



## 2 Learn about Intensive Livestock Operations

If you aren't familiar with the issues surrounding factory farms, your first step is to educate yourself. There is a lot of information to absorb. We strongly urge you to use the web, if possible. If you don't own a computer, try your public library or see if a friend can help. And never underestimate the resourcefulness of your local reference librarian.

Be sure to get a copy of the proposed ILO application and your area bylaws as they apply to intensive livestock operations.

The following resources will help you find the information you need.

### General

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#### **Beyond Factory Farming Coalition**

The BFFC web site provides information on Canadian ILO issues. You can also call the office for information at 1-877-955-6454.

[www.beyondfactoryfarming.org](http://www.beyondfactoryfarming.org)

#### **Educational Tools**

The *Educational Tools* section of this handbook provides fact sheets and handouts to help educate yourself and others. You can copy these to distribute in your community and to hand out at meetings.

#### **Beyond Factory Farming Coalition's national email list-serve**

Join the list-serve and keep up to date on the factory farm issue and what other people are doing. Subscribe at:

[lists.riseup.net/www/info/beyondfactoryfarming](http://lists.riseup.net/www/info/beyondfactoryfarming)

#### **Talk and listen**

Speak with people who already live around factory farms. Take notes, including the dates and times you spoke with them. Read the testimonials in the *Educational Tools* section and those available online.

[www.factoryfarm.org/takingaction-testimonials.html](http://www.factoryfarm.org/takingaction-testimonials.html)

#### **Find the Decision-makers**

Find out who (which level(s) of government, which agency) has decision-making power for this ILO. There may be several layers of decision-making involved in the ILO approval. Find out not only the departments, but also the key people who will have a say over this project.

## Reading

### **Beyond Factory Farming: Corporate Hog Barns and the Threat to Public Health, the Environment, and Rural Communities**

Examines the changes resulting from industrialization of the hog sector and the effects they have on family farms, the food we eat, conditions of work, communities, and the relationship of governments to corporations and citizens. This book highlights, not just the Canadian hog sector, but structural forces at work reshaping communities and economies around the world. Available from the Canadian Centre for Policy Alternatives (CCPA).

[www.beyondfactoryfarming.org/english/action/books.shtml](http://www.beyondfactoryfarming.org/english/action/books.shtml)

### **The Omnivore's Dilemma**

by Michael Pollan

In this book Pollan asks, “What should we have for dinner?” He takes the reader on a journey defined by four meals produced through four production systems: industrial, big organic, beyond organic and hunter-gatherer. Pollan’s answers have profound political, economic, psychological, and even moral implications for all of us. *The Omnivore's Dilemma* promises to change the way we think about the politics and pleasure of eating.

### **Foundations of Sand: Considering the Rationale for Factory Farming**

by Dr. Bill Weida

Factory Farms have spread across the landscape of Canada and the US on a string of claims that have misled many communities. You’ve seen “*The Meatrix*”; now see why the purported benefits of factory farms are full of holes, and the reality that lies beyond the claims. (*March, 2004*)

[www.factoryfarm.org/docs/Foundations\\_of\\_Sand.pdf](http://www.factoryfarm.org/docs/Foundations_of_Sand.pdf) (pdf)

[www.factoryfarm.org/docs/Foundations\\_of\\_Sand.doc](http://www.factoryfarm.org/docs/Foundations_of_Sand.doc) (MSWord)

### **Pollution Shopping in Rural America and Canada: The myth of economic development in isolated regions**

by Dr. Bill Weida, Professor of Economics Colorado College. November, 2001

[www.factoryfarm.org/docs/Pollution\\_Shopping\\_Update.pdf](http://www.factoryfarm.org/docs/Pollution_Shopping_Update.pdf) (pdf)

[www.factoryfarm.org/docs/Pollution\\_Shopping\\_Update.doc](http://www.factoryfarm.org/docs/Pollution_Shopping_Update.doc) (MSWord)

### **Writing Off the Rural West: Globalization, Governments and the Transformation of Rural Communities.**

Edited by Roger Epp and Dave Whitson

Some of the most intense effects of globalization can be seen in rural communities. Despite a booming world economy, rural communities—and the people who work in natural-resource industries like farming, forestry, mining or fishing—have been hard hit by recent international trade agreements. This collection looks at changing rural life, across the country and around the globe. Co-published by University of Alberta Press and the Parkland Institute.



### **Dr. John Ikerd's papers**

Dr. Ikerd is Professor Emeritus of Agricultural Economics at University of Missouri, Columbia, College of Agriculture, Food and Natural Resources. He has written many accessible papers about rural communities and sustainable agriculture. Make sure to read "*The Questions Rural Communities Should Ask About CAFOs*" and "*Top Ten Reasons for Rural Communities to be concerned about Large-scale, Corporate Hog Operations*".

[www.ssu.missouri.edu/faculty/jikerd/papers/default.htm](http://www.ssu.missouri.edu/faculty/jikerd/papers/default.htm)

### **Cesspools of Shame**

Documents how animal waste from factory farms threatens human health and our nation's rivers. A wonderfully concise handbook for activists. (*Natural Resources Defense Council and Clean Water Network, July 2001*).

