

# Animal trials by code of ethics and transparent

In April 2016 ILVO and 23 other Belgian public and private institutions signed the European Animal Research Association (EARA) “Statement in support of animal trials and transparency in Belgium”

[Press release \(pdf\)](#)

ILVO supports an open dialogue between the research community and the wider public about the why, how and when animals are used in experimental research, and about the value that such experiments add to agricultural and fisheries research. Signing this Statement is ILVO’s next step regarding animal trials.

ILVO generates knowledge for a sustainable animal husbandry (such as optimization of the ration) and fisheries sector. Tests in applied research such as this inevitably require the use of animals. ILVO is committed to only ethical actions in this regard and transparency about the scientific trials involving farm animals and marine organisms. In all such trials, ILVO strives to use minimize the number of animals, refine the methodology used and develop viable alternatives.

Scientific research using animals is strictly regulated in Belgium: it is overseen by ethics committees and performed by professionals in accredited institutions. The animals are handled with an extremely high level of care.

More information about EARA: <http://eara.eu/nl/>

To the Statement: <http://eara.eu/wp-content/uploads/2016/04/Statement-and-signatories-in-support-of-animal-research-in-Belgium.pdf>