



## Project 3.1.3 Animal Issues

### Purpose

The use of animals for food and fiber sometimes create ethical dilemmas for producers and consumers.

When using animals in agriculture, issues sometimes arise. Key issues in animal agriculture include animal research, antibiotics and growth hormones, genetic modifications, confinement operations, manure and odor, meat consumption, and slaughter practices. All of these issues have positive effects or producers would not use them. What are negative views on key issues?

Often when an issue involves emotions, misconceptions are common. A misconception is an opinion or a view on an issue that is incorrect due to a misunderstanding. For instance, many consumers believe brown eggs are more nutritious than white eggs. A producer changes the nutritive value of an egg by feeding the hen differently. The breed of chicken does not affect the nutrition of the egg. Due to misconceptions in agriculture, producers need to provide correct information to the public in order for people to make educated decisions on animal issues. What could you do to help decrease misconceptions in animal agriculture?

### Materials

#### Per pair of students:

- Computer with Internet access and printing capabilities
- Piece of tape

#### Per student:

- Pencil
- *Agriscience Notebook*

### Procedure

You will work with a partner to develop an informative flyer about a key issue in animal agriculture. Once all flyers are completed, your teacher will lead you in a gallery walk and you will use the information in the flyers to complete *Project 3.1.3 Student Worksheet*.

1. Your teacher will assign you and your partner a key issue in animal agriculture.
2. Use the Internet and research your assigned issue. Answer the following questions with your research.
  - What are two positive and negative effects of your issue on animal agriculture?
  - What common misconceptions are there about the use of this practice?
  - Have you found any reports of abuse or cruelty related to this issue?
  - What might happen if this practice is stopped?
3. Using the computer, develop a one page flyer containing the information you and your partner found in your research. Include graphics to grab attention of others. Use *Project 3.1.3 Evaluation Rubric* as a reference.
4. Print your flyer and using the piece of tape, display the flyer in an area designated by your teacher.
5. Use the flyers to complete Table 1 of *Project 3.1.3 Student Worksheet*.

## Conclusion

1. Do the benefits of the issue you researched outweigh the concerns? Explain.

Yes, because the thing is that the animals are being tested to be able to benefit humans in the way of curing some type of illness or something else. Also, we use animals to be able to see if what is being researched can help the human beings.

6. How might misconceptions affect practices in the animal industry?

The misconceptions can make researchers develop more data in what is being opinionated or questioned. To be able to get the final result in the opinion or question.

Name: \_\_\_\_\_



## Project 3.1.3 Student Worksheet

**Table 1. Animal Issues**

<b>Animal Issue</b>	<b>Positive Effect</b>	<b>Negative Effect</b>	<b>Misconception</b>
<b>Animal Research</b>	Helps researchers find drugs and treatments to improve health and medicine	Animals are killed and kept in captivity, some substances tested may never be used, it's very expensive	Animals are not relevant to people because animals are different from people
<b>Antibiotics and Growth Hormones</b>	Animals receiving antibiotics in their feed gain 4% to 5% more body weight than animals that receive antibiotics	Widespread antibiotic use has led to multidrug resistant pathogens	Animals antibiotic use is the leading contributor to resistance
<b>Genetic Modifications</b>	Animals can be engineered to require less food, grow quicker, and leave behind less environmentally damaging waste	Some food companies have refused to use meat or milk that is from genetically engineered animals	GMO's often contain and produce things that can harm humans
<b>Confinement Operations</b>			
<b>Manure and Odor</b>	Increased soil carbon and reduced atmospheric carbon levels	It stinks very bad	Manures contain harmful pathogens.
<b>Meat Consumption and Animal By-Products</b>	Effect of meat consumption and by-products is that we get food from it	Effect of meat consumption and by-products is the decreasing numbers in animal population	Farmland that's used to raise livestock would be better used as farmland
<b>Slaughter Practices</b>	Gaseous practices are a fast and beneficial way to kill a large amount of animals in a short amount of time	Animals see other animals being killed, which cause them to have anxiety and frighten them	Federal law ensures that slaughterhouses in the U.S are heavily regulated and monitored, although slaughterhouses are monitored and regulated, it was not until recently that this happened, and there are still flaws
<b>Fish Farming and Fishing</b>	Seafood makes a great export for many countries	We eat fish for dinner	Half of all the fish consumed worldwide are raised on land-or ocean-based aqua farms

<b>Hunting and Trapping</b>	Helps get rid of predators for the victims in the wild	Hunting causes a decrease in species race	Hunting causes remarkably little disturbance to other wild life because it is natural; unlike shooting, which can produce a timid and shy population particularly of deer
<b>Spaying and Neutering</b>	Spaying removes ovaries and uterus	Increases aggressive problems	Males will feel emasculated