OIE Training – The – Trainer's Workshop

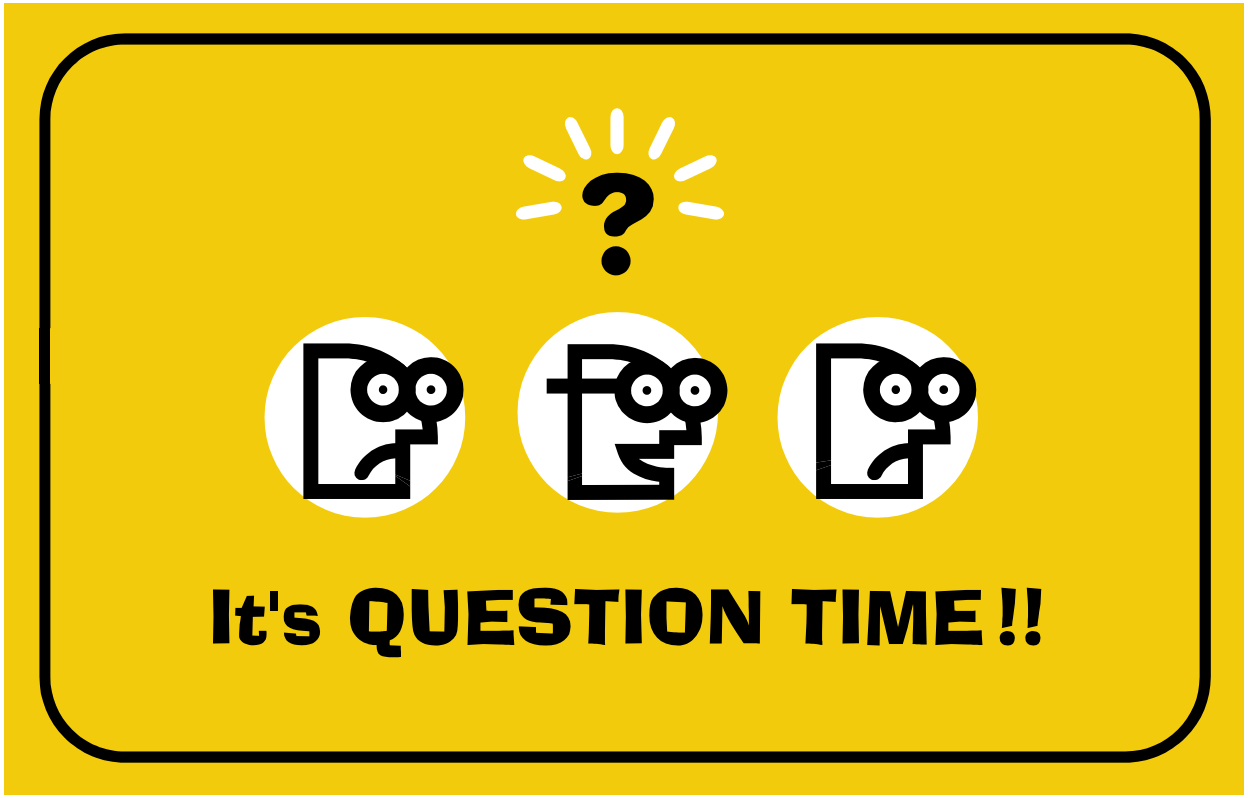
Animal Welfare conditions during long distance transport by land

(chapter 7.3 of the OIE terrestrial Animal Health Code)

SESSION I

2. BEHAVIOUR OF ANIMALS

WHY IS KNOWLEDGE OF ANIMAL BEHAVIOUR IMPORTANT?



WHY IS KNOWLEDGE OF ANIMAL BEHAVIOUR IMPORTANT

- Recognise early signs of stress and distress
- Recognise how animal reacts to features of the environment and use that in:

- Handling
- Design of premises
- Loading animals into lorry compartments
- Regular check-ups during the transport

Article 7.3.2.1 OIE TAHC

Animal handlers should be experienced and competent in handling and moving farm livestock, and understand the behaviour patterns of animals and the underlying principles necessary to carry out their tasks…

ANIMAL BEHAVIOUR

- ***Basic instincts or innate behaviour***: These are built-in or pre-programmed responses many of which are unique to a species
- ***Learned behaviour***: Where the animal's response is influenced by its past experiences/memory

……..

- ***Sensory modalities***: Behaviour influenced by sensory limitations

BASIC INSTINCTS - LIVING IN GROUPS

SOCIAL GROUPS

Source WSPA Steps

PIGS ARE GREGARIOUS ANIMALS (VIDEO)

