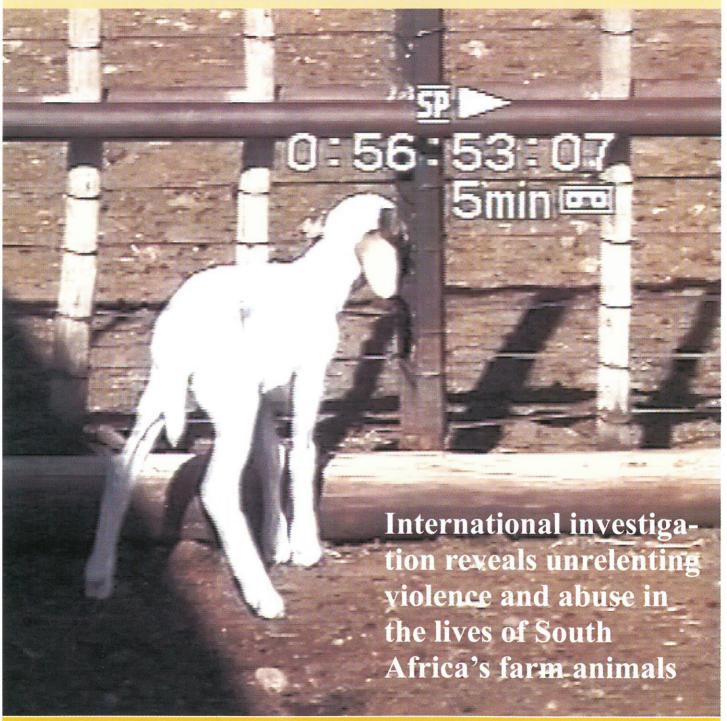
Animal Voice

Rekindling the Spirit of Care and Respect for Life

Official Mouthpiece in South Africa of Compassion in World Farming

Spring 2001



Abandoned at a livestock market, this little orphan pitifully tries to suckle a wooden post

COMPASSION IN WORLD FARMING NOW IN SOUTH AFRICA

Compassion in World Farming (CIWF), one of the most influential farm animal protection organisations in the world, has launched itself in South Africa. At its two-day inaugural conference held in Cape Town in

July and attended by animal protection delegates from around the country, CIWF committed itself to making a real difference for farm animals on the subcontinent.

CIWF's International Liaison Director, John Callaghan, and Farm Animal Consultant, Janice Cox, combined the launch with an exposé of shocking video footage of the treatment of 'farm' animals taken during a five-week investigation into the rearing, marketing, transporting and slaughtering industries in South Africa.

Janice Cox, who is also Director of the internet-based animal protection federation World Animal Net, which has been granted consultative status at the United Nations, said that the investigation revealed 'shocking incidences of animal cruelty and breaches of health and hygiene legislation in South Africa.'

She added: "We are convinced that the South African public will be appalled to see the suffering of farm animals in their country. We hope that the government will take action to improve the conditions for farm animals and that this will eventually spread throughout Africa."

John Callaghan explained that until recently Compassion in World Farming had been a pan-European NGO. However, with globalization, CIWF was now extending its sphere of influence. He said timely action to improve conditions for farm animals in South Africa was imperative. The World Summit for Sustainable Development would be hosted in Johannesburg next year, and most of the delegates who would be attending the Summit were highly sensitised to animal protection issues.

To date, CIWF has an impressive list of victories for animals, including legalised 'Sentient Being' status for animals across the European Union and bans, with phase-out periods, on sow stalls, traditional battery cages and veal crates. CIWF is currently campaigning for an end to long distance transport of live animals to slaughter and for more humane treatment for broiler (meat) chickens.

Louise van der Merwe, Editor of the magazine *Animal Voice*, and Director of **The Humane Education Trust**, has been elected as the South African representative for CIWF.



CIWF International Liaison Director, John Callaghan



CIWF Farm Animal Consultant, Janice Cox



Louise van der Merwe, CIWF South African representative

CIWF exposes abuse, violence, terror and misery in South Africa's meat industry

A five-week long investigation by Compassion in World Farming (CIWF), in collaboration with Animal Voice, has revealed abuse and violence of mammoth proportions in South Africa's abattoirs, livestock markets, feedlots and long-distance transport to slaughter industry.

