

INFORMATION DATABASES ON ALTERNATIVES TO ANIMALS IN EDUCATION AND TRAINING: *NORINA* and *TEXTBASE*

Karina Smith & Adrian Smith, Laboratory Animal Unit,
Norwegian School of Veterinary Science, Oslo, Norway



Many sophisticated alternatives to the use of animals in education have been developed. They may also be used to reduce the number of animals used on training courses for researchers and technicians where animal use cannot be totally abolished.

Information about these alternatives is not, however, necessarily easy to obtain. Many of these products are marketed by companies that cover only a small segment of the biomedical sciences. It is important to be able to present teachers with a range of products of sufficient sophistication that they are considered relevant as true alternatives.



The NORINA database contains detailed factual information on over 3,600 audiovisual aids and other alternatives that may be used as pure replacements to animal use, or as supplements to reduce animal numbers in situations where total replacement is impossible. Records have been sorted into one of over 30 types (e.g. CD-ROM, video-film) and into one or more of over 30 categories (e.g. Anatomy, Physiology) to aid searching.

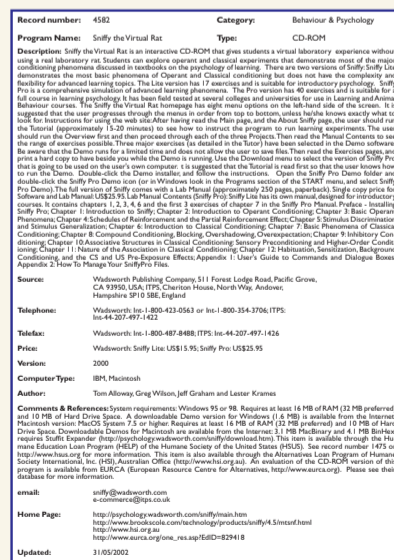
TextBase complements NORINA with information on nearly 1,000 textbooks within laboratory animal science. Many of these books are anatomy and dissection guides, that may be used to reduce or replace animals in teaching and training situations.

Both databases are in English and are available free of charge on the Internet:

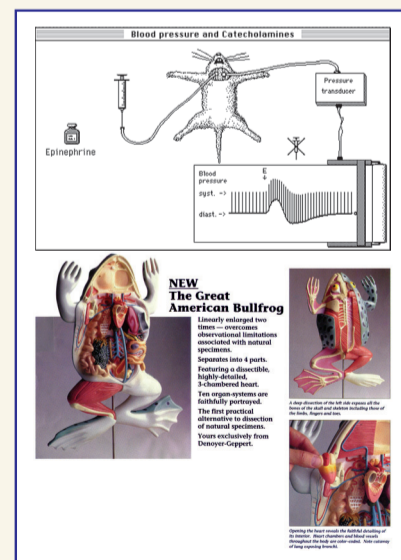
<http://oslovet.veths.no>



Part of NORINA's Home Page



One of the 3600 records currently in NORINA



Examples of audiovisuals cited in NORINA (reproduced with permission)

Further details from: Karina Smith, Laboratory Animal Unit,
Norwegian School of Veterinary Science, P.O. Box 8146 Dep., N-0033 Oslo, Norway.
Fax: +47 22 96 45 35. Phone: +47 22 96 47 53.
E-mail: karina.smith@veths.no / Internet: <http://oslovet.veths.no>