

Country	Minks	Manure nutrient excretion, t/yr		Foxes	Manure nutrient excretion, t/yr		Minks + foxes	
		N (2,4 kg/yr), t	P (1,2 kgP ₂ O ₅ /yr), t		N (6,4 kg/yr), t	P (3,3 kgP ₂ O ₅ /yr), t	N, t/yr	P, t/yr
Denmark	17 100 000	41 040	8 947	2 500	16	4	41 056	8 950
Germany*	130 000	312	68		0	0	312	68
Finland	1 940 000	4 656	1 015	2 300 000	14 720	3 309	19 376	4 324
Estonia	46 000	110	24	15 000	96	22	206	46
Latvia	500 000	1 200	262	5 000	32	7	1 232	269
Lithuania	1 500 000	3 600	785	1 500	10	2	3 610	787
Poland	8 500 000	20 400	4 447	50 000	320	72	20 720	4 519
Sweden	1 000 000	2 400	523		0	0	2 400	523
Russia* (forecast 2016)	2 461 000	5 906	1 288	151 800	972	218	6 878	1 506
Russia (2013)	1 875 000	4 500	981	127 400	815	183	5 315	1 164
Belarus* (2012)	693 400	1 664	363	9 100	58	13	1 722	376
TOTAL	35 745 400	85 789	18 702	2 662 300	17 039	3 831	102 828	22 533

Table contains data only for produced pelts (skins with fur), hence total amount of manure nutrients is underestimated

* Data for the whole country; production data for Russia and Belarus is only available for 2013 and 2012 respectively

[Manure nutrient excretion data from "Standardised calculation methods for animal manure and nutrients", Statistics Netherlands, 2012](#)

Denmark

N° of Fur Farms :1,533

Skin Production :

Mink17,100,000

Fox2,500

Finnraccoon0

Chinchilla45,000

Fur Garment Exports :€ 8,595,840

Fox farming is banned in Denmark from 2023.

Denmark

Kopenhagen Fur

(Danish Fur Breeders' Association)

Phone: +45 43 26 10 0

Email: mail@kopenhagenfur.com

Website: www.kopenhagenfur.com

Dansk Pelsgrossistforening

Phone: +45 43 65 00 88

Germany

N° of Fur Farms :13

Skin Production :

Mink130,000

Fox0

Finnraccoon0

Chinchilla2,000

Fur Garment Exports :€ 60,643,299

Germany

Deutscher Pelz-Groß- und Außenhandelsverband e.V.

(German Fur Association of Wholesalers and Traders)

Phone: +49 (0)69 24 26 35-0

Email: bs@fur-fashion-frankfurt.de

Website: www.deutscherpelzverband.de

Zentralverband Deutscher Pelztierzüchter e.V.

(German Fur Breeders' Association)

Phone: +49 (0)5422 43244

Email: z-d-p@t-online.de

Website: www.z-d-p.de

Deutsches Pelz-Institut e.V.

(German Fur Institute)

Phone: +49 069-24 26 35-0

Fax: +49 069-24 26 35-21

Email: info@pelzinstitut.de

Website: www.pelzinstitut.de

International Dressers' and Dyers' Association-IFDDA

(Associate Member)

Email: bs@ifdda.info

Website: www.ifdda.info

Finland

N° of Fur Farms :914
Skin Production :
Mink**1,940,000**
Fox**2,300,000**
Finnraccoon**150,000**
Chinchilla**0**
Fur Garment Exports :€ 2,745,843

Finland

Suomen Turkiseläinten Kasvattajain Liitto ry Saga Furs Oyj
(Profur)

(Finnish Fur Breeders' Association)
Phone: +358 9 849 81
Email: stkl.vantaa@profur.fi
Website: www.profur.fi

Phone: +358 9 84981
Email: info@sagafurs.com
Website: www.sagafurs.com

Estonia

N° of Fur Farms :40
Skin Production :
Mink**46,000**
Fox**15,000**
Finnraccoon
Chinchilla**6,000**
Fur Garment Exports :€ 1,189,256