Thirty-seven hours of film footage taken around the country and Namibia, during May 2001, revealed that:

- ☐ The captive bolt pistol, used to stun slaughter animals, frequently fails to work, and many animals are misstunned causing severe shock and pain
- □ Kosher slaughter, which does not require pre-stunning, frequently falls short of kosher guidelines causing agonising and protracted deaths
- ☐ The so-called 'devil's fork' used in kosher slaughter to draw the head back and expose the throat of the live animals, sometimes hooks and pierces into its eye sockets
- ☐ Backyard slaughter is inhumane and potentially hazardous to human health because of unhygienic conditions
- ☐ The Egg Industry abandons its end-oflay hens to horrendous suffering. Featherless and broken-boned, they are sold live to 'cull farms' which, in turn, sell the hens at 'rip-off' prices to South Africa's poorest of the poor, for home slaughter
- Newborn calves, kids and lambs are abandoned at markets and feedlots after their mothers have been sent for slaughter. Still unweaned, they try to suckle fence-posts and each other, shivering in isolation and terror
- ☐ Terrified pigs, cattle, sheep and goats are whipped, kicked and beaten in the face in order to subdue them and force

(Continued on page 3)

(Continued from page 2)

them into trucks, pens or the slaughter lines. Modern practices in other countries now use the animals' natural behaviours to guide them, making it simpler for the handlers and much kinder for the animals

- □ Totally unacceptable levels of terror and stress are imposed on South Africa's wildlife, which have become the newest range of 'farm animals'. Many are so terrified that they do not survive the capture, transport, penning and auctions.
- ☐ Terrified ostriches are crammed into pens and easily become entangled and injured in unsuitable fencing.
- ☐ Hundreds of thousands of 'farm' animals are crammed into three-tier trucks and transported from Namibia to Durban without food or water or the ability to lie down. The journey can last five days and covers a distance of some 1800kms.

Says Janice Cox, CIWF's farm animal consultant: "It is shocking that after the 'decades of violence and brutality' (in the words of Nelson Mandela) of the apartheid system, there are still layers of violence and oppression that have not yet been stripped away. This includes the systematic abuse of South Africa's animal populations. It is simply not acceptable for a modern, progressive country like South Africa to put animal protection onto the 'back burner'. The new South Africa is viewed internationally as an example of a modern, compassionate and caring society. CIWF urges the South African government to take urgent action to stem this animal suffering."

Janice adds: "We would like to call on every South African to stand up for the rights of farm animals by becoming caring consumers who are willing to speak out and demand humanely-produced food. Never underestimate consumer power."

The investigation will be used to lobby the government and the meat industry for change.

An abridged 15-minute video of the CIWF investigation is available from Animal Voice at R60 a copy. Tel: (021) 852 8160.



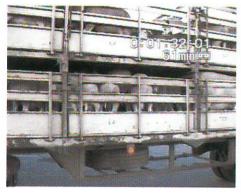
Universities and agricultural colleges are supporting small-scale battery farming in rural areas where free-range would flourish and feeding costs would be lower.



The egg industry abandons its end-of-lay hens to horrendous suffering in township markets. Ironically these chickens cost the poorest of the poor more than a quality supermarket chicken would cost.



In many instances, Kosher slaughter falls far short of Kosher requirements as this little calf endured.



Crammed into trucks so that they cannot lie down, animals are transported huge distances to slaughter, without food and water.



Easily frightened, ostriches become entangled and injured in unsuitable fencing in their efforts to flee.



Injected with a synthetic hormone to make her produce more and more and more milk, cows can hardly walk because their udders become so huge. This hormone (BST) is banned in the EU.



Human health is at risk with informal slaughter conditions



This cow is meant to have been stunned, but walks from the stun box. Her suffering was tremendous as she was mis-stunned several times.

Please write as many letters or postcards as you can on behalf of our farm animals. Ask friend, family and supporters to do the same. The following letters provide a guideline...

Mr Terry Reese MD: McDonald's SA P O Box 1522 Gallo Manor 2052

Dear Mr Reese.

I am distressed by the recent investigation by Compassion in World Farming that revealed the violence, abuse, terror and misery imposed on South Africa's farm animals.

Please assure me that McDONALD'S will introduce free-range alternatives on its menus. Please also assure me that McDonald's (South Africa) will join McDonald's USA and insist in future that its suppliers adhere to humane standards in the rearing, transport and slaughter of the animals it uses.

Sincerely,

Name:

Address:

Mr Darren Hele MD: WIMPY P O Box 1671 Rivonia 2128

Dear Mr Hele,

I am distressed by the recent investigation by Compassion in World Farming that revealed the violence, abuse, terror and misery imposed on South Africa's farm animals.

