

I'm Piggles

*fighting for justice and
freedom for all of pigkind!*



You think we Brits have the highest animal welfare standards in the world? Poppycock and balderdash! I've discovered things on pig farms so shocking they make me jolly well ashamed.

British pig farmers claim to have the world's best welfare standards, yet 95 per cent of pigs killed for meat spend their miserably short lives in squalid, overcrowded factory farms.



Considered smarter than 3-year-old children, the nine million pigs killed for food each year mostly live in conditions like these

Viva! has secretly filmed inside dozens of British pig farms. Everywhere we pointed the camera we saw diseased, dead and dying animals. On one farm we found a skip full to the brim with dead pigs and piglets. On others, we filmed tiny, crippled piglets struggling desperately to reach their mother's teats as they slowly died of starvation. And on every farm, these highly intelligent animals were kept in filthy concrete pens without so much as a strand of straw for bedding or comfort.

In these barren surroundings, frustration leads to piglets biting each other's tails and the bloody wounds quickly become infected. This 'vice' is controlled by cutting off their tails and their teeth down to the pulp – without anaesthetic.



Discarded like rubbish or left to decompose alongside their brothers and sisters, dead piglets are a common sight in all intensive breeding units

Weaned and separated from their mothers far too early, traumatised piglets are vulnerable to numerous diseases. Meningitis, influenza, pneumonia, dysentery and wasting syndrome are all endemic on British pig farms. The sound of wheezing and coughing echoed through every pig unit we visited. Only constant dosing with drugs keeps most piglets alive to face the final terror of slaughter.



Limbs aching from inactivity, skin rubbed raw by metal bars and their maternal instincts frustrated, mother pigs suffer from stress, pain and psychological torture in the farrowing crate

But the farrowing crate is surely the British pig industry's darkest secret. Most pregnant pigs are locked in these claustrophobic cages a week before they give birth. Their imprisonment lasts for 35 long days every five months. It is a struggle to stand up or lie down and they can't even mother their piglets but simply stare at a blank wall.

Help Piggles fight for freedom for all pigkind – go veggie! Order your **FREE It's Time to Go Veggie** magazine for tasty meat-free alternatives. And join the fight against factory farming, order a Piggles Action Pack and do your bit for Britain's pigs.

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Viva!