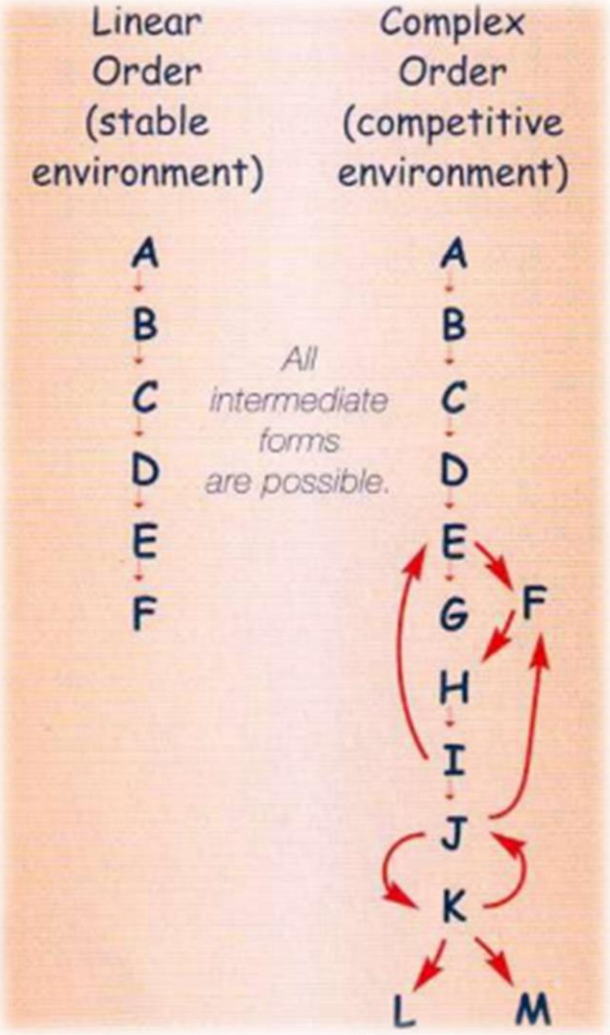
HANDLING ONE PIG (VIDEO)

VIDEO – HANDLING ONE BULL

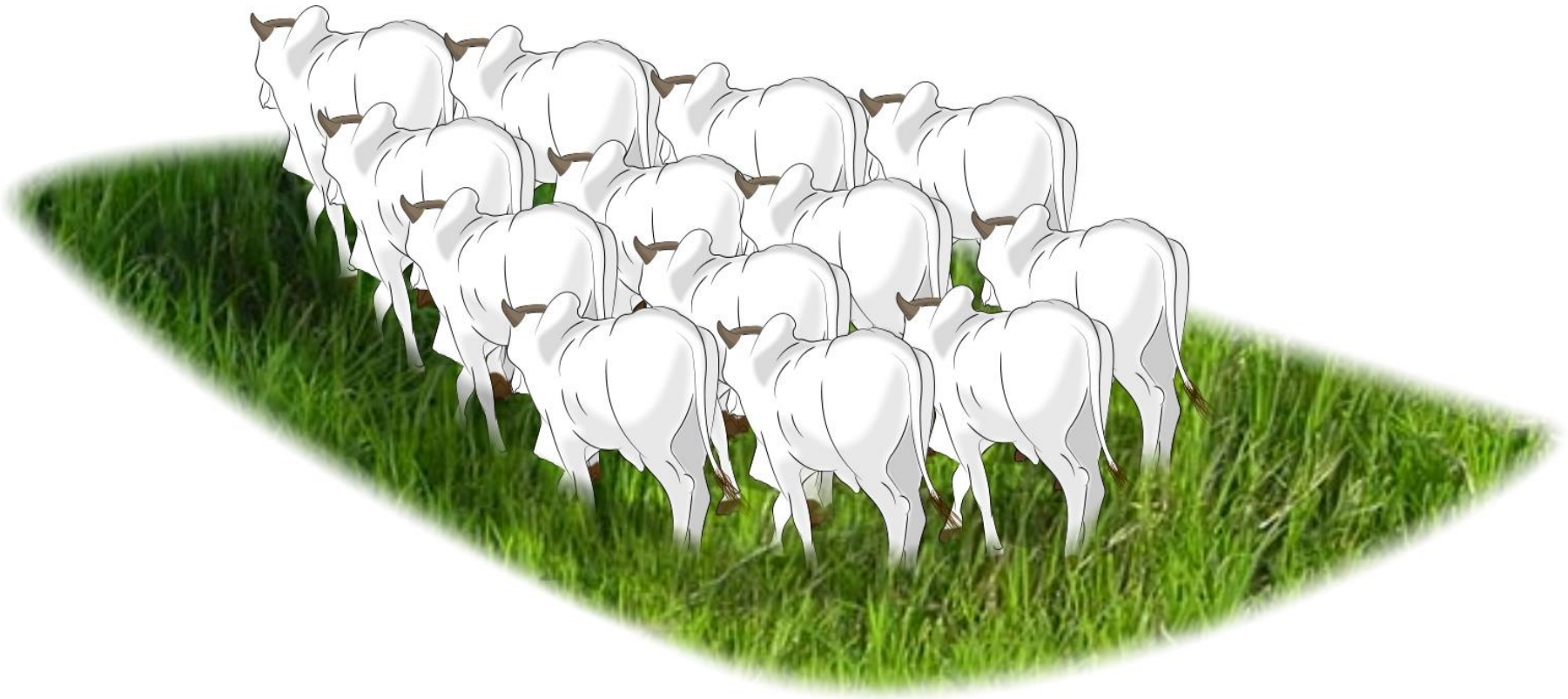
Source WSPA Steps

FLOCKING AND FOLLOWING INSTICTS

GROUP HIERARCHY



LEADERS AND DOMINANT ANIMALS



MIXING OF ANIMALS

СМЕШИВАНИЕ ЖИВОТНЫХ

MIXING OF ANIMALS ON SMALL AREA

MIXING OF UNKNOWN ANIMALS

The top-ranking pig can be removed from the group for up to 25 days and on return will still retain its position, but only if the social group it left was stable. A pig at the bottom of the hierarchy is treated as a stranger and attacked when returned after three days .

