DESCRIPTION

The Veterinary Journal (established 1875) publishes worldwide contributions on all aspects of veterinary science and its related subjects. The journal regularly commissions topical reviews and commentaries on features of major importance. Articles are published on all aspects of veterinary science, with an emphasis on novel information of excellent scientific and/or clinical quality, relevant to domestic animal species.

First published in 1875 as The Veterinary Journal, the journal was known as the British Veterinary Journal from 1949 to 1997, when it reverted to its original title.

AUDIENCE

Veterinary Research Workers and Clinicians

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INTRODUCTION

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Applying capital letters to directions. Compass directions such as North, South, East and West, as well as their derivatives, such as North-East, North-West, South-East and South-West, should be capitalised when they are used to designate defined or recognised geographical regions, or when they are an integral part of a proper name. Examples include "Eastern Europe", "Southern France", "North-East England", "in the North", "down South", "the West Coast" and "the Eastern Seaboard", "the Western Region of Kazakhstan", "Southern California". Compass directions should not be written with capital letters when they indicate general locations or directions without a specific location. Examples include "bluetongue virus initially spread in a north-westerly direction on air currents", "the northern boundary of the quarantine zone", "cases were clustered in the east of the region", "westerly winds". The first letter of each word of a Compass direction should be capitalised when used to refer to people in a region, particularly in social, cultural or political contexts. Examples include "wildebeest are hunted by the Southern tribes", "horses have been an integral part of Western civilisation since the Middle Ages". Words such as northern, southern, eastern, and western that precede a place name usually are not capitalised, since they indicate a general location within a region. When these words are an integral part of the place name, they should be capitalised. For example, write "northern Connecticut", but "Northern Ireland" and "Western Australia".

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**Appendix**

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For further information see The Veterinary Journal (2010) 184, 249-250 (view article).