[www.nrdc.org/water/pollution/cesspools/cessinx.asp](http://www.nrdc.org/water/pollution/cesspools/cessinx.asp)

### **Agriculture that Makes Sense—Making Money on Hogs**

*by the Land Stewardship Project*

This publication focuses on the 50-sow hog enterprise of one Minnesota crop and livestock operation. The case study, written by LSP's Jodi Dansingburg and Doug Gunnink of the Minnesota Department of Agriculture, compares the farm's production records to the averages of the top performing hog operations as reported in the regional Minnesota Farm Business Management Program annual report. The case-study farm minimizes expenses through such production practices as outdoor farrowing and low-cost housing.

1996–8 pages. \$4.00; \$3.60—Member discount

[www.landstewardshipproject.org/resources-pubs.html](http://www.landstewardshipproject.org/resources-pubs.html)

## **Videos**

### **The Meatrix**

Is an award-winning flash animation short video on the internet that outlines the key issues of factory farming through a take-off on the science fiction film "*The Matrix*". If you would like a CD or DVD version of the film you can order it from [leo@themeatrix.com](mailto:leo@themeatrix.com).

[www.themeatrix.com](http://www.themeatrix.com)

### **Bacon, le Film**

*(National Film Board of Canada)*

Explores the social and environmental impacts of the expansion of large-scale hog farming in Quebec in the 1990s. Director Hugo Latulippe spent a year crisscrossing the province to interview the major players in the hog industry and their opponents. Originally produced in French, also available in English.

[www.cmm.onf.ca/E/titleinfo/index.epl?id=51004](http://www.cmm.onf.ca/E/titleinfo/index.epl?id=51004)

[www.nfb.ca](http://www.nfb.ca)



### **The Fight for True Farming**

In this documentary, crop and animal farmers in Quebec, the Canadian West, the US Northeast and France offer solutions to the social and environmental scourges of factory farming. Order the film or DVD from:

[www.nfb.ca](http://www.nfb.ca)

### **Earth Rescue—Hog Factories: Corporate Injustice**

*Earth Rescue*, a television program on the Outdoor Life Network, explores controversial industrial animal factories and their effects on animals and the environment (November 2001). Contact the *Beyond Factory Farming Coalition* office to get a copy.

### **And on This Farm (1998)**

The story of a Missouri community's struggle to protect their way of life in the face of expanding hog factories. To obtain a copy, please contact:

Wendy Swann at the Animal Welfare Institute

(202) 337-2332. \$15 per copy.

[www.youtube.com/watch?v=4GmOR8EthXo](http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=4GmOR8EthXo)

### **PEI Pork**

Farmers who raise pigs in the Maritimes have no control either over the price they receive for their pigs or the costs of producing them. Pork prices are determined by a commodity market in Chicago where the whims of big buyers and sellers fix the price for all. Small family farmers on the east coast don't stand a chance when prices fall while their transportation or heating or feed costs go up. Some P.E.I. Farmers have come up with a plan where they can escape the uncertainties of the commodity market by doing something different, and this is their story. This episode of the CBC's "*Land and Sea*" program will be available for purchase from the Nova Scotia Department of Education in July 2007. Call (902) 424-2440 or email [mediacir@ednet.ns.ca](mailto:mediacir@ednet.ns.ca).

### **Frankensteer**

*The Passionate Eye* presents *Frankensteer*, a disturbing documentary that reveals how the ordinary cow has been turned into an antibiotic-dependent, hormone-laced potential carrier of toxic bacteria, all in the name of cheaper food. *Frankensteer* exposes the harsh and sometimes frightening realities of how our beef gets to our tables. For *Frankensteer* DVD orders email:

[info@paradigmpictures.com](mailto:info@paradigmpictures.com)

### **Corporate Agriculture: The Hollow Men**

*The Nature of Things Series*

Many scientists agree that we're consuming the meat and milk of unhealthy animals. While we graze at our local meat counter deciding what to buy for dinner, more and more of these international corporate farms are developing faster and cheaper ways to get food onto our plate. This food is cheap because they don't pay for the environmental and social implications of what they're doing. This program examines how a handful of companies have come to dominate food production and distribution in North America and the real price we pay.

[www.cbc.ca/natureofthings/show\\_agriculture.html](http://www.cbc.ca/natureofthings/show_agriculture.html)



## **Apocalypse Cow**

*The Nature of Things Series*

Apocalypse Cow is a two-part story about Mad Cow Disease—a rare brain disorder of cattle that has the ability to jump species. The Mad Cow epidemic started in the United Kingdom and has spread to more than 20 countries around the world. It is also a story about cover-up and greed. *Apocalypse Cow* examines new information on the tangled history and origins of the outbreak, exploring its potential impact on human health.

[www.cbc.ca/natureofthings/show\\_apocalypsecow.html](http://www.cbc.ca/natureofthings/show_apocalypsecow.html)

## **Pig Picture**

The *Pig Picture* contains investigative footage by the Humane Farming Association. This powerful 18-minute video traces the development of commercial pig rearing in America—from the small-scale family farms of yesterday—to the corporate owned pig factories of today. Does not contain scenes of animal slaughter and is suitable for group or school showings.