MIXING PIGS

BASIC INSTINCTS
VIDEO – SOCIAL HIERARCHY

Source WSPA Steps programme

PIGS BEHAVIOUR – BASIC INSTINCTS (VIDEO)

KEY SENSES

Smell

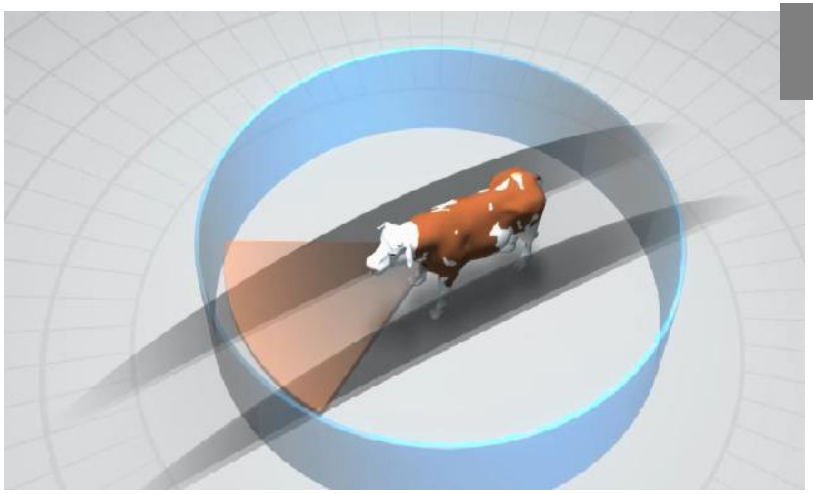
Hearing

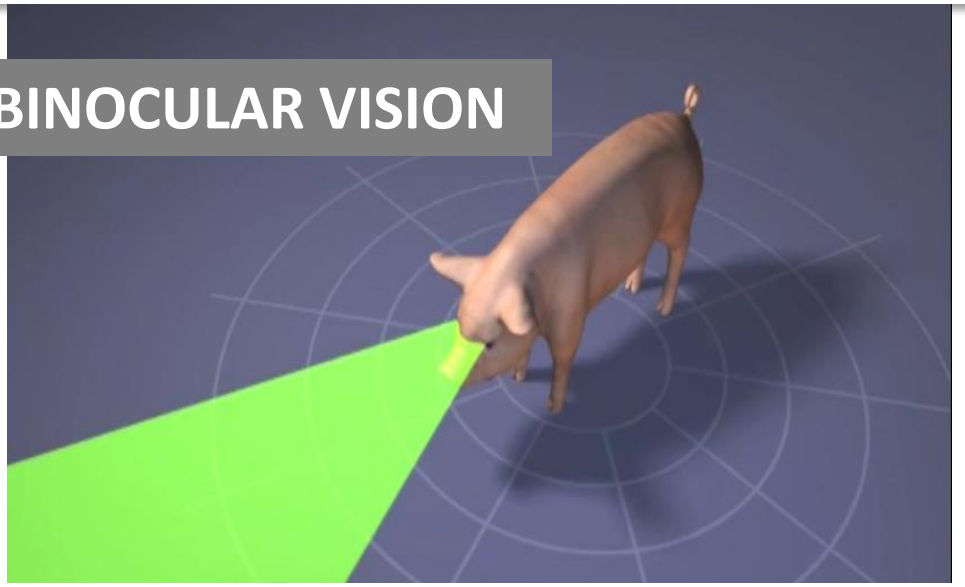
Vision

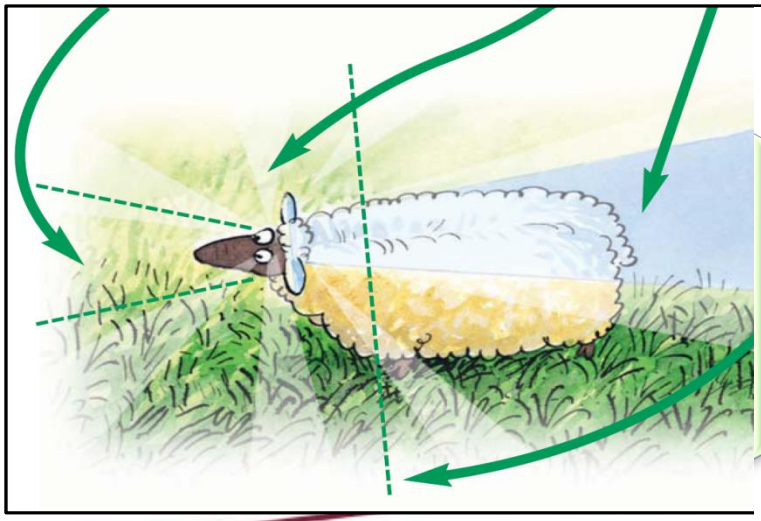
VISION

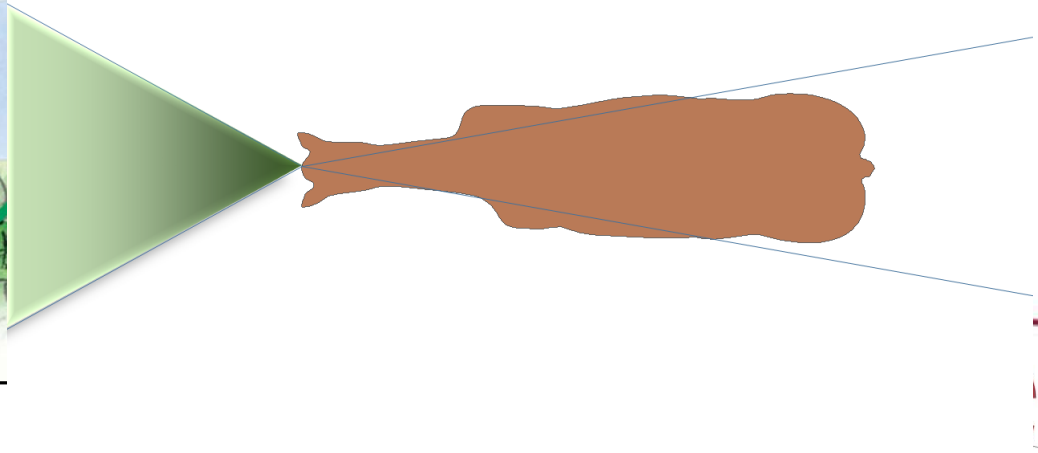
- Poor depth
- Binocular vision versus monocular
- Dichromatic vision

