Other Types of Intensive Farming

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Overview – Types of “Farming”

**Food**
- “Exotic Meat”
- Aquatic Animals
- Foie Gras
- Insects
- Animal Feed
  - Farmed animals
  - Companion animals

**Apiculture – bees**

**Non-Food breeding**
- Research
- Companion animals
- Fur
- Racing
- Hunting

Apologies for some unpleasant photos
Approach to Problem Solving

• Need to understand
  • The problem exists
  • Relevant facts
  • Scope of problem

• Consider how this problem relates to others
  • Who is affected negatively?
  • Who profits?
  • Who is working on this or related issues?

• Legal and Regulatory framework

• Science – understanding impacts

Focus for today
Animals Used for Food

- “Exotic Meat”
- Aquatic Animals
- Foie Gras
- Insects
- Animal Feed
  - Farmed animals
  - Companion animals
- Apiculture - bees
“Exotic Meat” – Farming Bison

• U.S.
  • Wild population reduced from 80 million to 4,000 in 200 years
  • 500,000 on private ranches/farms
  • 60,000 processed annually

• Canada – 120,000
  • Sold for $5,000-$6,000 each
  • Herd numbers stay the same, on fewer farms - was 1,200, now 975

• Australia – still growing industry
• Not hugely intensive production
“Exotic Meat” - Kangaroo

• Culled, not farmed
  • For human and “pet” meat
  • Hides for leather

• Largest slaughter of wildlife on the planet

• 90 million kangaroos and wallabies killed in last 20 years

• Red Kangaroo on brink of population collapse

• Interferes with aboriginal spiritual connection
“Exotic Meat” - Horses

• U.S. – 2017 – 30,000 sent to slaughter in Canada & Mexico
  • 101,123 killed in US – 2006
• 2005 - consumption
  • China – 421,000 tons
  • Mexico – 76,770 tons
  • Kazakhstan – 54,000 tons
• E.U. – 200,000 killed for food annually
• Worldwide – over 4.7 million horses slaughtered (2005)

• China exports 170-197 million tons a year
• Russia planning to double production by 2020
  • Committed 180 million rubles to subsidize production
• Not commercially farmed for food, leads to
  • Safety issues
  • Welfare issues
“Exotic Meat” – Farming Crocodiles

• Hides are the main product - meat is the by-product

• U.S. – 2014
  • 37 production facilities
  • 4 states (LA, FL, GA, TX)
  • $85 million worth of hides and meat

• Thailand – 1.2 million crocodiles

• Africa – Zimbabwe, Zambia, South Africa largest operators

• 1 million skins traded internationally annually
“Exotic Meat” - Dogs

- 30 million killed for food annually
  - Mostly Asia & Nigeria
  - Some figures include animals killed for fur as well
- Not farmed in large numbers
  - Strays or stolen pets
- U.S.
  - Legal to eat
  - Illegal to slaughter or sell as food
- Sometimes passed off as different meat
Farming Aquatic Animals

• Types
  • Lobster
  • Oysters
  • Crabs
  • Fish
  • Shrimp
  • Mussels
  • Etc.

• Not going to discuss
  • Just show you some examples of farming styles
Aquatic Animals

- Lobsters
- Oysters
- Crabs
- Fish
- Shrimp
- Mussels

Lobsters
Lobsters
Aquatic Animals

• Lobster
• Oysters
• Crabs
• Fish
• Shrimp
• Mussels
Crabs
Fish
Aquatic Animals

• Lobster
• Oysters
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Aquatic Animals

• Lobster
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Foie Gras

- France – numbers falling
  - 2015 – 37 million ducks
  - 2016 – 29 million ducks
  - 2017 – 23 million ducks
    - 700,000 geese
- Spain – 1,150,000 ducks killed each year
- Worldwide numbers
  - 2013-2016 - 33.7 million birds killed for foie gras export
- California ban upheld
Insect Farming

- For human consumption
  - And cricket fighting, etc.
- For use in food – dyes
  - Cochineal in Peru
  - 2006 – 2,300 tons
  - $39.6 million USD
  - 85% of world market
- For poultry feed
- For pet food
- Single cricket farm
  - 140,000 crickets per day
  - 6 million on farm at a time
Insects – 2018 Global Market

• Edible insect market in millions
  • 14.2 – Middle East & Africa
  • 44.1 – U.S.
  • 82.1 – Europe
  • 92.2 – Latin American
  • 173.9 – Asia-Pacific

• Crickets – U.S. commercial
  • Billions sold annually
    • Food
    • Bait to pet stores
    • Educational facilities

• Market growing significantly and globally
Food for Animals

• Impossible to get truly accurate numbers
• Raising fish to feed to farmed fish – billions
• Insects bred to feed animals in ag and companion settings
• Legal to feed animals
  • Rendered animals, including of their own species
  • Rendered road kill
  • Dead horses
  • Euthanized cats and dogs
  • Animal protein products can include rendered feathers, hair, skin, hooves, blood, intestines
• This actually keeps production of animals down somewhat
Apiculture - Bees

