

Environmental enrichment for primates

There is currently a great deal of published research and information on the ways in which captive environments of non-human primates could be improved. This material is widely dispersed throughout the scientific literature so it is particularly helpful that the United States Department of Agriculture has published a valuable source of information on this subject. The booklet is comprehensive and not only provides an invaluable classified bibliography but also has an author index, a list of organizations which can provide information on non-human primates, how they can be contacted and details about their activities. There is a useful list of journals which publish information on primates - although unfortunately *Animal Welfare* is omitted despite a number of its papers being included in the reference list.

This USDA booklet is strongly recommended to all those who keep non-human primates in captivity and should be generally welcomed by all concerned with the welfare of these animals.

Environmental Enrichment Information Resources for Nonhuman Primates: 1987-1992 by United States Department of Agriculture Animal Welfare Information Center, National Institutes of Health and Primate Information Center (1992). 105 pp. Obtainable from the Animal Welfare Information Center, National Agricultural Library, 10301 Baltimore Boulevard, Beltsville, Maryland 20705, USA. Free on receipt of a self addressed label. A WordPerfect 5.1® copy will be provided on receipt of a 3.5 or 5.25 high density disk.

Animal facts and figures

There has long been a need for a readily accessible source of statistics on the animals used and, at times, misused by man. This need has now largely been met by a pocketbook by Barry Kew and published by Green Print, which is packed with facts, charts and tables. The information is grouped into eight sections: country sports, farmed animals, fisheries, fur farming, performing animals, companion animals, animal experimentation and zoos. There are a number of appendices: illegal cruelty, bovine spongiform encephalopathy, export-import, UK exotics, camelids, snails, laws, and death toll, as well as a glossary, references and a bibliography.

By definition nearly all books of this type are usually, by the time they are published, somewhat out of date and, by the amount and wide range of material covered, prone to inaccuracies. The present example, however, is largely free from both these problems. It is a most useful compilation of facts and figures. It is to be hoped that there will be, in due course, new updated editions.

The Pocketbook of Animal Facts and Figures by Barry Kew (1991). 176 pp. Green Print (Merlin Press): London. Obtainable from the publishers, 10 Malden Road, London NW5 3HR, UK. ISBN 1 85425 044 2. Price £6.99.