



Open letter to the Minister of Agriculture on the caging of hens

All animals deserve a life worth living, and hens are no exception. Confining hens in colony cages is not only cruel but is also completely unnecessary.

Hens are intelligent, curious and socially complex birds, and like all animals, they have natural behavioural needs. In an outdoor environment, a hen will spend her days scratching at the earth, searching for food, dust bathing, stretching her wings and basking in the sun.

Over 1.2 million hens are confined in colony cages in Aotearoa. These cages directly breach the Animal Welfare Act 1999 which requires that the physical, health and behavioural needs of animals be met. The overcrowded conditions of colony cages prevent hens from displaying normal patterns of behaviour and living a life free of unnecessary pain.

The names below represent over 250 New Zealand veterinary professionals who are speaking out in support of hens to ban colony cages.

It's time for our politicians to put the chicken before the egg and finally make caging hens illegal in New Zealand.

For the animals,

Debra Ashton
Chief Executive Officer
SAFE For Animals

Support the veterinary professionals call for a ban here



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Rebecca Long
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Dr Cherie McLeod
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Dr Marit de Jong
Dr Caroline Millicent-Twentyman
Dr Renae Griffin
Dr Mia Jane
Dr Rachel Anderson
Dr Alexandra Leander
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Dr Michelle MacKay
Jasmine Golding
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Dr James Anthony Giles Gilling
Dr Ellis van Leuven
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Dr Jeannie Tiong-Walker
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Dr Lacy Kamm
Dr Catherine Fransen
Dr Marie Murphy
Adam Hittmann
Dr Anthony Frith
Dr Richard Shorten
Gail Nordstrom
Dr Nicola Chadwick
Dr Amisha Patel
Dr Justin Silcock
Talia Gerards
Victoria Bobysheva
Kelly Boyton
Dr Brenda Kaye
Dr Michael MacDonald
Dr Christopher Lill
Dr Lynn Irving
Dr Charlotte Rutter
Dr Ella King
Dr Julia McCracken
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Amy Thomas
Cassandra Johnson
Dr Ulrike Pantel
Averlea Burgess
Gemma Young
Dr Andrew Miller
Dr Nicholas Page
Dr Andrew Wadsworth

Dr Nial Bell
Emilie Weatherall
Ellie Ceshall
Dr Stephen Roberts
Bridie Sutherland
Amanda Wooding
Dr Danielle Hawkins
Dr Max Clout
Jade Blackburn
Tiffany Schlup
Dr Sarah Northover
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Dr Wolfgang Hepe
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Tanya Ross
Sharon Callahan
Dr Geraldine Sykes
Dr Amira Mikhail
Dr Erin Dowler
Amber Hislop
Dr Daniel Lamont
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Karen Huddleston
Anna Shave
Dr Yolande Howell
Brittnee Johnston
Dr Sarah Morley
Dr Phillipa Suckling
Breanna Reed
Rachel Griffiths
Dr Ryan Carr
Dr Selena Van Vugt
Jade Stanaway
Toni Growden
Dr Matt Knight
Dr Kerry McLaughlan
Janis Leong
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Tania Farley
Julie Minchinton
Kirsten Beaumont
Teriwai Weeks
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Dr Peta Norris
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