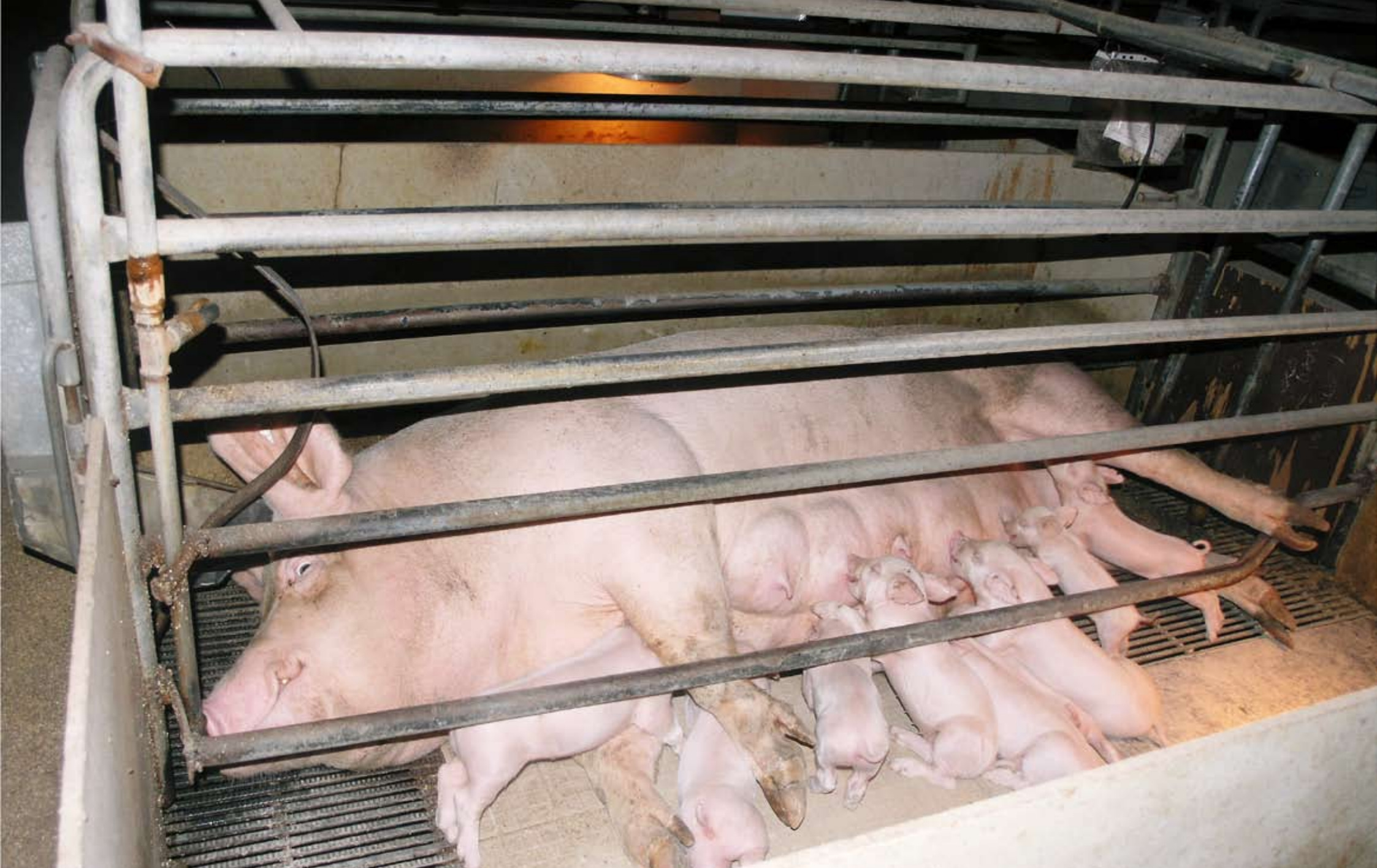




Anyone lucky enough to have hung out with a pig knows they are smart, playful and affectionate animals, much like the family dog!



In Australia, it is legal to lock a mother pig in a barren metal cage for the full 16 weeks of her pregnancy. She can't turn around, she can't lie properly ... she can barely move. Imagine being locked in a phone booth for 4 months.



Before giving birth a mother pig is moved to an even smaller space where she's treated as nothing more than a milk machine for her babies. She is barely able to move and is unable to interact with her young.





