

**Crippled by the system : intensively reared chickens, dying and deformed!
/ Friends of Animals Under Abuse (FAUNA).**

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CRIPPLED BY THE SYSTEM



Broiler chickens unable to stand, dying at a Sun Valley poultry farm

**Intensively reared chickens,
dying and deformed !**



Photo © FAUNA



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INFANT CHICKS LEGS SUPPORTING 'ADULT' BODIES !

● Last year, over 792 million chickens were produced in Britain for their meat. Most chickens destined for the table are reared intensively in squalid conditions, fed growth promoting antibiotics and slaughtered at 6-7 weeks of age when they are still baby birds.

● They are crammed into foul smelling dark, windowless sheds and kept in huge numbers. Each shed may contain up to 100,000 birds.

● Due to selective breeding and growth promoters, these birds have been bred to put on the maximum amount of weight in the shortest time. **The unnatural growth rate results in birds suffering from heart attacks, soft crippled bones, slipped tendons and dislocated hips. As enormous strain is put on their young growing bones, grotesque leg and feet deformities result. Their suffering is a direct result of the poultry industry's desire to maximise profit.**

● Their rapid growth rate leaves them with no alternative but to struggle towards the feed and water points in competition with the tens of thousands of other birds. Many don't survive. Every year around 45 million chickens die in broiler units from stress, starvation, dehydration and disease. No other industry would accept such a high failure rate. Dead birds decompose in the litter on the shed floor. Living birds peck at their corpses. **Even if they were allowed to live on to 18 weeks, only 20% would survive. Over 630 million of them would die before they reached 4 1/2 months old.**

● Around 90% of commercial broiler chickens cannot walk normally and 26% suffer chronic pain and discomfort from leg weakness.

● Broiler sheds are never cleaned out during the life-time of any one crop of birds, so the litter becomes damp, solid and contaminated with droppings. By the end of their brief lives, these genetically manipulated baby giants sag down onto the ammonia-ridden floor. They burn themselves when they rest on the litter, causing painful breast blisters, hock burns and ulcerated feet.

YOU CAN CHANGE THIS

- Don't eat chicken meat
- Send for our fact sheets
- Join us now !



Photos © FAUNA

This chicken, suffering with a crippling leg deformity, tries to reach the water point but continually falls over. (Sun Valley)

Figures taken from MAFF statistics and The Agricultural & Food Research Council's Institute of Food Research.

FRIENDS OF ANIMALS UNDER ABUSE (FAUNA)

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