Estonia

Estonian Fur Breeders' Association

Phone: +372 56 120 717
Website: www.efba.ee

Eesti Karusnahaliit

(Estonian Fur Association)
Phone: +372 661 97 00
Email: info@furs.ee
Website: www.furs.ee

Latvia

N° of Fur Farms :8
Skin Production :
Mink**500,000**
Fox**5,000**
Finnraccoon**0**
Chinchilla**3,000**
Fur Garment Exports :€ 315,798,

Latvia

Latvijas Zvēraudzētāju Asociācija

(Latvian Fur Breeders' Association)
Email: sandra@parks.lv
Website: www.lfba.lv

Lithuania

N° of Fur Farms :131
Skin Production :
Mink**1,500,000**
Fox**1,500**
Finnraccoon**0**
Chinchilla**6,000**
Fur Garment Exports :€ 1,707,264

Lithuania

Lietuvos Žvėrelių Augintojų Asociacija

(Lithuanian Fur Breeders' Association)
Phone: +370 375 563
Website: www.furlithuania.lt
Email: info@furlithuania.lt

Poland

N° of Fur Farms :1,144
Skin Production :
Mink**8,500,000**
Fox**50,000**
Finnraccoon**10,000**
Chinchilla**80,000**
Fur Garment Exports :€ 3,186,889

Poland

Stowarzyszenie Futrzarzy Polskich

(Polish Fur Federation-SFP)
Phone: +48 61 44 45 956
Email: monika@stowarzyszenie-fp.pl
Website: www.stowarzyszenie-fp.pl

Polski Związek Hodowców Zwierząt Futerkowych (PZHZF)

(Polish Fur Breeders Association)
Email: biuro@pzhzf.net.pl
Website: <http://pzhzf.net.pl/>

Sweden

N° of Fur Farms :80

Skin Production :

Mink**1,000,000**

Fox**0**

Finnraccoon**0**

Chinchilla**0**

Fur Garment Exports :€ 4,367,635

 **Sweden**

Svensk Mink

(Swedish Fur Breeders' Association)

Phone: +46 0456 544 90

Fax: +46 0456-543 80

Email: kansliet@svenskmin.se

Website: www.svenskmink.se

Pälsbranschrådet

(Swedish Fur Trade Council)

Website: www.svenskmink.se

Biodiversity and Environment

Invasive Alien Species

In 2014, the EU adopted the Regulation (EU) No 1143/2014 on the prevention and management of the introduction and spread of invasive alien species. Animals or plants not native to European nature may do damage if they are introduced to local ecosystems, for example if such invasive species have no natural enemies in their new habitat. Regulation (EU) No 1143/2014 seek to prevent the impact of invasive species on European biodiversity and related ecosystem services.

Though not of European origin, and at the same time a possible treat to ecosystems when found in European nature, the farmed Finn raccoon and American Mink cannot be considered invasive alien species. As the American Mink and the Finn raccoon have “significant socio-economic impact” in Europe they do not fulfill the regulation’s criteria for being listed as invasive alien species.

[Link to Regulation \(EU\) No 1143/2014 on the prevention and management of the introduction and spread of invasive alien species](#) [External link]

Trapping

In 1991, the EU adopted the Regulation 3254/91 prohibiting the use of leg-hold traps in the Community and the introduction into the Community of pelts and manufactured goods of certain wild animal species originating from countries which catch these animals with leg-hold traps or use trapping methods which do not meet international humane trapping standards.

[Link to Council Regulation 3254/91](#) [External link]

Six years later, in 1997, the EU concluded an agreement with Canada and the Russian Federation named Agreement on International Humane Trapping Standards (AIHTS). The agreement was inspired by the desire to agree on international humane trapping standards as well as to avoid trade disputes with the main international fur exporters. The aim of the established humane trapping standards is to ensure a sufficient level of welfare for trapped animals, and to further improve this welfare. In 2016, the parties who have signed the AIHTS agreement must have tested, certified and implemented the humane trapping standards.

