INQUIRY INTO USE OF BATTERY CAGES FOR HENS IN THE EGG PRODUCTION INDUSTRY

Name: Name suppressed

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Partially Confidential

Hens confined to small cages is cruel and inhumane. They are some of the most intensively confined animals in agribusiness, suffering an intolerably cruel life.

Caged hens are denied many natural behaviours that are vital for their welfare. Numerous scientists have spoken about animal welfare problems with battery cages. One such scientist, Nobel Prize winner Dr. Konrad Lorenz, said:

"The worst torture to which a battery hen is exposed is the inability to retire somewhere for the laying act. For the person who knows something about animals it is truly heart-rending to watch how a chicken tries again and again to crawl beneath her fellow cagemates to search there in vain for cover."

Confining hens to cages is unnecessary, cruel and needs cease being considered an acceptable farming method.