



# Labour supports bloodsports

**Although Labour pushed through a ban on hunting with dogs, the government is trying to appease bloodsports fanatics by backing 'gamebird' shooting.**

At the 2007 Labour Party conference, Ministers – including the Sports Minister, Gerry Sutcliffe; Rural Affairs Minister, Jonathan Shaw; and Home Office Minister, Vernon Coaker – gave their support to the shooting industry at a reception organised by the British Association for Shooting & Conservation.

Every year, around 40 million pheasants and partridges are factory-farmed to be shot for so called 'sport'. As part of the production process, tens of thousands of breeding birds are imprisoned in metal battery cages for the whole of their productive lives.

Animal Aid's undercover evidence found that the caged birds suffer emaciation, feather-loss and are

injured by their frustrated and distraught cage-mates. Many of the pheasants lunge repeatedly at their cage roofs in a desperate attempt to escape.

Only 40 per cent of the released birds are shot and recovered. Others perish from exposure, starvation, disease, predation or under the wheels of motor vehicles.

Many other animals including weasels, foxes and birds of prey – and even cats and dogs – are trapped, snared, poisoned and shot every year in 'predator control' programmes.

**It is vital that the Labour government stops supporting and promoting this cruel and bloody activity.**

Please sign the slip below and send it back to Animal Aid.

Thank you.



Dear \_\_\_\_\_ MP

I am disgusted that the Labour government supports a bloodsport that involves the factory farming of 40 million pheasants and partridges every year so that they can be released and shot for pleasure. Please ask DEFRA Secretary of State Hilary Benn (not the pro-shoot Animal Welfare Minister, Lord Rooker) to end Labour's support for this vicious bloodsport.

Name: \_\_\_\_\_ Address: \_\_\_\_\_

Postcode: \_\_\_\_\_

**Please return to Animal Aid, The Old Chapel, Bradford Street, Tonbridge, Kent, TN9 1AW and we will forward to your MP.**

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