed livestock such as cattle, sheep, pigs, other mammals, poultry or fish.

The HSA is keen to receive applications, or nominations of potential candidates from third parties, relating to advances in science or important technological developments that have led or are leading to advances in humane slaughter. The award is for £1,000 and the deadline for the receipt of applications or nominations is 31^{st} March 2009.

Applications forms can be obtained from the HSA, The Old School, Brewhouse Hill, Wheathampstead, Herts AL4 8AN. Telephone 01582 831919, fax 01582 831414, email <u>info@hsa.org.uk</u> or can be downloaded from www.hsa.org.uk

-ENDS-

Media contacts:

James Kirkwood, HSA Chief Executive. Tel: 01582 831919, email kirkwood@hsa.org.uk Charles Mason, HSA Technical Director. Tel: 01582 831919, email <u>charlie@hsa.org.uk</u> Note to Editors:

As an independent registered charity, the HSA is unique in working exclusively to achieve the highest worldwide standards in food animal welfare at markets, during transport and at slaughter through scientific and technical advances, education and training. Its work includes researching, refining and demonstrating humane slaughter methods, publishing material such as guidelines, best practice, books and videos, funding research projects and the development of equipment. Specialist technical staff provide expert and practical advice on all welfare issues relating to food animals.

The HSA is funded by voluntary donations, subscriptions and legacies.

For more information about the HSA's work call 01582 831919, email <u>info@hsa.org.uk</u> or visit www.hsa.org.uk

The Humane Slaughter Association The Old School, Brewhouse Hill Wheathampstead, Herts. AL4 8AN Tel: 01582 831919 Fax: 01582 831414 Email: <u>info@hsa.org.uk</u> www.hsa.org.uk

Humane Slaughter Association and Council of Justice to Animals Registered in England Charity No: 209563