BINOCULAR VISION





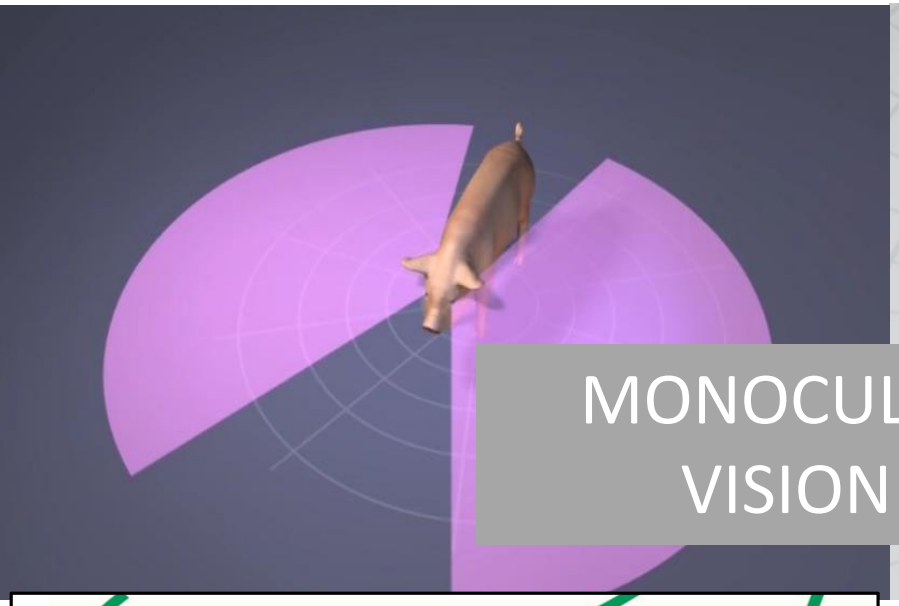




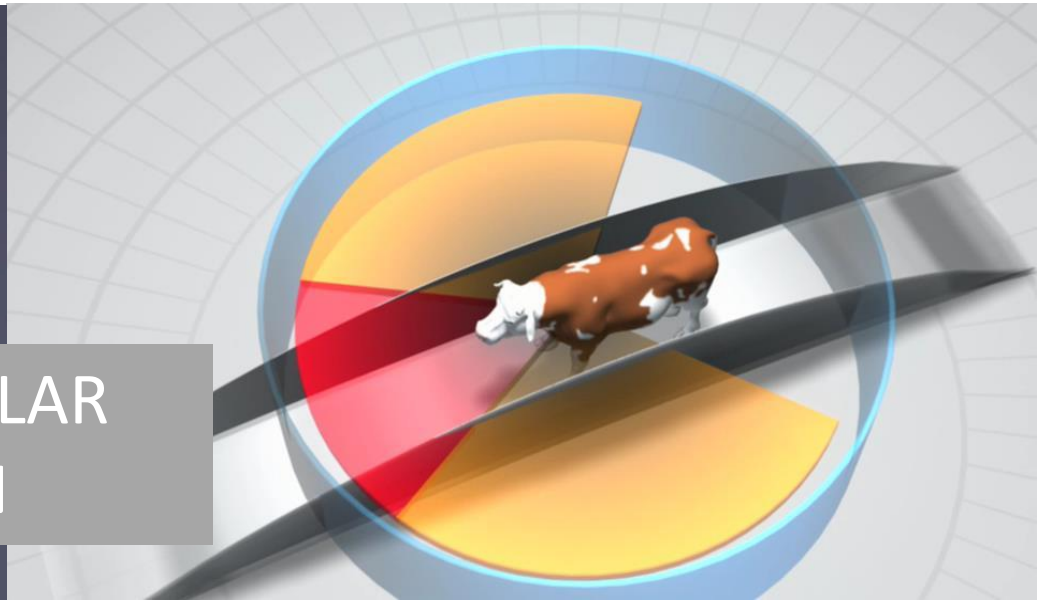
BINOCULAR VISION

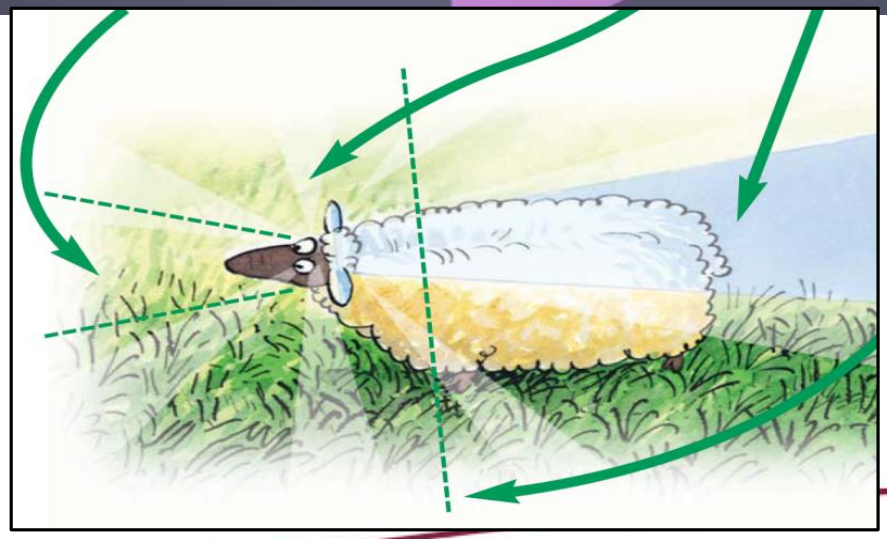
VIDEO – BINOCULAR VISION

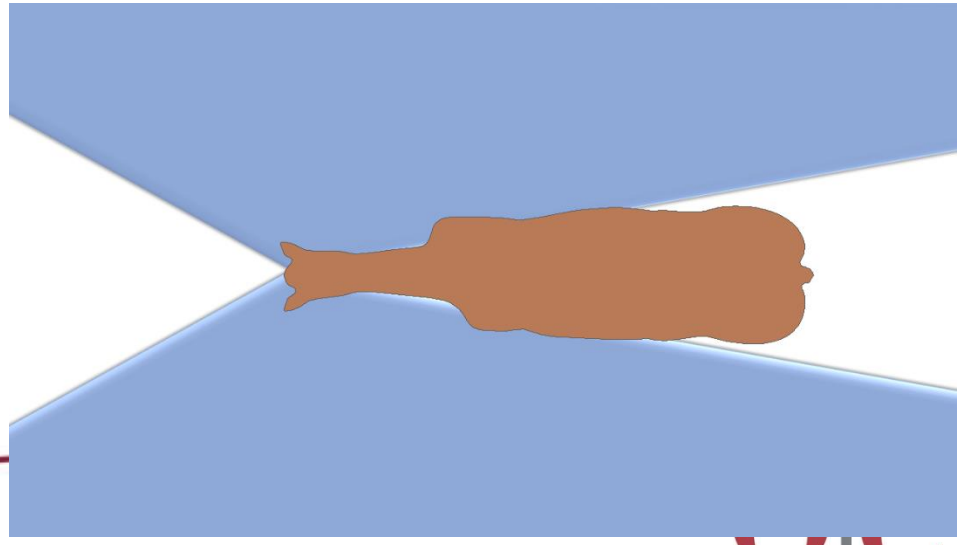
