



Animal Aid exposes and campaigns peacefully against all animal abuse, and promotes a cruelty-free lifestyle

# OLD MACDONALD

## ... he has some CHICKENS

... and he crams them together in battery units or windowless sheds.

Most egg-laying birds are kept in battery cages, where they cannot walk, nest, perch or flap their wings. Most broiler chickens – birds reared for their meat – are kept in giant sheds so overcrowded that many birds die of thirst or starvation because they cannot reach water or food.

Drugs, selective breeding and special food mean that the birds become so heavy so quickly that they cannot support their own weight.

Research shows that the vast majority can't walk properly and a quarter suffer from chronic pain and discomfort. All this suffering – just to make meat a little cheaper.

Disease spreads rapidly in the overcrowded sheds, and birds may also die from heat stress or heart attacks. The dead birds stay where they drop, as the sheds are not cleaned out until all the birds are taken to the killing factories – when they are just six weeks old.

### Disease Factories

Intensive farms are the perfect breeding ground for viruses and bacteria. Stressed animals stand for weeks or months on end in their own filth alongside dead and dying animals. In recent years, farming has brought us BSE, bovine TB, foot and mouth, swine fever, bird flu, campylobacter, salmonella and many more killer diseases.



### What can you do to stop the suffering?

- Enjoy a diet that is free from meat, eggs and dairy products.  Please send me a free veggie recipe pack
- Don't be fooled by terms such as 'farm fresh', 'Freedom Foods' or the red tractor logo. Free-range and organic meat, eggs and milk still involve suffering and death.  Please send me more information about Animal Aid
- Support Animal Aid. We conduct undercover investigations, produce in-depth reports, lobby MPs, obtain media coverage and give school talks.  I wish to support your campaigns. I enclose a cheque or postal order made payable to Animal Aid for £\_\_\_\_\_

Name:  
Address: (including postcode)

Please return this form to:  
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# HAD A FARM...

# AND ON THAT FARM...

Picture a farm and what do you see? Comfortable barns and happy farmyard animals? The reality is very different. Most animals are intensively reared inside dark, dirty, crowded sheds.



An animal campaigner waters a needy pig



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## ... he has some PIGS

... but today they are raised in filthy, barren sheds.

Piglets are born in metal-barred cages known as farrowing crates, which keep their mother trapped. The piglets can reach her teats, but she has so little room that she cannot even turn around.

their living conditions, farmers cut off the ends of their tails and pull out some teeth – they are mutilated to save money.

Naturally, piglets would stay with their mother for three or four months, but on today's farms, they are taken away when they are just three weeks old. They are killed by the time they are just six months old.

The piglets suffer, too. The stress, caused by their unnatural, overcrowded conditions, is so bad that they bite their mother's teats and each other's tails. Instead of reducing stress by improving

## ... he has some SHEEP

... but their lives are not as natural as they appear.

Wild animals take cover from rain, snow or hot sun, but most sheep are in fields with no protection from the elements. Sodden ground and filthy barns mean that lameness and painful hoof infections are endemic. Lambs have their tails docked, and the males are also castrated. No anaesthetic is used.

temperatures, millions die of hypothermia or starvation in their first few days of life.

Ewes who would normally rear just one lamb at a time are now forced to carry twins or triplets. This generates more profit but it also means that Britain produces too many lambs. The 'surplus' is exported live to the Continent. The lambs may be sent on thirty-hour journeys, with just one hour's stop for rest, food and water.

Reproduction is interfered with, so that many lambs are now born in mid winter, instead of the spring. Exposed to bitterly cold

## ... he has some COWS

... who are selectively bred to produce unnaturally large quantities of milk.

Their heavy, swollen udders make it difficult to stand or walk properly, and one fifth of all British dairy cows are lame. Many also suffer from mastitis, a painful infection of the udders. More and more cows are permanently confined in sheds and yards.

within a few days of birth, and the mothers may cry for days at the loss of their young.

Thousands of male calves are unwanted. They are the wrong sex to produce milk and not the right breed to be fattened for meat. Some are shipped overseas to Continental veal farms. Others are simply shot.

Cows keep producing milk only because they are repeatedly made pregnant. Their calves are taken away from them, typically

You can help stop this suffering. Cutting animals out of your diet is the single most positive step you can take. [www.animalaid.org.uk](http://www.animalaid.org.uk)