

Minutes of APGAW 28th January 2003

1. Welcome and notes from Chair
2. Introduction of speakers from 'Fight Against Animal Cruelty in Europe'
3. Presentation

- a) Video Presentation

- b) Notes from FAACE presentation.

There are three countries in Europe where bullfighting takes place.

Spain nearly 2,000 bullfights.

In France about 140 bullfights mainly in the Spanish style.

In Portugal bulls are hypocritically killed behind scenes.

Spain of 70,000 cattle killed in bullfights and blood fiestas.

11,000 bulls are killed in the bullrings.

There are 15,000 Blood fiestas

The majority of the fiestas use cattle.

Other animals that are or have been used are;

Chickens, geese, pigs, ducks, rabbits, squirrels, pigeons, horses, doves and cats. There are some fiestas with goats and one or two with donkeys.

In August 2001, the town of Viana (Navarra) ostrich.

This created a new trend.

The cattle fiestas and bullfights have continued or grown.

With cattle, money is great a incentive for expansion.

If a village can get it's fiesta declared of Traditional and Touristic importance it can then become very difficult to prosecution.

Fiestas stopped or abandoned, are mainly with animals other than cattle.

Chickens are cheap with no profit.

Exposure pressure that has ensued.

Nalda, La Rioja. Pulling off chicken's heads that have been suspended along a rope. In 1991 we exposed it. The Mayor said nobody would stop it.

In 1992 the Governor of the region ordered it to stop and 1993 was the last time it took place. Last year 2002 they used metal chickens.

We exposed the throwing of a goat from a church tower in Mangeses de la Polvorosa, in 1989. After numerous attempts to stop this terrible event, which included an order

from the Spanish Ministry for the Interior in 1990 and a public riot in 1992 it was eventually banned, after pressure from ANPBA, in January 2000.

ANPBA work at a local and national level making Denuncias (official complaints) and have had a number of successes. We work very closely with them. We exchange of information, photographic and video evidence and written statements.

You will see in the written report that I have gone into a little detail with regards to the Special Beef Premium Subsidy.

Members of the public are shocked that their taxes are being used to support this torture industry.

We ask that the Welsh assembly and all present apply pressure on the EU commission, to stop this payment to these European breeders of animals for torture. They falsely claim this payment when they say that they are beef farmers.

4. Next meeting to be held on Tuesday 11th March, with a presentation from Compassion in World Farming on Live Transport, as usual please can everyone notify the secretary if you are planning to attend.

5. The Chair noted that the next meeting will be the last before the Assembly elections and the Group will require an AGM shortly afterwards to reconvene.