MONOCULAR VISION



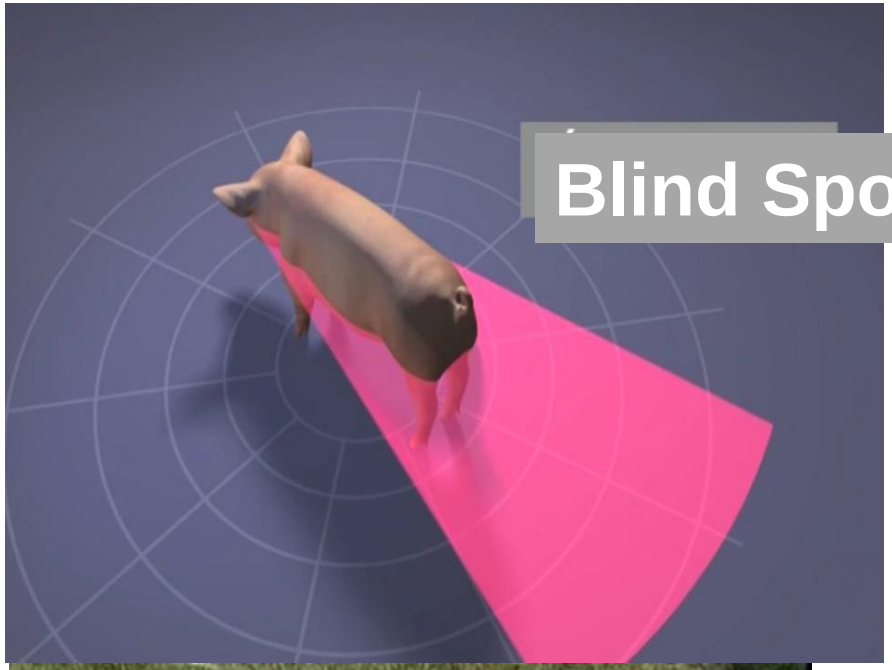
MONOCULAR VISION

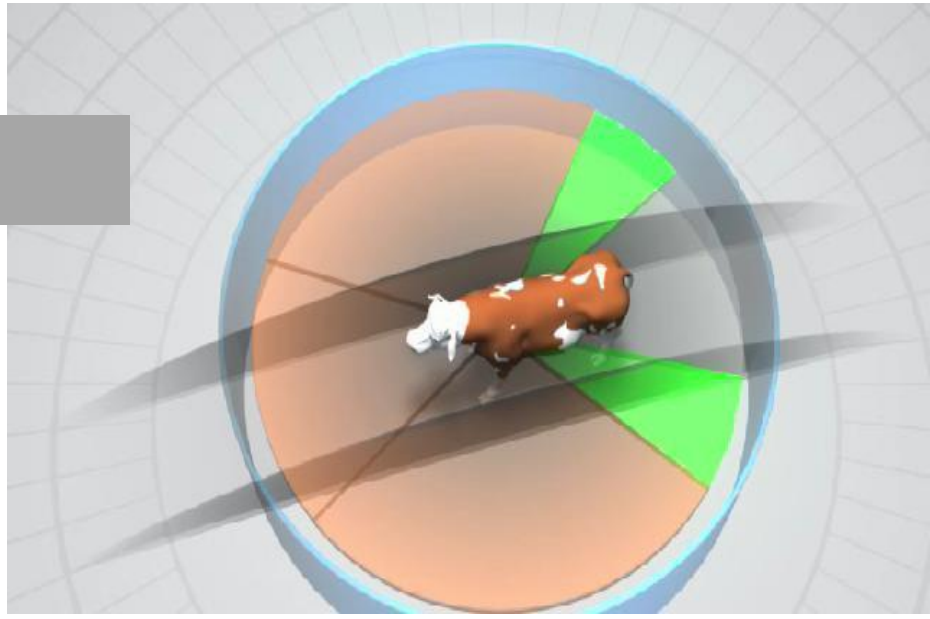


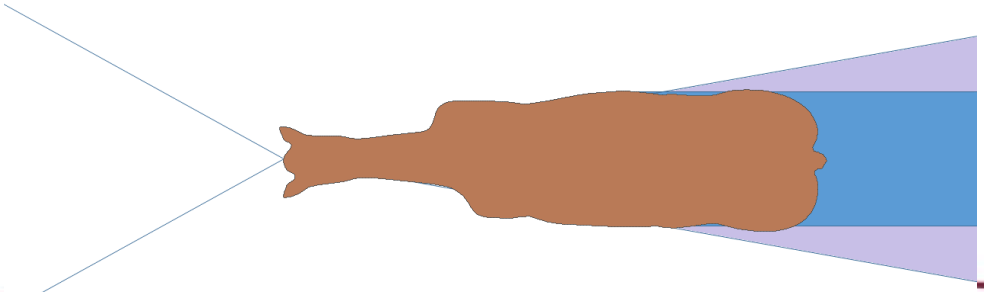




BLIND SPOT







DICHROMATIC VISION CONTRASTS, DARK VERSUS LIGHT