[Link to the Council of the European Union’s decision to adopt the Agreement on International Humane Trapping Standards](#) [External link]

Fur Europe cooperates with FACE, the Federation of Associations for Hunting and Conservation of the European Union, on the implementation of AIHTS in member states. FACE has developed science-based trapping guidelines which are endorsed and promoted by Fur Europe. The trapping guidelines are regularly updated.

[Link to the trapping guidelines of the Federation of Associations for Hunting and Conservation of the European Union](#) [External link]

These trapping guidelines set out to:

- Provide up-to-date information on trapping techniques.
- Establish a platform of competence on trapping.
- Assist the EU and its member states in implementing the AIHTS under Article 8(b) of the agreement.
- Ensure that trapping is well understood and valued as a technique for wildlife management and research.

- Promote trapping as sustainable use of natural resources.

Seals

In 2009, the EU adopted the Regulation (EC) No 1007/2009 on trade in seal products, banning all respective imports, exports and sales. The regulation included two exemptions. The first exemption concerns marine resource management (MRM) allowing the small-scale or non-profit placing of seal products on the market. The second exemption is known as the Inuit exemption and refers to seal products hunted traditionally by Inuit populations or other indigenous communities (also called the IC exemption).

[Link to Regulation \(EC\) No 1007/2009 on Trade in Seal Products](#) [External link]

The regulation was however challenged by the World Trade Organization (WTO) in May 2014, and the Commission has now launched a proposal to bring the EU seal regime into compliance with the WTO rules. WTO has challenged the legitimacy of the MRM exemption as seemingly inconsistent with the original ban, as well as the Inuit exemption because of the lack of a clear distinction between traditional and commercial seal hunt.

Animal Waste

The specific category of animal waste is governed by the Regulation (EC) No 1774/2002 laying down health rules concerning animal by-products not intended for human consumption. This Regulation is designed to avoid the affection on existing environmental legislation, or hinder the development of new rules on environmental protection, particularly with regards to biodegradable waste. The regulation lays down rules for:

- The collection, transport, storage, handling, processing and use or disposal of animal by-products, to prevent these products from presenting a risk to animal or public health.
- The placing on the market and, in certain specific cases, the export and transit of animal by-products and products derived from animal by-products.

[Link to Council Regulation \(EC\) No 1774/2002](#) [External link]

However, animal waste is included into a wider context of EU waste policies and programmes. The 7th European Action Programme (EAP) will be guiding European environment policy until 2020. Its three key objectives are:

- To protect, conserve and enhance the Union's natural capital.
- To turn the Union into a resource-efficient, green, and competitive low-carbon economy.
- To safeguard the Union's citizens from environment-related pressures and risks to health and wellbeing.

[Link the decision on a General Union Environment Action Programme to 2020 'Living well, within the limits of our planet](#) [External link]

Under Europe 2020, the EU's growth strategy for a smart, inclusive and sustainable economy, we find the Roadmap to a Resource Efficient Europe (COM(2011) 571). This roadmap outlines how we can transform Europe's economy into a sustainable one by 2050. It proposes ways to increase resource productivity and decouple economic growth from resource use and its environmental impact.

[Link to Roadmap to a Resource Efficient Europe](#) [External link]

At the heart of resource efficiency agenda is the Commission's aim to present a new and ambitious so-called circular economy strategy late in 2015. This means re-using, repairing,

refurbishing and recycling existing materials and products – what used to be regarded as ‘waste’ can be turned into a resource. The aim is to look beyond waste and to close the loop of the circular economy.

[Link the European Commission’s webpage towards a circular economy strategy](#) [External link]

Biofuels

Serving mainly as a renewable alternative to fossil fuels in the EU’s transport sector, biofuels can be proved vital in the reduction of greenhouse emissions. To ensure that biofuels are produced and used in a way that guarantees real carbon savings and protects biodiversity, it has established a set of sustainability criteria. For example, to be considered sustainable, biofuels must achieve greenhouse gas savings of at least 35% in comparison to fossil fuels.

