

Submission
No 240

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

Name: Name suppressed

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Partially
Confidential

As a member of the public I write to express my concern of the ongoing caged hen practices in the animal agriculture industry. From my personal experience of growing up with hens, I have observed their natural desire to seek comfort by choosing where to nest and rest, witnessed their curiosity in exploring their surroundings and seen their quest for keeping themselves hygienically clean through dust bathing. All of these natural behaviours are denied when hens are confined to cage living.

Expanding further on their efforts to stay clean, like any animal, all seek to be away from excrement, for instance, if we compare with the behaviour of dogs and cats, of which many are more familiar, it is observed that cats and dogs wish to do their 'business' away from the home. Hen's are the same, as are all animals, yet caged hens have to endure the excrement of other hens in cages above them constantly dripping into their cage and onto their bodies, of which eventually cause painful burns in their skin.

I request for the living conditions of caged hens to be carefully considered as though they were cats and dogs in those cages. Could we imagine this suffering happening to our companion animals?