DISTRACTIONS (VIDEO)

DISTRACTIONS
Article 7.3.2.2

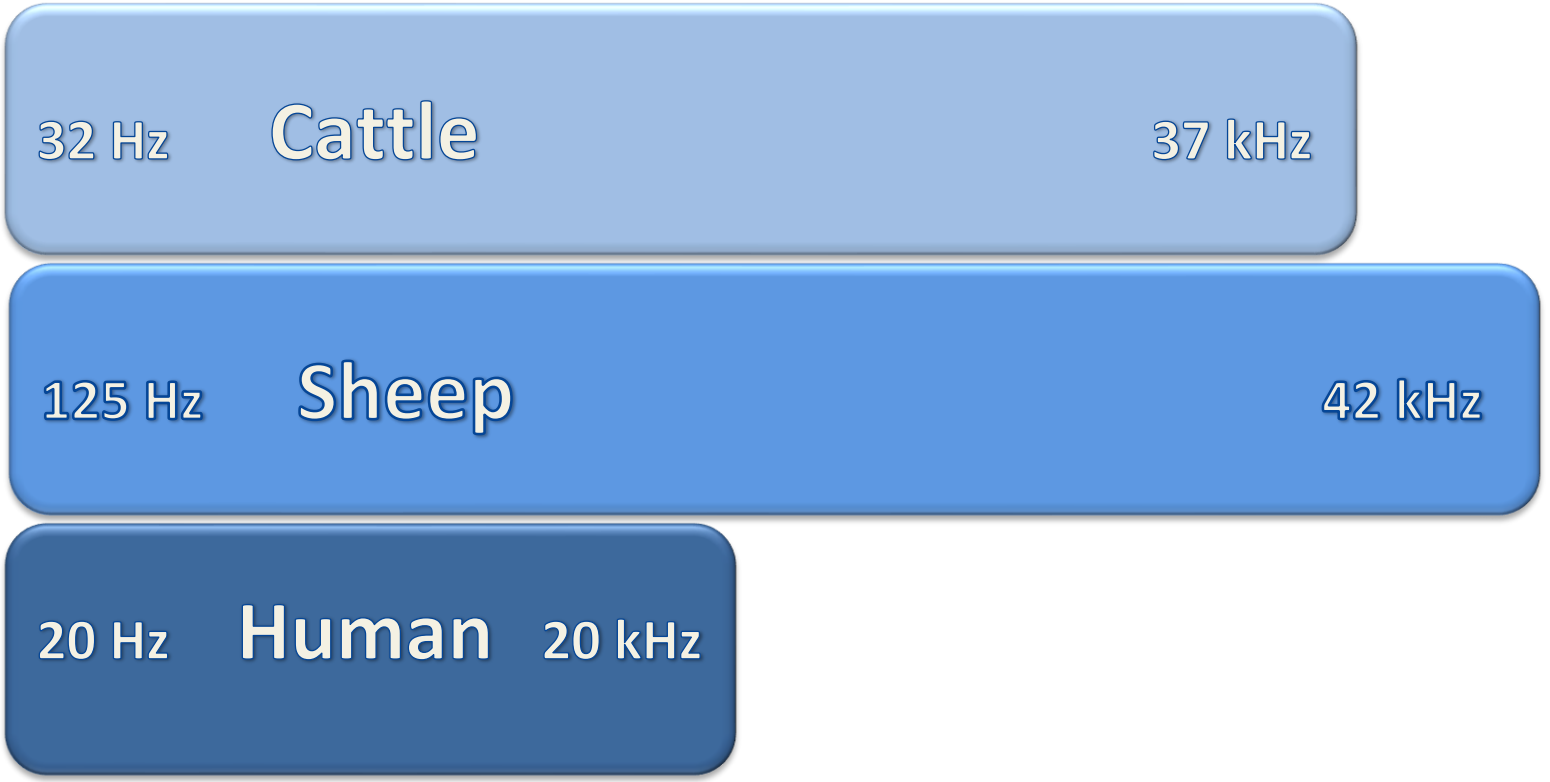
- **Visual**
- Contrasts
- Moving objects and people
- Changes in structures
- Dead ends
- Dark areas
- Drainages and other objects

