



Arguments for factory farming

Animal welfare

- Farmed animals don't have feelings and emotions like us or like pet animals.
- Animals in factory farms have spent their whole lives inside sheds so they don't know any different – what they have never had, they don't miss.
- Animals inside factory farms are well looked after – this country has some of the strictest animal welfare laws in the world.
- Animals are happy in factory farms because they are protected from the rain and cold in the winter and the hot weather in the summer – they are kept warm, comfortable and well fed.
- Feeding people affordable, good quality food is more important than any animal suffering.
- Mother pigs in factory farms are put into a farrowing crate to give birth and rear their piglets. This is done to protect the piglets and to stop the mother crushing them.

Environmental impact

- Rearing animals intensively inside sheds means they take up less land, which means there's more land for natural habitats such as woods and wild meadows.

Economics

- Factory farms produce meat, eggs and milk far more cheaply than free-range farms.
- If we stop factory farming, poor people will not be able to afford to buy meat.
- Factory farms are important to the economy – they provide cheap food for shops to sell and people to eat.
- Lots of people are employed by the factory farming industry – as well as farm workers, there are animal feed suppliers, vets and livestock equipment manufacturers.
- 96% of the birds we eat in the UK are reared on factory farms and for pigs the figure is 85% – we simply don't have the space to raise that number of animals on free-range farms.