[Link EU’s sustainability criteria on biofuels and bioliquids](#) [External link]

At EU level, biofuels are currently regulated by the [Renewable Energy Directive \(2009/28/EC\)](#) and the [Fuel Quality Directive \(2009/30/EC\)](#).

Finally, the Commission’s Energy Union Package is currently under negotiation. Biofuels constitute an integral part of this strategy, as reduction of emissions/greenhouse gasses is one of the main pillars towards energy efficiency.

[Link the Commission’s Communication on Union Energy](#) [External link]

Animal Health and Welfare

No region in the world has as strict and comprehensive animal health and welfare legislation as the European Union. The plight of animals in human care is rightfully given considerably attention by consumers, politicians and researchers in Europe.

The members of the European fur farming community are subject to the following legislation at European level. In addition, further national legislation is in place in a majority of the fur producing countries in Europe.

EU Directive on Farming

Council Directive 98/58 (EC) of July 1998 lays down the minimum standards for the protection of animals bred or kept for farming purposes including fur animals. Member states may however, maintain or apply stricter provisions if these are otherwise in compliance with EU’s constitutional basis.

[Council Directive 98/58/EC Concerning the Protection of Animals kept for Farming Purposes](#) [External link]

Council of Europe Legislation on Fur Farming

In addition to the European Convention for the protection of animals kept for farming purposes, specific welfare guidelines for fur farmed species have been adopted. These recommendations concern the human-animal relationship, health, management, housing systems and the animal’s biological needs. The recommendations were adopted by the Standing Committee on 22 June 1999.

[Recommendation Concerning Fur Animals](#) [External link]

Killing Methods

An important part of any animal welfare assessment, the EU has decided that all EU member states should have a code of practice for the killing of animals.

[Link to Council Regulation \(EC\) No 1099/2009 on the Protection of Animals at the Time of Killing](#) [External link]

The European fur sector has developed a code of good practice for carbon monoxide and carbon dioxide euthanasia for mink and a code of practice for the electrocution of foxes.

[Code of Practice for the Killing of Mink](#) [External link]

[Code of Practice for the Killing of Fox](#) [External link]

Animal Transport

The transportation of animals is one of the most important concerns when it comes to animal welfare. Regulation EC 1/2005 overhauls existing EU rules on animal transport, defining the responsibilities of all subjects in the transport chain to effectively enforce the new rules.

[Link to Council Regulation EC 1/2005](#) [External link]

The European rules equally apply to the fur sector. Nevertheless, transportation of fur animals is a very rare practice. In general, the animals are – unlike food production animals – killed directly at the farms. An inevitable transportation occurs for breeding purposes but this applies to less 1 % of the farmed fur animals.

Animal Health

In May 2013, the European Commission presented its proposal for a Regulation on Animal Health. The new animal health law is summing up all existing legislation on animal health and adopts it in a “single regulatory framework for animal health”. It aims to have greater focus on incentives than penalties, consistency with other EU policies and converging to international standards.

[Link to the European Commission’s proposal for an Animal Health Law](#) [External link]

The new law contains more than 60 basic directives and regulations, some of them adopted as early as 1964. The aim is to provide a single regulatory framework for animal health; setting basic principles for animal health, providing health rules for animal movements and movements of animal products, disease control measures, ensure conditions for early detection, disease notification, and surveillance including the provisions for the services in the Member States.

The new animal health law is also linked to the proposal for a new Regulation on Official Controls. Revising the existing rules on official controls, the objective of the proposal is to simplify and clarify the legal framework applicable to official controls, promote an integrated approach to official controls across the entire agri-food chain and ensure that Member States appropriately resource control authorities through fees charged on operators.

