



WORLD FARM ANIMALS DAY 2007

Exposing Factory Farm and Slaughterhouse Atrocities Since 1983

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ANNUAL FARM ANIMAL DEATH TOLL DROPS

The total number of land-based animals killed for food in the U.S. this year is projected to reach 10,378 million, according to data from the U.S. Department of Agriculture's National Agricultural Statistics Service. This represents no significant change from the 2005/2006 mean of 10,381 million, and a 1% drop in the per capita figure, in light of the 1% annual U.S. population growth.

The number of fishes and other aquatic organisms killed for human and animal consumption is not reported by any agency, but is likely to exceed that number.

The 10,357 million land-based animals killed for food in 2006 includes both the 9,432 million animals reported as slaughtered by USDA and an additional 925 million, or 9% of the total, who died lingering deaths from disease, malnutrition, injury, suffocation, stress, or other deadly factory farming practices. The more egregious example are the 266 million laying hens (62% of those hatched), including 213 million males dumped to suffocate slowly in plastic garbage bags upon hatching and 53 million "spent" females dumped on the waste pile, dead or alive, after a lifetime of laying eggs.

The 2007 total of 10,378 million includes 39 million cattle and calves (about even with the 38.7 million in 2006), 121 million pigs (up 2.6% from 118 million), 4 million sheep and goats, 10 million rabbits, 317 million turkeys (up 5% from 302 million), 28 million ducks (down 7% from 30 million), 9,409 million "broilers" (down slightly from 9,428 million) and 450 million laying hens (up 5% from 426 million).

In more personal terms, during a 75-year life span, a typical U.S. resident is responsible for the suffering and death of 10 cows, 34 pigs, and other small mammals, 2,535 turkeys, chickens and ducks, and uncounted numbers of fishes and other aquatic animals.

The 10,357 million animals raised and killed for food in 2006 accounted for 98% of land-based animals abused and killed annually in the U.S. Another 250 million animals were killed for "sport," in biomedical laboratories, in pounds, or as "pests."

The report on the number of victims of animal agriculture is compiled each year by *FARM*, a public interest organization, in connection with the annual observance of **World Farm Animals Day**, launched in 1983 to expose and memorialize the suffering and deaths of animals in the world's factory farms and slaughterhouses. This 25th annual observance is co-sponsored by *In Defense of Animals* and *PETA*.

On October 2nd (Gandhi's birthday), nearly 400 communities in all 50 states and 24 other countries hosted video screenings, information tables, exhibits, leafleting, marches, vigils, memorial services, and mourning festivals. Hundreds of giant billboards and bus display cards in major metropolitan areas carried the message to millions. A number of governors and mayors issued supportive proclamations.

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