Male piglets scream and thrash in pain as they are castrated without pain relief. Piglets also face having their tail cut off without anaesthetic.



Piglets' teeth are cut or ground, exposing the soft sensitive pulp inside. This is done without pain killers, and the pain can last for weeks.



Chickens are highly social animals and spend much of their time in the company of friends pecking and scratching for food. Their beaks are highly sensitive to help them find food. They also enjoy cleaning themselves with a dust bath and lying in the sun.



Factory farms pack tens of thousands of birds into overcrowded sheds. These birds are denied sunlight, fresh air or access to the outside.





Chicks on factory farms are bred to grow much faster than their bodies can cope. Roughly 2% of all chickens in sheds die from illness, from being trampled to death or from starvation and thirst as they are unable to lift their own unnatural body weight to reach food and water.





The floors of broiler sheds are not cleaned for the entire time chicks live there. The stench of ammonia is overbearing, causing respiratory and eye problems. If a bird lays too long on the damp faeces covered floor she can suffer severe chemical burns to her skin.



At the slaughterhouse, each chicken is electrically stunned and her throat is slit by a motorised blade. If she had her head lifted and missed the 'stunning bath' then she may have her throat slit whilst fully conscious.





Battery hens live in a space smaller than an A4 piece of paper. They cannot even stretch their wings. It takes a battery hen roughly 30 miserable hours in this tiny space to produce just one egg.





Battery hens must share their cramped cage with several other birds. The crowded conditions cause frustration, and can even mean some birds may not get proper access to food and water. Weaker hens may die, unnoticed, trampled by their cage mates, and rotting in their cage.