[Link to proposal for a new Regulation on Official Controls](#) [External link]

Veterinary Medicine

Since 2001, all the rules on production, marketing, distribution and use have been consolidated in a Veterinary Medicines code (Directive 2001/82/EC of 2001), followed by Regulation (EC) No 726/2004.

[Link to Legal Framework Governing Medicinal Products for Veterinary Use in the EU](#) [External link]

A number of problems to this code was later recognized by the Commission. These problems were linked to the availability of veterinary medicinal products, the use of veterinary medicinal products in species for which they are not authorised, and disproportionate regulatory burden hampering innovation. It is also important to note that this code was unable to clarify the fundamental differences between veterinary and human medicines.

Consequently, the European Commission launched a proposal for a single and fully comprehensive regulation on veterinary medicinal products to revise the previous legislation. The Commission's proposal in particular aims to increase the availability of veterinary medicinal products, reduce administrative burdens, stimulate competitiveness and innovation, improve the functioning of the internal market, and address the public health risk of antimicrobial resistance.

[Link to Revision of the Legal Framework for Veterinary Medicinal Products](#) [External link]

Feed

Feeding is governed from the Regulation (EC) No 1831/2003 on additives for use in animal nutrition. The purpose of this Regulation is to establish a pan-European procedure for authorising the placing of animal feed products on the market, and to lay down rules for the supervision and labelling of feed additives and premixtures in order to ensure a high level of protection of human health, animal health and welfare, environment and consumer protection, whilst ensuring the effective functioning of the internal market.

[Link to Regulation \(EC\) No 1831/2003 of the European Parliament and of the Council on Additives for Use in Animal Nutrition](#) [External link]

Medicated Feed

The current legislation (Directive 90/167/EEC) on medicated feed sets out the conditions under which medicated animal feed may be manufactured, placed on the market and used within the EU. The Directive has been established before the creation of the internal market and it has never been adapted in substance, allowing discrepancies between the member states.

[Link to Council Directive 90/167/EEC governing the Preparation, Placing on the Market and Use of Medicated Feed](#) [External link]

The Commission has launched a proposal to harmonise implementation of the legislation, reduce financial and administrative burdens and support innovation. The proposal allows the anticipated medicated feed production, mobile and on-farm mixing, while at the same time establishing the parameters for these schemes.

[Link to the European Commission's proposal for Revision of Council Directive 90/167/ECC](#) [External link]

Facts & Figures

[Welfare in Practice](#)

June 22, 2017 - The on-farm Welfare Assessment Certification System designed to improve animal welfare and increase consumer transparency.

WELFUR IN PRACTICE



On-farm Welfare Assessment System



Assessment:
22/25 Measures
12 Criteria
4 Principles
1 Score



Assessment:
6-8 Hours
120 Mink Cages
80 Fox Cages
3rd Party Assessor

3 X ASSESSMENTS (1 Per Period)

Methodical computer evaluation of assessment data



FARM SCORE

✓ ✓
National advisories help farms to improve animal welfare based on the assessment data

Certification



NO Certification
(Not permitted to trade in the international auction houses)



