



ANIMAL AID

RIGHTS • RESPECT • COMPASSION
FOR ALL ANIMALKIND

**This
little calf**

...is taken away from his mother shortly after birth, so that the milk meant for him can be bottled for us to drink



Dairy's dirty secret ... the integrated dairy and beef industries

You may be shocked to learn that every year in the UK, over 50,000 male calves are transported and killed in slaughterhouses when they are less than a month old. Another 50-60,000 are killed on farms directly. The dairy industry and the meat industry are fundamentally linked.

Of all calves born in the dairy herd, around a third will go on to replace their worn-out mothers. The remaining calves – male and female – are surplus to requirements and will be killed.

Stolen babies, stolen milk

Cows must be made pregnant to produce milk, and the vast majority of the resulting calves are separated from their mothers soon after birth. This may cause significant distress to both the cow and the calf.

Animal Aid's recent investigation of a dairy farm in Somerset shows scores of calf hutches, each confining a baby cow to a tiny space in all weathers, with just a plastic shell and some straw for thermal comfort. These hutches are common and standard practice for the dairy industry for calves up to the age of around 8 weeks old.



'Rearing calves in isolation has a negative impact on their mental well-being, as it restricts their ability to play and interact with other cows, especially their mothers, and an inability to feed when they please' - Dr. Helen Lambert, internationally renowned animal welfare scientist and expert on animal sentience.

Natural?

Female mammals produce milk for their young, but their offspring will stop drinking milk once they are old enough to eat solids. Only humans continue to consume milk into adulthood, and only humans consume the milk of other species. The fact that around 70% of the global adult population is intolerant to, or cannot properly digest, a sugar called lactose found in cows' milk is evidence of how unnatural this is.



Milk-producing machines

Under natural circumstances, cows produce only enough milk to feed their newborn calves. The dairy industry ensures a constant supply of milk by repeatedly impregnating cows, invariably by artificial insemination. Through increasingly intensive breeding and feeding regimes, they are forced to produce as much as 50-60 litres of milk per day – many times more than is natural.



Did you know that a happy, relaxed cow can even purr like a cat when they are stroked or cuddled?

Disease

There are around 36 cases of lameness in every 100 UK dairy cows each year and many suffer from laminitis – an agonising inflammation of the feet.

Mastitis causes a cow's udder tissue to become inflamed, painful and weeping and can often cause pus to seep into milk. It can be caused by environmental pathogens or can be passed from cow to cow. There are over 30 cases of mastitis for every 100 cows. Current regulations allow milk to contain hundreds of millions of pus cells per litre.



Zero-grazed

Our desire for cheap milk products means that an increasing proportion of the UK milk yield comes from 'zero-grazed' animals, who are almost permanently confined in barren sheds.

Goat and sheep milk

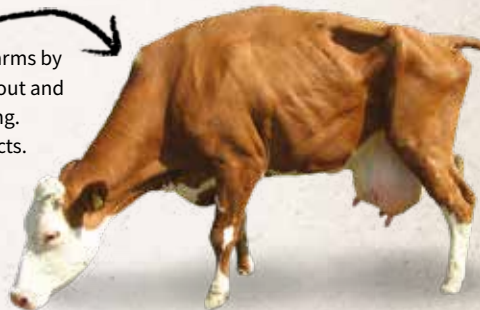
Milk from other animals, such as goats and sheep, is produced in a similar way, with most goats and a growing number of sheep being zero-grazed.

Overworked

Cows can naturally live to around 25 years old, yet on modern farms by the time they reach five years old their bodies are usually worn out and physically exhausted by repeated forced pregnancies and milking. Then they are sent to the slaughterhouse for cheap meat products.



Cows are very sociable animals and make wonderful mothers: they have been known to break out of fields and search miles for their stolen babies, who are taken by farmers so that humans can have all their milk.



Milk and health

We don't need milk to stay healthy as we can obtain all the nutrients we need from plant-based foods. Cows' milk contains powerful hormones that encourage the rapid growth of calves. One of these, called IGF-1, has been reported to accelerate the

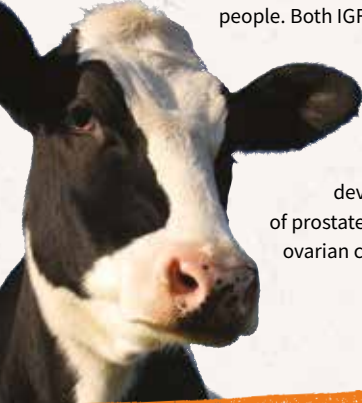
growth of malignant tumours in people. Both IGF-1 and dairy

consumption in general

have been associated

with the development

of prostate, breast and ovarian cancers.



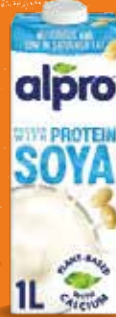
Egg-laying hens suffer too

It's not just dairy cows and their calves who suffer at the hands of the farming industry. Did you know that the male chicks of egg-laying hens are usually killed at just a day old? Or that more than a third of British eggs still come from hens confined in crowded cages? You can learn more about the egg industry and chickens, via our website. See below.



Choose vegan

Choosing not to buy meat, milk and eggs is the only way to ensure that your food is cruelty-free. And with supermarkets and high street shops now stocking a huge range of animal-free products, it's never been easier to go vegan.



For a FREE Go Vegan pack, contact Animal Aid at:

The Old Chapel, Bradford Street, Tonbridge, Kent, TN9 1AW
01732 364546 | info@animalaid.org.uk | www.animalaid.org.uk



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

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