- **Sounds**
- High frequency sounds

- **Smell**
- Other animals, unusual odours

- **Physical/Touch**
- Wind blow

HEARING



110
90
dB
0

SMELL

OLFACTORY SIGNALS

- Recognition of members of the group
- Blood smell insignificant to cattle and sheep, may attract pigs
- Stress pheromones in urine, may distract following animals
- Chemicals, machinery strange odours….

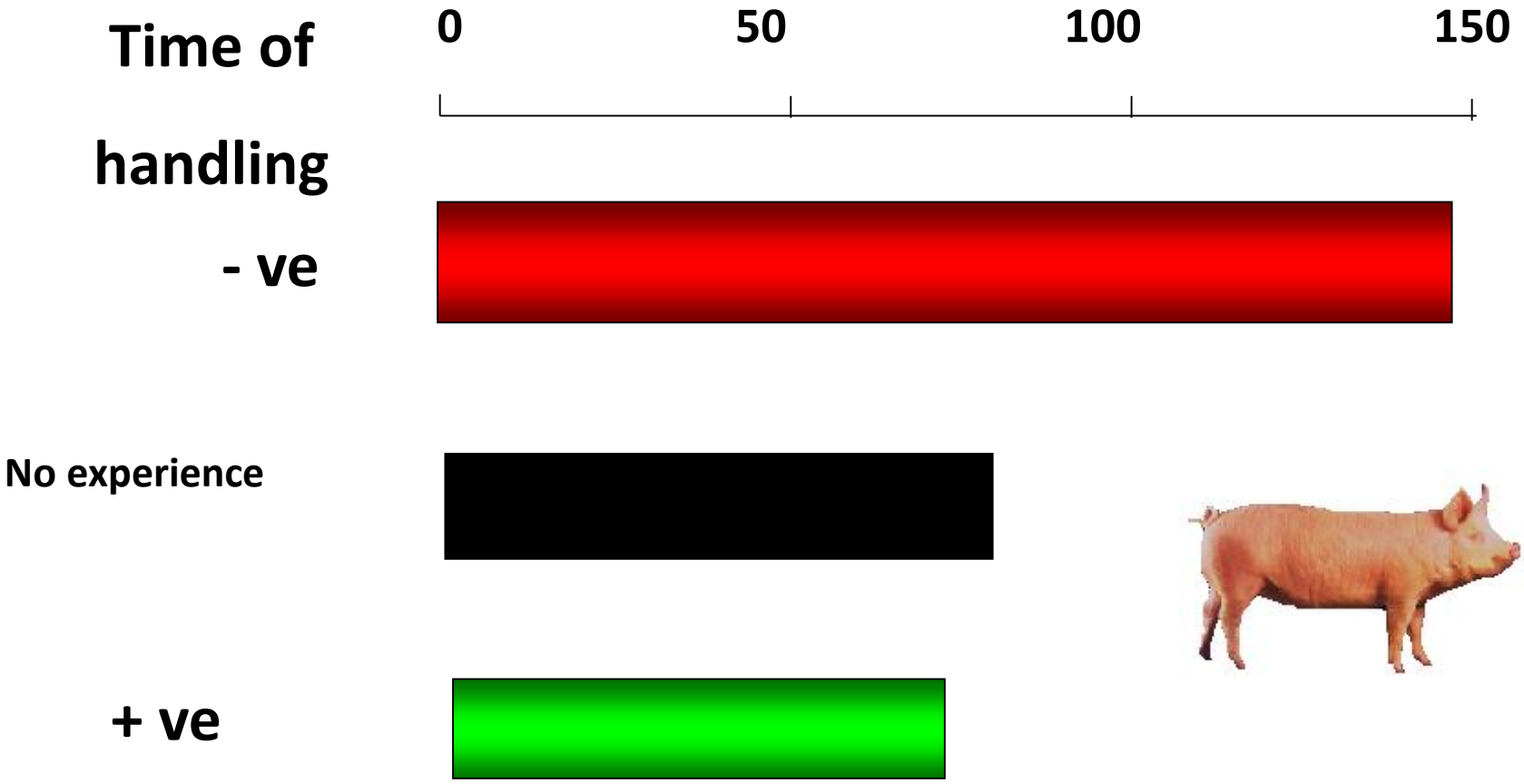
VIDEO - SENSORY MODALITIES

Source WSPA Steps

PIGS SENSORY BEHAVIOUR - VIDEO

LEARNED BEHAVIOUR - EXPERIENCE

LEARNED BEHAVIOUR - EXPERIENCE



(Gonyou et al., 1986)

HOW DO CATTLE SEE US?