DATA AGGREGATED AND PUBLISHED



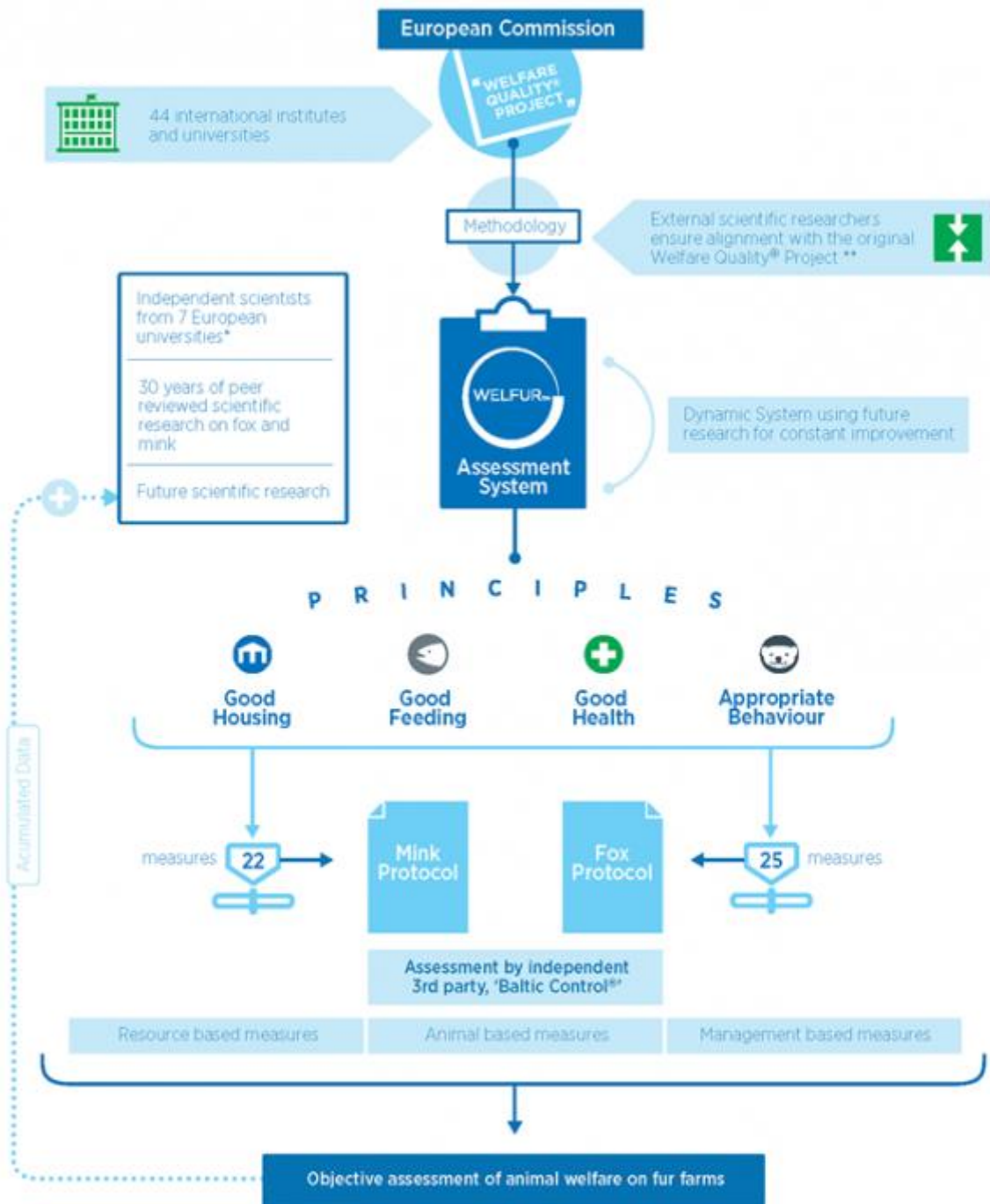
Objective documentation of animal welfare standards

Consumer transparency

Tool to improve animal welfare

June 22, 2017 - Based on the EU's Welfare Quality Project, using the principles of good housing, good feeding, good health, and appropriate behaviour.

THE SCIENTIFIC BASIS OF WELFUR



* University of Eastern Finland, NIT AgriFood Research - Finland, Aarhus University - Denmark, Norwegian University of Life Sciences, Swedish University of Agricultural Sciences, University of Utrecht - The Netherlands, French Institute of Agronomic Research

** External Scientific reviewers: Professor Harry Blokhus, Swedish University of Agricultural Sciences, Uppsala, Sweden; Professor Georgia Mason, University of Guelph, Canada; and Professor Emeritus David Morton, University of Birmingham, UK

Natural Behaviour of Farmed Mink

June 15, 2017 - Social, Environmental and additional attributes

NATURAL BEHAVIOUR OF FARMED MINK

SOCIAL AND ENVIRONMENT



Farmed mink mate naturally.



