These stressed, feather-pecked partridges are used by the shooting industry to produce offspring who will be fattened up, released into the countryside and shot for ‘sport’. The breeding pair themselves will spend weeks, maybe months, in this barren metal box.

Then, when they are no longer profitable egg-producers, they too are often released to be shot for ‘sport’.

bangamebirdcages.org.uk
The plight of pheasants
While egg-producing partridges are caged in pairs, pheasants are confined in larger groups – eight to ten females and one male to each cage. Our undercover filming has revealed pheasant cages as devoid of basic comfort as those used for partridges, without nest boxes, foraging materials or enrichment.

Our evidence demonstrates that the caged birds often suffer from feather loss and back wounds – much of it from stress-induced aggression. In an attempt to limit the damage, restraining devices are often fitted over their beaks. Caged pheasants can also suffer head injuries as a result of repeatedly lunging at the cage roofs, as they try to escape.

If all that wasn’t bad enough, the cages are exposed to the elements, leaving the birds with little escape from the wind, rain, cold and burning sun. We have recorded temperatures inside the cages as low as -4°C and as high as 41°C.

Help our fight against the cruel shooting industry
Most people are still unaware that birds like those shown on this leaflet are used to produce the millions of pheasants and partridges who are destined to become nothing more than feathered targets for shooters.

Animal Aid wants to see an end to the killing of animals for so-called sport, but as an immediate and urgent measure, we are calling for a total ban on the cruelly oppressive cages used to imprison these poor birds.

Visit bangamebirdcages.org.uk to see the latest information on how you can help.