Please assure me that WIMPY will introduce free-range and vegetarian alternatives on its menus and that WIMPY undertakes to insist, in future, that its suppliers adhere to humane standards in the rearing, transport and slaughter of the animals it uses.

Sincerely,

Name:

Address:

Mr Brian Sacks MD: NANDO'S CHICKENLAND P O Box 2932 Rivonia 2128

Dear Mr Sacks,

I am distressed by the recent investigation by Compassion in World Farming that revealed the violence, abuse, terror and misery imposed on South Africa's farm animals.

Please assure me that NANDO'S will introduce free-range and vegetarian alternatives on its menus and that NANDO'S undertakes to insist, in future, that its suppliers adhere to humane standards in the rearing, transport and slaughter of the chickens it uses.

Sincerely,

Name: Address: Mr Dane Hudson MD: KENTUCKY FRIED CHICKEN P O Box 4870 Rivonia 2128

Dear Mr Hudson,

I am distressed by the recent investigation by Compassion in World Farming that revealed the violence, abuse, terror and misery imposed on South Africa's farm animals.

Please assure me that KFC will introduce freerange and vegetarian alternatives on its menus and that KFC undertakes to insist, in future, that its suppliers adhere to humane standards in the rearing, transport and slaughter of the chickens it uses.

Sincerely,

Name:

Address:

ASPECTS OF EATING MEAT

SWEDEN'S Prime Minister Goran Persson recently announced that he was giving up meat because of animal rights and the quality of vegan food. He added that his children had become vegetarian, a decision he fully supported. Looking to the future, he expressed a belief that Sweden's eating habits would change both society and the landscape. – *Viva! LIFE Spring 2001*

GERMANY'S Food Farming and Consumer Protection Minister, Renate Kunast (Green Party) announced recently that the government intended to phase out factory farming. She said emphasis would now be placed on animal welfare, organic agriculture and sustainable jobs.

IN SOUTH AFRICA.... PHILOSOPHER SPEAKS OUT

"Most importantly, we should remember one way of minimising the killing of animals that is readily within each moral agent's control, is to abandon the eating of meat..... it should receive our primary attention." – Dr David Benatar, Dept of Philosophy, University of Cape Town, writing in Environmental Values 10 (2001)

IN THE USA, the American Institute for Cancer Research has stated that a balanced, plant-based diet could bring about a major drop in cancer rates. It is predicted that more than half-a-million Americans will die from cancer in the coming year. – *Viva!LIFE Spring 2001*.

DOCTOR'S ADVICE

Now that cigarette packs are forced by law to carry health warnings, we need to turn our attention to meat packages too, says Dr Neal Barnard, US author of "Turn Off the Fat Genes". "Both cigarettes and meat contribute to heart disease, various cancers, strokes and high blood pressure. In fact, most heart attacks would never occur if we cut out meat," he says.

- Peta's Animal Times, Spring 2001

TAX ON MEAT?

An excise tax on meat is being mooted by concerned environmentalists, social justice advocates and animal protectionists around the world in an attempt to force the meat industry to take responsibility for the massive hidden costs of mass meat production. These include: Loss of skilled farmers' livelihoods, termination of free markets, crumbling community structures, suffering animals, mass-scale environmental degradation

and untold human health risks. For more information see the web site http://www.gracelinks.org

ALBERT EINSTEIN, voted Person of the Century by Time Magazine in 2000, said: "Nothing will benefit human health and increase the chances for survival of life on earth as much as the evolution to a vegetarian diet."

JOYCE D'SILVA, DIRECTOR OF COMPASSION IN WORLD FARM-

ING, UK: "Keeping living creatures in tiny cages and crates, battering their bodies with selective breeding and mutilations, denying them company of their own kind or progeny, preventing them from having any quality of life – these are all outrageous anachronisms in a modern society which prides itself on its sense of justice and fair play."

TOWARDS VIOLENCE-FREE FARMING...

"To create violence-free public schools and communities we will need to redefine our definition of violence... The factory farm system is a clear example of institutional violence." - ViolenceFree Public Schools Network, USA., 1999.

