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Individualism and Nonindividualism in the Application of Nonhuman Animal Welfare to Policy

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Abstract

Science-based policy making and assessments are individualistic insofar as they are sensitive to interindividual differences, intraindividual connectivity, or both. Several scientists and policymakers have argued that nonhuman animal welfare should relate to individual animals, but there are reasons for both individualistic and

nonindividualistic approaches. Opportunities to develop more individualistic approaches include employing concepts such as “quality-of-life,” “welfare opportunities,” and greater stockperson flexibility.

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Keywords

- animal welfare science,
- individualism,
- opportunities,
- pain,
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