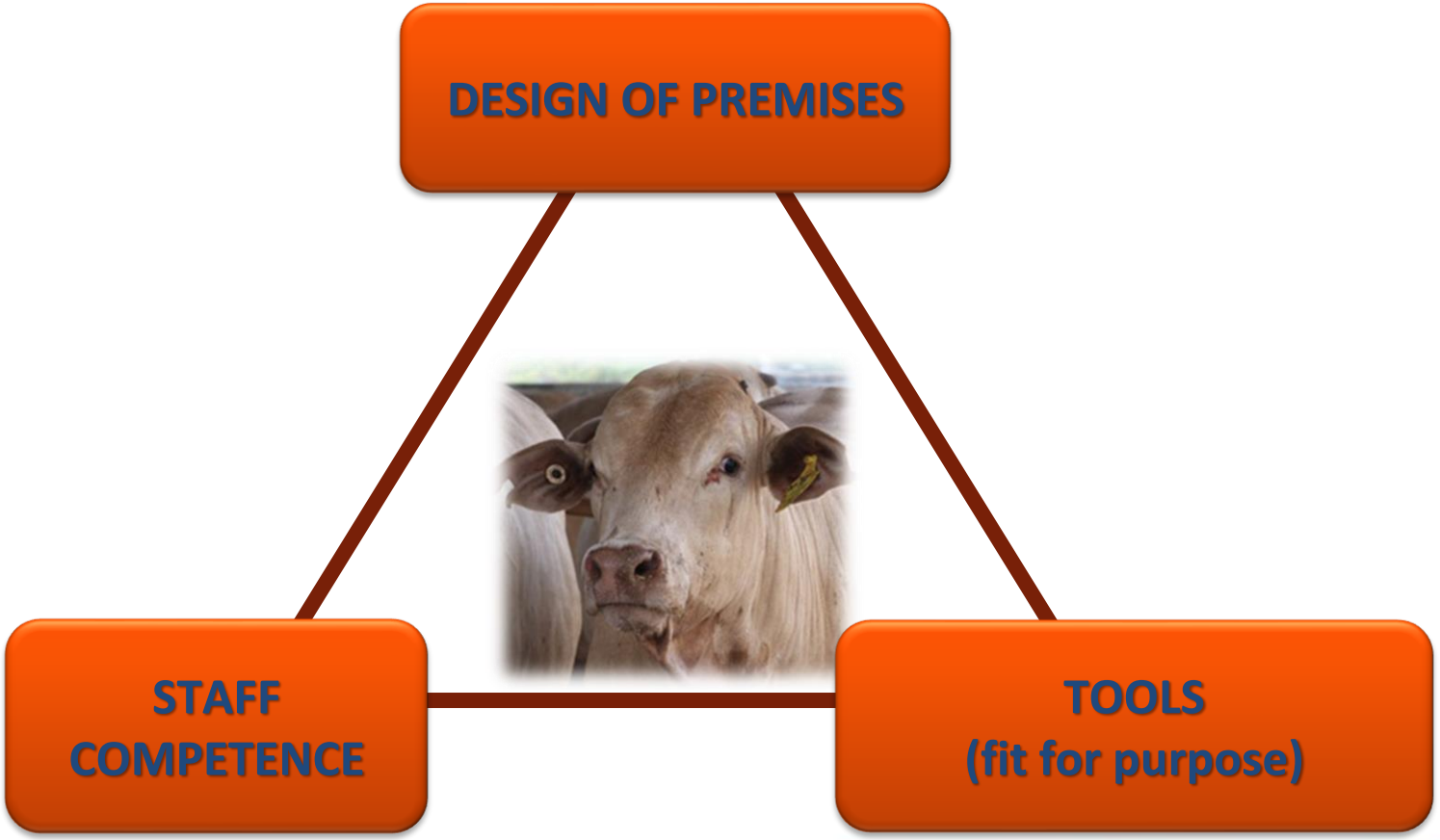
(Sheridan 2012)

ANIMAL'S PRIOR EXPERIENCE OF PEOPLE	**PERSPECTIVE**	**ANIMAL'S STATE OF MIND**	
		If 'calm' nature	If 'flighty' nature or cow with calf
No experience	possible predator	alert	very alert
Some experience (+ or -)	possible predator	alert to very alert	extremely alert
Extensive experience			
• Group 1 – mostly +ve	possible friend	alert and inquisitive	alert and touchy
• Group 2 - mostly –ve	probable threat	extremely alert and pre-stressed	**extremely alert and aggressive**

VIDEO - LEARNED BEHAVIOUR

Source WSPA Steps

KEY COMPONENTS OF ANIMAL HANDLING



REMEMBER

- Why understanding of behaviour is important
- Instinctive behaviour
- Hierarchy and mixing of unknown animals
- Sensory modalities
- Monocular, binocular vision and blind spot
- Distractions
- Hearing and vocalisation
- Smell and olfactory stimuli
- Learned behaviour

Thank you for your attention

WORLD ORGANISATION FOR ANIMAL HEALTH

Protecting animals, preserving our future