HORRIFYING CRIMES

"Our grandchildren will ask us one day: Where were you during the Holocaust of the animals? What did you do against these horrifying crimes? We won't be able to offer the same excuse for the second time, that we didn't know." – Dr Helmut Kaplan

MCDONALD'S (USA) last year ordered all their egg suppliers to improve the treatment of their hens, including phasing out the practice of debeaking and the provision of much bigger cages. The company also wants to ban forced moulting. Observers believe McDonald's plunge into animal welfare will revolutionise the way slaughterhouses do business.

PEOPLE FOR THE ETHICAL TREATMENT OF ANIMALS (PETA) TRIUMPH IN THE USA...

PETA'S "Murder King" campaign, which involved more than 800 protests at Burger King restaurants worldwide, has been called off following this fast-food giant's announcement in June that it will exceed the animal welfare standards that McDonald's has agreed to uphold.

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SATV MOET 'HAATSPRAAK' TEENOOR DIERE STOP SÊ KUNSTENAAR

Barbara de Waal



Hier volg haar brief:

Die Hoof: Afrikaanse Nuusdiens SABC 2

Geagte Heer/Dame,

Dit is nie die eerste keer dat ek aan u skryf oor die gebruik van "haatspraak" in u Afrikaanse Nuusdiens nie. Elke keer het hierdie 'wakkermaak'-versoek van my slegs 'n lam respons ontlok in dat die <u>woordeboek</u>, 'n spraaklose, gevoellose, lewelose objek, die baas oor ons taal-ontwikkeling is!

Liewe vriende, ek vra u; luister na u eie Afrikaanse programme -- die praatstyl van die NUWE Afrikaner. Hy/sy is as mens vêr verwyder van apartheid-speak. Hulle laat hulle nie regeer deur sommige oud en gevoellose woorde wat nog in 'n woordeboek sit en stof vergader nie. Woorde soos suip, vreet en vrek wat hoort in die argaïese woordegroep. Dit is skeltaal en walg my en duisende ander wanneer dit in die spatseltjie Afrikaanse nuus om 7 nm. ten opsigte van diere gebruik word. Dit is 'n tipe van apartheidtisme (HOOGMOED) wat nie by die moderne andersdenkende Afrikaner tuis hoort nie. Geen ander taal maak hierdie onderskeid nie en indien dit wel voorkom soos byvoorbeeld in "graze" het dit nie dieselfde aftakelende begrip nie soos wat die oer-Afrikaner daaraan gegee het met gebruike soos: "Hou op met vreet", "aag, gaan vrek" en "nee jong, hy suip alweer". Net soos ons wit velle verwaand was om te dink ons is superieur bo enige ander velkleur, gaan ons voort, deur die woordegebruik ten opsigte van diere, om voor te gee ons (Afrikaners) is verhewe bo die siel van die ander skepsels in God se bestel.

Ek vra u asseblief, laat ons vorentoe beweeg. Die Lewe is 'n bewegende patroon waarin ons slegs spatsels is. Moenie weer u rug op ons versoek keer met die woordeboek as die skansmuur nie.

Die uwe,

BARBARA DE WAAL (Mev.)

NEW WORDS FOR A NEW WORLD

The words we use determine the way we think. And the way we think determines the way we act. Could our language be partly responsible for our abuse of animals?

W ords can wound. Deeply. More especially, they can easily be used to bolster up a range of prejudices which, without thinking, we simply pass on in our language.

At the heart of all of this is an important truth: The words we use about the world, create our understanding of it. Words are the means through which we think. Once this truth is grasped, we can see how essential it is to create a new language, free of all forms of prejudice.

Many South Africans will remember the days when adult black men were called 'boys'. There were many such derogatory words in use, but this single three-letter word had the power to influence people to see full-grown black men as inferior. It held the power to remove their dignity and status. According to linguistics professor Raj Mesthrie at the University of Cape Town "derogatory terminology is an essential part of discrimination".

While we have become aware of racist, sexist and homophobic terminology in our language, we remain largely unaware that our references to animals are loaded with prejudice. Even the word 'animal' is now used as a term of abuse. 'He's an animal' expresses the sentiment that the individual concerned is about as vulgar, obscene, violent or murderous as a person can get.

Eighteenth Century English literature provides lasting testimony that during the slavery era, many whites perceived blacks as sub-human and they became compared with non-human animals. A racist theological book published in 1900 was entitled "The Negro a Beast". By likening the black slaves to animals, the notion that blacks were some kind of sub-species, was reinforced. It also strengthened our negative views about animals. To be like an animal implied the worst. Logically, therefore, a person who was unlike an animal, must, by definition, be good.

