

KANGAROOS

AN ANIMAL WELFARE CRISIS

Kangaroos are not farmed. They are hunted in the wild for meat and skins.

Every night, thousands of kangaroos are killed in rural communities.

Every year, millions of kangaroos are killed for meat and skins.

When female kangaroos are shot, their babies - joeys and young at foot - are bludgeoned to death or left to die from starvation, exposure, or predation.

The dependant young are considered “waste” by the kangaroo industry.

The number of females killed each year leads experts to estimate that, in a 10-year period, 11 million joeys are killed or left to die.



THE DANGERS OF KANGAROO MEAT

Government research found that the preservatives added to kangaroo meat cause thiamine deficiency in pets, which can be fatal.

Thiamine deficiency is difficult to diagnose in dogs and, without treatment, dogs die from a diet of kangaroo meat.

Numerous independent tests found that kangaroo meat is contaminated by dangerous bacteria, including salmonella, E. coli, streptococcus, and staphylococcus.

DECLINING NUMBERS

Kangaroos are disappearing...

Between 2018 and 2019, red kangaroo numbers declined by 71% and 82% in parts of South Australia.

Most of South Australia's kangaroo populations can be considered at risk of extinction.

In New South Wales, between 2016 and 2019, grey kangaroos declined by 98% in one region. Estimated numbers fell from 405,079 to 7,317.

In another part of New South Wales, red kangaroos declined by 95%. Estimated numbers fell from 1.5 million to 48,500.

In some parts of Queensland, kangaroos have disappeared.



AUSTRALIA'S SCAPE-GOATS

Kangaroos are labelled “pests” and blamed for damage caused by livestock.

Everybody knows that pests must be killed, so blaming kangaroos allows an industry to shoot kangaroos for profit without people complaining.

Another benefit to blaming kangaroos is that the real cause of the damage, livestock, is ignored.

KANGAROOS VS LIVESTOCK

Kangaroos are soft-footed, which means they do not damage the environment.



A United Nations report states that livestock is the major cause of land degradation in the world.

Studies proved that hard-hoofed animals, like sheep and cattle, contribute to soil compaction and erosion.



Australia grazes 69 million sheep, 27 million cattle and over 2.5 million goats. Kangaroos have declined to approximately 15 million.

Land clearing destroys kangaroo habitat. At least 61% of Australian land has been cleared for farming.

Kangaroo urine and faeces helps to naturally fertilise the soil.

A kangaroo's tail and feet regenerate native grasses by helping to push seeds into the soil.

One cow eats as much as 60 kangaroos and one sheep eats as much as 5 kangaroos.

Studies found that sheep (and cattle) produce substantially and consistently greater changes to native vegetation than grazing by kangaroos.

Studies found that kangaroos rarely visit crops or compete with sheep except when food is scarce.

SLOW BREEDERS

Kangaroos have one baby a year. A joey stays in the pouch for 11 months.

Kangaroos do not breed during drought.

25% to 30% of young do not live to adolescence. 70% to 75% do not make it to adulthood.