To obtain a copy, contact the Humane Farming Association at (415) 485-1495. Cost is \$10 per copy in VHS or DVD.

[www.hfa.org](http://www.hfa.org)

## **Northfield, Minnesota, December 7, 2001.**

*Waterkeeper Alliance presentation*

Features Robert F. Kennedy Jr., and Rick Dove. Focuses on feedlots and factory farms, and their destruction of family farms, rivers, streams, groundwater, and animal and human health. Running time is just under 3 hours. \$25 on VHS.

*Real Life Video*

*PO Box 581703*

*Minneapolis MN*

*55458-1703*

For new and recent listings, or help obtaining copies, contact the Beyond Factory Farming Coalition offices or check the website at:

[www.beyondfactoryfarming.org/english/action/films.shtml](http://www.beyondfactoryfarming.org/english/action/films.shtml)



## Sustainable Solutions and Alternatives to Factory Farming

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It is important to have a positive vision to offer as an alternative to the factory farm proposal. Here are some resources you may find helpful:

### Books

#### **Good News for a Change: How Everyday People Are Helping the Planet**

*by Dr. David Suzuki, and Holly Dressel*

Inspiring stories about the people who are making positive environmental and social contributions to our world, illustrating the hundreds of working solutions that can help all of us to achieve a better future.

[www.greystonebooks.ca/book\\_details.asp?b=829](http://www.greystonebooks.ca/book_details.asp?b=829)

#### **Holy Cows and Hog Heaven**

*by Joel Salatin*

Tackling issues from farmer integrity to consumer kitchens to cultural cheap food policies Salatin puts producers and patrons on the same team to create a farm friendly food landscape. Ultimately empowering, “*Holy Cows and Hog Heaven*” frees every food buyer from feeling enslaved by the industrial food system. This book is for anyone who wants to see healthy farms and healthy children.

#### **Real Food for a Change**

*by Wayne Roberts, Lori Stahlbrand and Rod McRae*

A powerful tool for alleviating the growing anxiety about food, this book shows us elegantly simple solutions as home-based as the dinner table. Many books deal with the connection between diet and health. Real Food for a Change connects individual health with the health of the community, the economy and the planet. This visionary guide helps you make positive environmental and ethical decisions about how and what you eat.

### Websites

#### **Growing Hope**

A special edition of *Making Waves magazine—Summer 2006*, is available on the internet. Read the magazine for insightful analysis and examples of farms and communities that are succeeding with alternatives to industrial agriculture.

[www.cedworks.com/mw1702e\\_01.html](http://www.cedworks.com/mw1702e_01.html)

#### **Canadian Organic Growers**

COG has a large assortment of books, videos and DVDs, posters, magazines, and reference series available to order.

[www.cog.ca/otherpubs.htm](http://www.cog.ca/otherpubs.htm)



### **The Canadian Centre for Organic Agriculture**

This organization conducts, coordinates and disseminates producer-oriented research and education contributing to sustainable communities.

[www.organiccentre.ca](http://www.organiccentre.ca)

### **Canada's organic regulation**

Canada's organic regulation was adopted in 2006. For details:

[canadagazette.gc.ca/partI/2006/20060902/html/regle2-e.html](http://canadagazette.gc.ca/partI/2006/20060902/html/regle2-e.html)

### **The Falls Brook Centre**

The Falls Brook Centre aims to demonstrate that it is possible to live more lightly in our environment while contributing positively to the local economy.

[www.fallsbrookcentre.ca](http://www.fallsbrookcentre.ca)

### **SlowFood Canada**

The Slow Food movement celebrates local food as an important cultural experience.

[www.slowfood.ca](http://www.slowfood.ca)

### **Holistic Management**

Holistic Management is an approach to pastured livestock production and farm decision making that supports the health of the land as well as the economic viability of the farm and community.

[www.holisticmanagement.org/](http://www.holisticmanagement.org/)

For information about Alan Savory, the founder of holistic management, and his work, see:

[www.holisticmanagement.org/new\\_site\\_05/What/W2\\_savory.htm](http://www.holisticmanagement.org/new_site_05/What/W2_savory.htm)

### **The Grass-Fed Revolution**

This article tells about a Texas rancher's conversion from industrial to grass-fed cattle production. Published in *Time Magazine*.

[www.time.com/time/magazine/article/0,9171,1200759,00.html](http://www.time.com/time/magazine/article/0,9171,1200759,00.html)

### **Orion Magazine**

Orion Magazine has posted articles from well known authors including Wendell Berry.

[www.orionmagazine.org/pages/om/OrionSelect/food-agriculture.html](http://www.orionmagazine.org/pages/om/OrionSelect/food-agriculture.html)

### **The Centre for EcoLiteracy**

The Centre for EcoLiteracy has a long list of educational tools for sustainable living.

[www.ecoliteracy.org](http://www.ecoliteracy.org)

### **The Organic Consumers Association**

the OCA is based in the USA and has excellent coverage of key food and agriculture issues.

[www.organicconsumers.org](http://www.organicconsumers.org)