Thus the thoughts and language of oppression are woven into the very fabric of Western culture. As noted by Marjorie Spiegel, author of The Dreaded Comparison: "Language, along with the written word, serves to perpetuate and reinforce prejudicial attitudes prevalent in our culture.... Yet we must take responsibility: ultimately, we create language, it does not create us."

We need to understand that the words we use about animals are part of our common oppression of them. This oppression is known as speciesism and an examination of our language is a necessary precursor to change.

Consider how our animal-referring metaphors and similes are inherently derogatory towards animals: to be 'chicken' is to be a coward. 'Birdbrain' implies a lack of intelligence.

Perhaps the most poignant example of our prejudice is the pig. Epithets and expressions in common usage include 'filthy pig', 'lazy pig', 'living in a pigsty' and 'pigging out'. Thus, pigs represent gluttony, greed, sloppiness and evil, no matter that they have proved to be exceedingly loyal, social, intelligent and clean by nature. Linguistics sug-

Words can foster oppression or liberation, deception or truth

gest that raising animals solely for the purpose of slaughter would be more difficult if we acknowledged them as affectionate or clever.

Similarly, we distance ourselves from the truth by calling animals in laboratories 'models'. Force-feeding them poisons is called 'oral administration' and so on. Injured or 'superfluous' animals are 'destroyed' (as if their continued existence posed a threat). 'Vermin'is a word we use to justify the massacre of a variety of animals simply because their interests conflict with our own.

It is interesting - and indeed a wakeup call - to see how we have exonerated ourselves from all responsibility by our choice of the word 'vices' for some behavioural aberrations which are common-place on the factory farm: Today's battery chickens are debeaked to prevent hens damaging each other in the confines of their tiny cages. Similarly, today's pigs have their curly tails amputated to prevent tail-biting in the crammed factory shed. The poultry and pig industries call feather-pecking and tail-biting 'vices'. The dictionary definition of 'vice' is 'a defect or weakness of character or behaviour'. In fact, both feather-pecking and tail-biting are abnormal behaviours, which manifest because neither the chicken nor the pig is able to adapt to the extreme confinement and barren conditions of the factory farm. Our solution is to mutilate them to 'fit' them to our systems. The 'vice' however, is ours for not allowing them to be what they are. By calling their aberrant behaviour 'vices', we deceive ourselves into thinking the animals are to blame, and not ourselves.

Afrikaans is no exception when it comes to words that create a mindset that justifies oppression. Diere word 'lewende hawe', 'die goed'. (Animals become "livestock", "the things").

Comparing the suffering of animals to that of blacks, or any other oppressed group, is offensive only to the speciesist, one who has fallen for the propaganda which promotes and fosters a 'master'

mentality among humans.

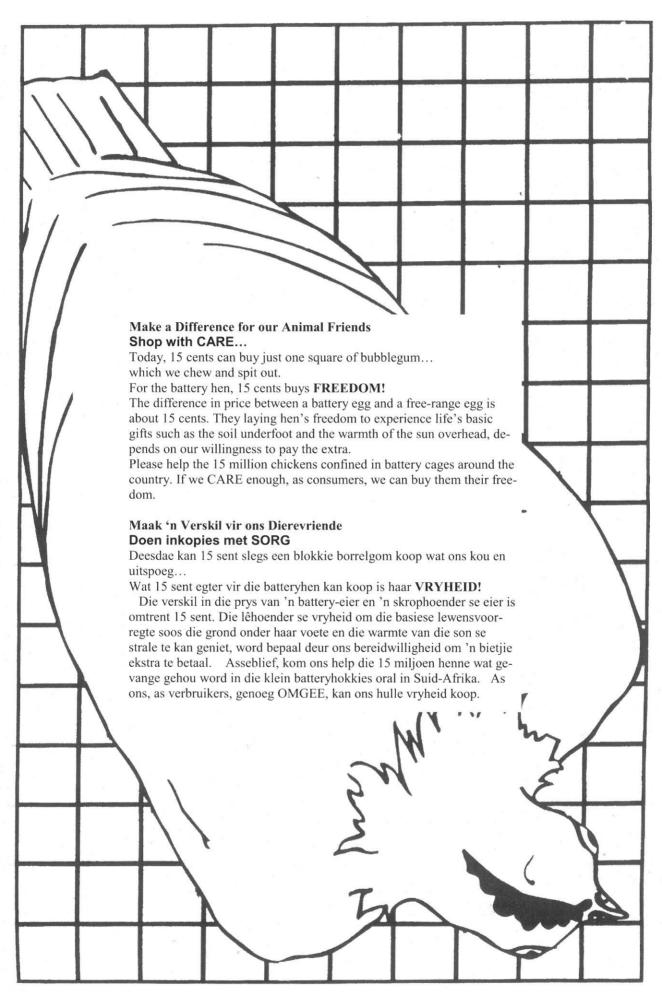
As feminist Norma Benny writes: 'Liberty is a holistic concept. It is neither fair not just to claim freedom for ourselves, without at the same time claiming freedom for the creatures which share the planet with us, who are cruelly oppressed from birth to death by patriarchal attitudes and systems, and who do not have women's power to organise themselves."

