



## Australian Rabbit Farming

2021 Exposé Video Transcripts

On Australian rabbit farms, life begins here.

Breeding adults called bucks and does are kept alone in cages.

Does will be kept alive until they are no longer productive breeders at around 13 months old.

They will be expected to produce an average of 8 litters, consisting of around 40 young, if they survive that long.

Their natural lifespan is up to 14 years.

Bucks will be used for continual breeding for up to 7 years before they are 'spent'.

A doe is mixed with a buck until she has been impregnated.

The young are born into metal cages and will spend their entire 12-week life here.

Once weaned, young rabbits are moved to growing pens where they will be fed an intensive diet under an 18-hour light cycle.

In nature, rabbits have social hierarchies. In captivity, they are denied the ability to avoid social contact with others.

As many as 10 rabbits are packed into cages of only 0.6 meters squared, affording each a space equivalent of an A4 sheet of paper.

This allows no room to express natural behaviours such as running, jumping and digging.

The wire cages dig into them, causing discomfort and sores.

The living conditions are poor in intensive rabbit farming.

Due to amount of waste produced daily, these farms are a breeding ground for disease.

## Animal Liberation

It's common for ammonia levels to well exceed the recommend safe threshold of 10 parts per million, causing respiratory issues, burns and irritations.

Due to the low standard of housing, health issues are vast.

Rabbits experience head tilt, a neurological condition triggered by stress due to the poor living conditions.

This condition is described as maddening, turning the rabbit's entire world upside down.

The psychological impacts of captivity take hold, and injury and illness are inevitable.

Despite these violations of basic needs, many of these husbandry conditions do not constitute a breach of animal welfare under the model code of practice.

This is standard practice.

Mortality rates are high on rabbit farms, and the animals' disposable.

This rabbit was discarded while still alive.

Once the rabbits have reached slaughter weight at only 12 weeks old, they will be transported to an abattoir where they will suffer electrocution, cervical dislocation or blunt force trauma, followed by being bled out and dismembered.

Rabbits are curious and adventurous.

They exhibit behaviours that show happiness and excitement.

Behaviours that are entirely unseen in rabbit farms.

Rabbit farming involves animal cruelty as standard, and it's time to put an end to it.