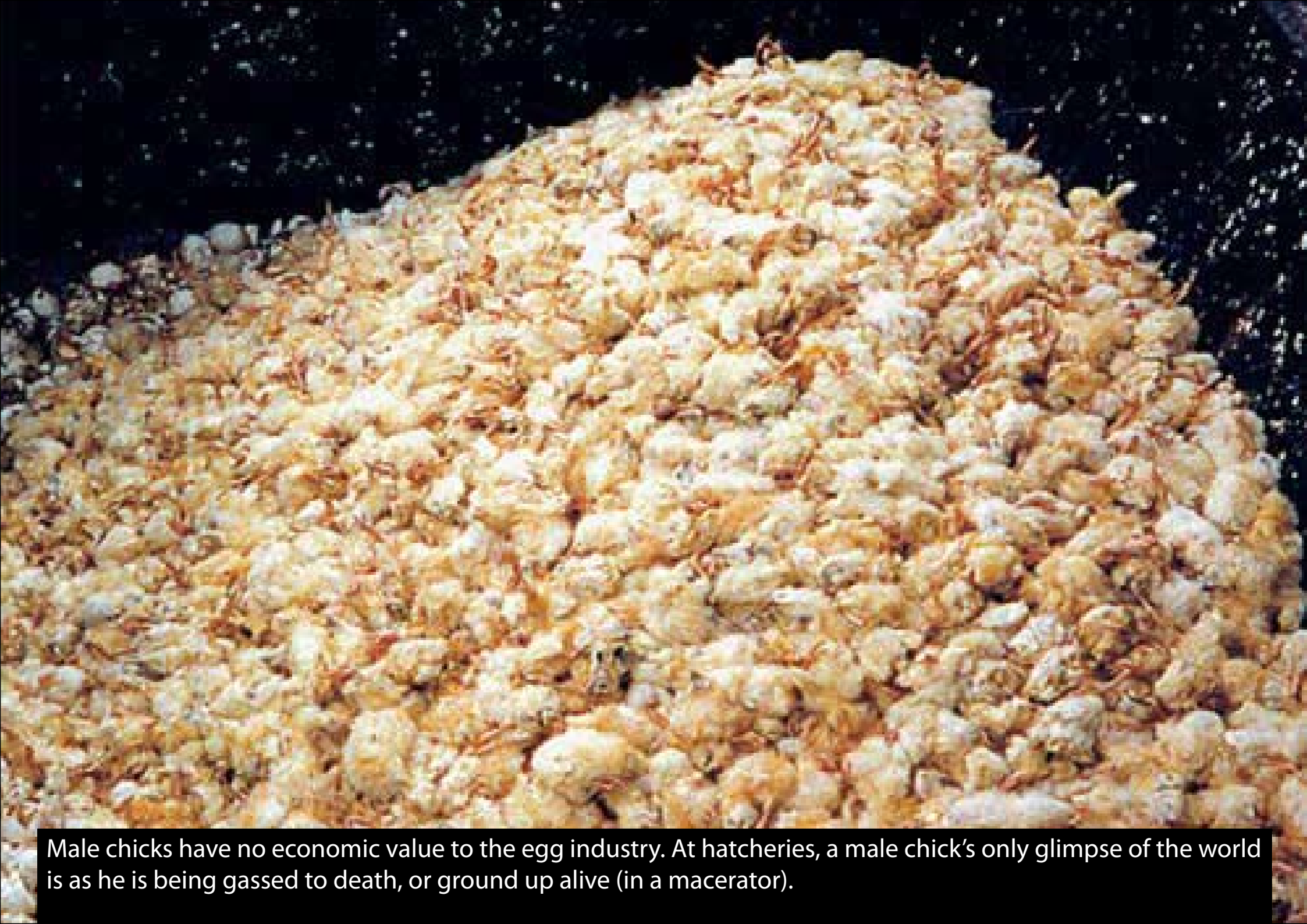




Hens can also suffer severe 'defeathering' from rubbing painfully against their wire enclosures. Their feet can become entangled in the wire that they are forced to unnaturally stand on 24 hours a day. To compound their misery, lack of exercise causes hens' bones to become weak, brittle and break easily.



To prevent birds turning to cannibalism and mutilating each other in frustration, farmers (including some free-range farmers) cut the tips of the birds' beaks off. This is done without pain relief and can cause ongoing pain.



Male chicks have no economic value to the egg industry. At hatcheries, a male chick's only glimpse of the world is as he is being gassed to death, or ground up alive (in a macerator).



Cows are well known for their gentle nature and the close bonds formed between mother and calf. Many people don't realise that cows have a world of emotions that could be likened to our own. As the author of *The Secret Lives of Cows*, Rosamund Young says "[Cows] can be highly intelligent, moderately so, or slow to understand; friendly, considerate, aggressive, docile, inventive, dull, proud, or shy." Experts now know cows can even hold a grudge!





As calves, most cattle (including dairy cows) suffer painful surgical procedures without pain relief, such as: branding, disbudding (where their sensitive horn tissue is scraped out of their skulls with a knife or scooping implement), tail docking and males are castrated. Cattle who have not been disbudded, often have their horns cut off, without anything to ease the pain.



At the slaughterhouse, cattle have a three inch bolt shot into their skull. This crude procedure doesn't always work, and sometimes it can take several painful attempts to knock out or kill the animal. After this their throat is cut and they are strung up to bleed to death.



Far from green rolling pastures, today's feedlots are prison camps for cattle.



Calves are stolen away from their mother within 24 hours of being born. After being separated, the distressed mother and calf will cry out for each other for many days. Calves are packed onto trucks for the journey to the slaughterhouse, during which they are denied food and water.





At 5 days of age, calves from the dairy industry can be packed into trucks, sold for pink veal or simply killed as 'waste-products'. Each year, the dairy industry kills up to one million calves as 'waste products'.



Selective breeding and genetic manipulations mean that a dairy cow now produces up to 35-50 litres of milk per day. That's 10 times the milk that her calf would naturally need. Many cows suffer ligament and foot problems from the excessive weight.



Fish have unique personalities and many enjoy the company and touch of others. Dr Culum Brown, a specialist in fish behaviour from Macquarie University (NSW) says 'Fish are more intelligent than they appear. In many areas, such as memory, their cognitive powers match or exceed those of 'higher' vertebrates including non-human primates'. Brown has found that older fish teach younger fish, for example about predators, even including the sound of trawler engines.



Fish certainly feel pain! They actually have a nervous system very similar to ours and other mammals. They have particularly sensitive lips and mouths. Why? Because they use this part of their body much like we use our hands, to feel about and look for food. Imagine if that hook was ripping through the flesh of a dog or cat.





As animals caught in trawling nets are pulled upwards towards the water's surface the change in pressure causes their eyes to balloon out, and their swimming bladder to explode.



Drift gill nets catch fish by their gills, a painful and even fatal experience. Dolphins, whales, and seals may also get caught and drown, unable to reach the surface. Sharks too may suffocate if they get caught, as they rely on movement to breathe.