

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 dependent 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.



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.

DANGERS OF KANGAROO MEAT

Some pet owners feed their animals kangaroo meat, thinking it a more sustainable and better option.

However, Government research has 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 E. coli, salmonella, streptococcus, and staphylococcus.

AUSTRALIA'S SCAPEGOATS

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

Of course, the standard approach is that pests must be killed, so blaming kangaroos allows an industry to shoot kangaroos for profit without public outcry.

This also means, however, that by blaming kangaroos the real cause of the damage - livestock - is ignored.



Kangaroos are soft-footed, which means they do not damage the environment in the same way that hard-hoofed animals such as livestock do.

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

Studies have proven that hard-hoofed animals such as sheep and cattle also contribute to soil compaction and erosion.

KANGAROOS VS LIVESTOCK

Australia grazes 69 million sheep, 27 million cattle, and over 2.5 million goats.

Meanwhile, kangaroo numbers have declined to approximately 15 million.

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

Decreasing kangaroo numbers have a significant negative impact on our natural environment.

Kangaroo urine and faeces help 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 have found that sheep and cattle produce substantially and consistently greater changes to native vegetation than grazing kangaroos.

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



SLOW BREEDERS

KANGAROOS HAVE ONE BABY
A YEAR

A JOEY STAYS IN THE
POUCH FOR ELEVEN MONTHS



Kangaroos do not breed during drought.

25-30% of young joeys do not live to adolescence.

A further 70-75% of those joeys do not make it to adulthood.

SO WHAT CAN WE DO ABOUT IT?



GET THE FACTS

You can read much more about what the kangaroo meat "industry" looks like, and how we're treating kangaroos here in Australia, by visiting:

www.peopleagainstkillingkangaroos.org.au

