



Livestock stakeholders' perceptions of animal welfare on dairy cattle farms in China

Oral Consent Script for Farm Workers [English version]

Record this consent process using a digital recorder (if participant has consented to this).

[Oral information giving stage]

Hello, my name is Maria Chen. I'm doing some research and I wondered if you'd be interested in being involved. I'm a Masters student at the University of British Columbia studying Applied Animal Biology. My research is about Chinese dairy cattle producers and dairy cattle welfare (which is the quality of life of the dairy cattle).

In this study, I want to investigate how people in a Chinese dairy agribusiness view dairy cattle welfare, and learn more about how people work with dairy cattle on your farm. You are invited to participate because you are a worker on a Chinese dairy cattle farm working with dairy cattle. If you choose to be a part of this project, here is what will happen:

-I will have a conversation interview with you where we speak about your thoughts, concerns, and recommendations for dairy cattle welfare on your farm.

-I will, with your permission, come and observe and participate in some of the daily dairy cattle husbandry practices and write this down in a notebook.

-I may, with your permission, take some photographs of your interactions with the dairy cattle.

The data which includes interviews and my observation notes will be de-identified, which means any publications will not use your name, unless you would like to be identified. If there are photographs where you are identifiable, I will obtain your permission before using them in any public way.

I will store your information safely and confidentially in a password protected and encrypted laptop. I would like to be able to use your de-identified information/data in future studies, and to share this information/data with other researchers.

The following risks are involved in taking part in this study: you may find aspects of the interview boring, mildly embarrassing, or distressing as we will be talking about your work with the dairy cattle. You can feel free to take a break or stop participating in the conversation at any time. You can also ask me to stop observing you at any time if you are feeling uncomfortable. You can let me know if you do not want to have any photographs taken of you.

You don't have to agree to take part; you can ask me any questions you want before or throughout; you can also withdraw at any stage without giving a reason. If you choose to withdraw, I will take out what you have said in the transcripts.



With your permission, I would like to make an audio recording of our discussion to make sure I'm getting an accurate record of your thoughts. Instead of recording you, I can take notes in my notebook. Which would you prefer? I may want to re-contact you to clarify information you gave me in your interview.

The project will be published in my master's thesis and potentially an academic journal.

If you have any concerns please feel free to contact me.

My mobile number is, and my email address is name@alumni.ubc.ca.

You can also contact the principal investigator for this project, Dr Dan Weary, whose phone is, and email is dan.weary@ubc.ca.

If you have any concerns or complaints about your rights as a research participant and/or your experiences while participating in this study, contact the Research Participant Complaint Line in the UBC Office of Research Ethics at e-mail RSIL@ors.ubc.ca or call toll free 1-877-822-8598.

Do you have any questions?

You will have 24 hours to think about this and if you agree to participate in this study, you can agree to do so when I visit you again tomorrow.

You are also free to say no to participating now, or anytime throughout the study.

[Oral consent seeking stage, after 24 hours and participant has had sufficient time to think about whether s/he wants to take part]

Do you give your permission for me to interview you and observe your work?

Do you give your permission for me to take photographs of you while you work?

Do you give me permission to audio record our interviews?

Do you give your permission for me to re-contact you to clarify information?

Are you happy to take part?

[Oral consent seeking stage for use of photographs]

Do you think this photograph represents you and your work in an appropriate way?

Do you give me permission to use this photograph to share it for research purposes (for example for my thesis and in publication)?