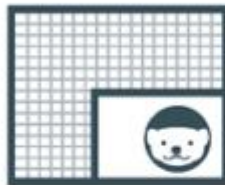
Females raise their kits as in nature.



Mimicking the biological cycle of wild mink kits are together with their mother from birth to weaning.



The young animals are housed in pairs of male and female from weaning to mature age, which stimulates social behaviour and accords with life in the wild.



Adult mink are kept in a solitary environment as they would be in nature.



70-80% of the farmed mink's time is spent in the nest box that is designed to mimic its natural den precisely. The nest box is considered an essential behavioural need.



Mink are provided bedding material which is essential for nest building and is furthermore utilised all the year round as an occupational material. Like in nature, mink only give birth once a year.



Farmed mink develop in the same way as their wild conspecifics and in accordance with their biology, which is governed by exposure to natural light and the length of day.

ADDITIONAL ATTRIBUTES



On-farm pelting. There are no welfare issues related to transportation.



Few health issues in comparison with other animal husbandry.



Mink are kept intact. No identification mark, trimming, clipping, castration etc.

WHY SWIMMING WATER AND LARGE TERRITORIES ARE LESS IMPORTANT

Using consumer demand tests animal welfare scientists can empirically determine the strength of motivation animals have for a definite need (e.g. food, water) and for other resources. By comparing the strength of motivation for a resource with that for a definite need, animal scientists can measure the importance of a resource as perceived by the animals. Animals will be most highly motivated to interact with resources they absolutely need, highly motivated for resources that they perceive as most improving their welfare, and less motivated for resources they perceive as less important.

Consumer demand tests on mink have established that mink have high motivation for their nest box. Mink are also motivated for various enrichment objects, and enrichment will lead to improved welfare. They are less motivated for swimming water than other forms of enrichment including shelves and tubes they can manipulate.

As a result of consumer demand tests swimming water is not consid-

ered an essential need for the farmed mink. Swimming water is 'nice to have' rather than 'need to have'.

With current knowledge fur animal scientists explain the wild mink's motivation to enter water to be associated with its search for food. Being fed fresh, nutritious feed every day the farmed mink's motivation for swimming water is not one of need, but rather one of occupation. Swimming water can be replaced with other enrichment objects without animal welfare costs.

Likewise, research has demonstrated that larger cages do not lead to improved animal welfare for farmed mink. Some people however, advocate that swimming water and larger housing systems are essential needs for mink. This represents the ethical idea that animal farms should mirror nature precisely, and as such the view is legitimate. It is however without support in the scientific literature that lack of larger territories and swimming water inherently leads to animal suffering.

Acceptance of Fur Farming

June 15, 2017 - There are significant differences in the acceptance of fur farming depending on whether someone has visited a fur farm or not.

ACCEPTANCE OF FUR FARMING

PEOPLE WHO HAVE NOT VISITED A FUR FARM



PEOPLE WHO HAVE VISITED A FUR FARM



SIGNIFICANT DIFFERENCES IN THE ACCEPTANCE OF FUR FARMING

A pan-European survey conducted by the independent market research company Ipsos shows significant differences in the level of acceptance of fur farming throughout Europe. The research demonstrates that many different factors play a role when it comes to the Europeans' opinion about fur farming. Independent of whether the information comes from the media or first hand, the study suggests that the more people are informed, the more they find fur farming acceptable.

E.g. there is a higher percentage of people who have visited a fur farm that find fur farming acceptable compared to those who have not visited a farm. The survey shows that 95% of the Europeans who find fur farming unacceptable have never visited a fur farm.