- Farmed for:
  - Honey
  - Beeswax
  - Pollen
  - Royal jelly
  - Propolis
  - Pollination - significant use

- U.S. - 2016
  - 1,600 beekeepers
  - 80 billion bees at end of California almond bloom
  - Single box contains 19,200 adult European honeybees
  - 90.5 million beehives

- Industry growing
- Less natural pollination
- Bees suffering from colony collapse and other issues
Breeding/Farming for Research

• For bio-medical, toxicology, pharmaceutical research
  • Perhaps 200 million terrestrial animals bred annually in U.S. alone
  • Unknown millions of aquatic animals
    • Totals unknown – record keeping not required for most animals used
  • Different animals preferred in different countries
  • Some regulation of breeding animals for research – not much
    • Animals can go to, or from, other use settings (zoos, commercial owners, etc.)

• For agricultural research
  • 580,000 animals housed in one facility - over 30 year period
  • A number of centers in U.S. and other countries
  • Conditions for animals in these facilities can be far below state welfare standards due to aspects of research protocols
Breeding Companion Animals – U.S.

- Animals owned – 2017-2018
  - Freshwater fish – 139.3 million
  - Cats – 94.2 million
  - Dogs – 89.7 million
  - Birds – 20.3 million
  - Saltwater fish – 18.8 million
  - Small animal – 14 million
  - Reptile – 9.4 million
  - Horses – 7.6 million

- 2018 – Estimated $72.13 billion dollar industry
  - $43.2 in 2008

- Ownership in U.S. increasing
  - More animals bred for captivity
  - More animals bred to feed companion animals
  - Pet food – $28.6 million yearly

- AWA has some regulations and permits for breeding and transportation
  - Few resources to enforce for hundreds of millions of animals
  - Standards are not stringent
Farming for Fur

• Animals farmed for fur (not primarily food)
• Global industry
  • 2011 – $15.6 billion
  • 2013 - $35.8 billion
  • 2015 - $40 billion
  • 2017 - $40 billion
  • 1 billion rabbits annually
  • 100 million other animals bred for fur
    • Doesn’t include animals trapped for fur
• Farming Minks – 2013 U.S. – 3 million annually ($300 million)
• Slaughter conditions create significant suffering to protect the fur
  • No regulation of methods (some limits on trapping)
• Some cities banning the sale of fur, including LA
Breeding for Racing - Greyhounds

• U.S.
  • Rapid change – 59% decline between 2004-2014
  • 80,000 dogs registered between 2008-2014
  • 300 breeding facilities and kennels

• Six other countries allow greyhound racing

• Healthy, but slow, animals are killed
  • Australia estimates 17,000 killed per year
    • Some by the “re-homing” program
  • UK – one person killed and buried 10,000 in 2006 (paid $10 each)

• Few regulations in U.S. affect breeding
  • Enforcement not prioritized or well funded
Breeding for Hunting

**U.S.**
- Estimated 1.3 million exotic animals – 87 species
- Mostly in Texas – trophy fee $7,000-$15,000 per kill
- Breeding industry supplies hunting operations
- Also breed deer (naturally & artificially) – breeding buck - $250,000

**South Africa**
- Lions - for hunts and petting, buying European zoo lions
  - 174 farms, 8,000 captive born lions
  - 20,000 lions in wild
- Tigers – for bone, skin, and tourist (petting) trade
- Rhinos – largest farm - 1,500 rhinos and 6 ton stockpile of horn
Breeding for Other Uses

- **Hides and Leather**
  - Over a billion animals killed annually
  - Majority slaughtered for food
  - Ostriches raised for skin, not food in Africa
    - 300,000 killed annually
  - Donkeys – millions killed annually for meat, skins & medicine

- **Medicine**
  - 90,000 PMU mares in China alone

- **Military uses – U.S.**
  - 2007 - 488,237 used (numbers no longer public)
  - Medical and non-medical research
  - Studying effects of conventional and biological weapons
  - 20,000 service dogs
Breeding for Other Uses

• **Feathers**
  • Billions in revenue each year
  • Birds often plucked 3-4 times a year

• **Fighting** – birds, dogs, and other animals

• **Hoarders** – unintentional breeding

• **Guide dogs** – breeding colony to maintain desirable traits
Problem Solving

• Multi-pronged approaches
  • Legislation
  • Litigation
  • Social activism and education
  • Use of science

• Look at
  • Laws that allow behavior
  • Laws that regulate but aren’t being enforced
  • Where new laws are needed

• Need to stop seeing animals as an endless resource

• Costs of their suffering must be calculated in their confinement

• Need new restrictions on breeding
  • Require permits for activities
  • Additional requirements for those breeding animals
  • Limit permits granted
Thank you!

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