There is much lobbying around the globe by organisations concerned with animal welfare, for the inclusion of animals in all countries' constitutions. Lobbyists ask that constitutions reflect the rightful status of animals as **sentient beings** with **intrinsic value**. Sentient means 'capable of feeling' (including suffering). Intrinsic value means 'having an inherent value (i.e. having a value and purpose that does not depend on their utility to humans).

The challenge is to find the words to help us appreciate the true nature and intrinsic worth of animals, to cleanse our language of anti-animal slurs and insults. As Professor Raj Mesthrie says: "We need to embark upon an era of linguistic disinfection and linguistic engineering." Our own vision of the world will, as a result, become more honest, more deeply meaningful. And the animals? Well, for them, it can only get better.

With thanks to:

Reverend Professor Andrew Linzey; Anglican Society for the Welfare of Animals, UK; Farm Animal Welfare Network; The Humane Society of the United States; EarthKind – by David Selby.



Actual size of a battery hen's living space for her lifetime Werklike grootte van die lewensruimte van 'n batteryhen vir haar leeftyd



LET ME OUT!!!!

The sows that produce piglets for human consumption have a life story all of their own. Crammed into factory farms, most breeding sows spend their lives immobilised either in a dry sow stall (for the four months of her pregnancy) or in a farrowing crate (where she gives birth and spends the next 30 days while suckling the piglets). Both the stall and the crate are metal structures measuring 2 metres by 600mm (width). This is much less than the size of an ordinary door! When we take into account that the weight of a breeding sow can range from about 140 kgs to 250 kgs, depending on variables such as age, we can rightly wonder just how we can impose such awful confinement on an animal which, every bit as intelligent as the family dog, is designed to trot around and root in the ground! There are about 120 000 breeding sows confined in these contraptions in South Africa. The difference in cost between a kg of free range pork and a kg of factory farmed pork is a mere 50 cents. If you eat pork, you can give sows their freedom simply by demanding free range pork. It IS available in South Africa. If it's not available at your supermarket, you need to tell your supermarket manager to ring in the changes.

Agreement has been reached to ban sow stalls in the EU.

LAAT MY HIER UITKOM!!!!

Die varksôe wat jong varkies produseer vir menslike gebruik het 'n lewensverhaal van hulle eie. Hulle word saamgepak in fabrieksplase en meeste van die sôe bring hulle lewens deur sonder enige beweegruimte, d.w.s. óf in die droë sogkrat (vir die vier maande wat sy dragtig is) óf in die kraamsalkrat (waar sy geboorte skenk en die klein varkies soog vir 30 dae). Beide hierdie kratte is metaalstrukture van 2 meter lank en 600mm wyd. Dit is kleiner as 'n gewone deur! As mens in gedagte hou dat die gewig van 'n teelsog kan wissel vanaf 140kg tot 250kg, afhangend van ouderdom ens. dan kan mens met reg wonder hoe op aarde ons sulke onmenslike inperking kan afdwing op 'n dier wat net so intelligent as 'n hond is en wat ontwikkel het as 'n dier wat vry wil rondloop en in die grond krap! Daar is sowat 120 000 teelsôe wat so ingeperk word in hierdie stelsels. Die verskil in die koste van een kilogram van hierdie fabriekplaas se varkvleis en dié van vrylopende varke is slegs 50 sent. As u varkvleis eet dan kan u vir hierdie sôe hulle vryheid gee deur slegs aan te dring op die vleis van vrylopende varke. Sulke vleis IS WEL beskikbaar in Suid-Afrika. As dit nie in u plaaslike supermark te vind is nie, vra gerus die bestuurder om dit reg te stel. Sogkratte word tans uitfaseer in die EU.