Audiovisual resources in primatology

An audiovisual catalogue listing and briefly describing some 311 videotapes, 53 slide sets, 15 sound recordings and 12 films which deal, in some way or other, with non-human primates has been published by Wisconsin Regional Primate Research Center. There is coverage of living and fossil primates, primatologists, primate facilities, animal husbandry and veterinary care, research techniques and zoo design. The Center has, as an ongoing project since 1981, been developing an archive of non-human primate resources - anyone with material that could be included in new editions of the catalogue should contact them; there is a sample Contribution/Inquiry Form included in the booklet. The main aims of the project are to assist in the preservation of audiovisual material on the vocal and behavioural repertoires of non-human primates - some 207 species are listed in the Taxonomic Names Index - and to act as an accessible source of loan material for use in scientific research, testing and conservation. This catalogue is a most useful document.

Audiovisual Resources in Primatology Produced and published by Wisconsin Regional Primate Research Center: Madison (1993). 152pp. Paperback. Obtainable from Audiovisual Service, Wisconsin Regional Primate Research Center, 1220 Capitol Court, Madison, WI 53715 1299, USA. Price US\$10 within US; US\$18 outside US.

Responsibility in use of animals in medical research

A new booklet has been issued by the UK Medical Research Council as one of the MRC Ethics Series, containing guidance on the principles and ethical considerations which must be taken into account when using animals in research. It has been prepared largely for MRC-supported workers and for MRC Board and Committee members involved in reviewing applications for support. The guidance covers the legal position, the diversity of research using animals, the ethical issues that arise and the principles and procedures adopted by the MRC. It is clearly written and will surely be useful to its target audience: it could also have a place in helping others to understand the ethical and practical problems involved when animals are used in biomedical investigations and the ways in which these problems are handled.

Responsibility in the Use of Animals in Medical Research Produced and published by the Medical Research Council: London (1993). 13pp. Paperback. Obtainable free of charge from the MRC, 20 Park Crescent, London W1N 4AL, UK.

Animal rights: issues for the nineties

The above named booklet is essentially a collection of articles from the quality newspapers (Guardian, Independent, Times etc) and pamphlets from lobbying and charitable groups (Biomedical Research Education Trust, British Union Against Vivisection, FRAME, Fur Education Council, Lynx, National Farmers' Union, Soil Association etc) on animal welfare and animal rights. It seems to be designed as an aid to project work in secondary schools and colleges. A few of the contributions are undated but the majority appear to have been originally published in 1992, and they all, it seems, are printed in their entirety - although this is not stated in the Introduction.

Animal Rights examines the cases for and against the use of animals in biomedical research, in food and fur production and in field sports. It seems that a serious attempt has been made to present all sides of the argument. It is suggested that the booklet is only a starting point for those who need convenient access to information about the many issues involved - at the back there is a list of organizations (including UFAW) which could be contacted for further information. A revised edition is to be published every two years.

Animal Rights: Issues for the Nineties Edited by Craig Donnellan (1993). Independence: Cambridge. 40pp. Paperback. Obtainable from the publishers, PO Box 295, Cambridge CB2 2EN, UK (ISBN 1 872995 23 3) Price £4.95.