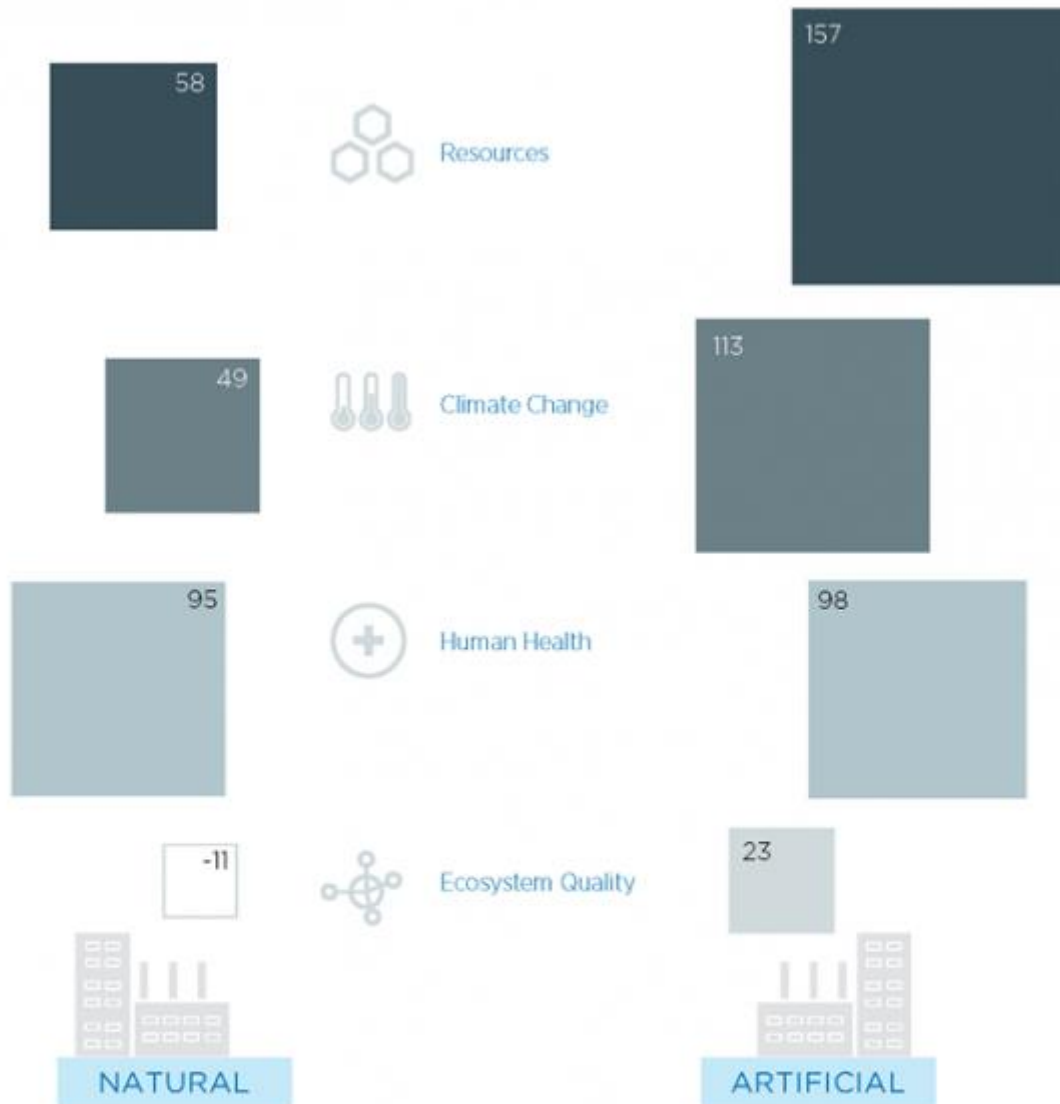
Source: Pan-European survey conducted by independent market research company Ipsos in 2013. The survey was conducted in the UK, the Netherlands, Denmark, France, Spain, and Poland.

Real Fur vs. Fake Fur

June 15, 2017 - The environmental impacts of fake fur and real fur side by side.

REAL FUR VS. FAKE FUR

THE ENVIRONMENTAL IMPACT



Estimated average life of products (in yrs)



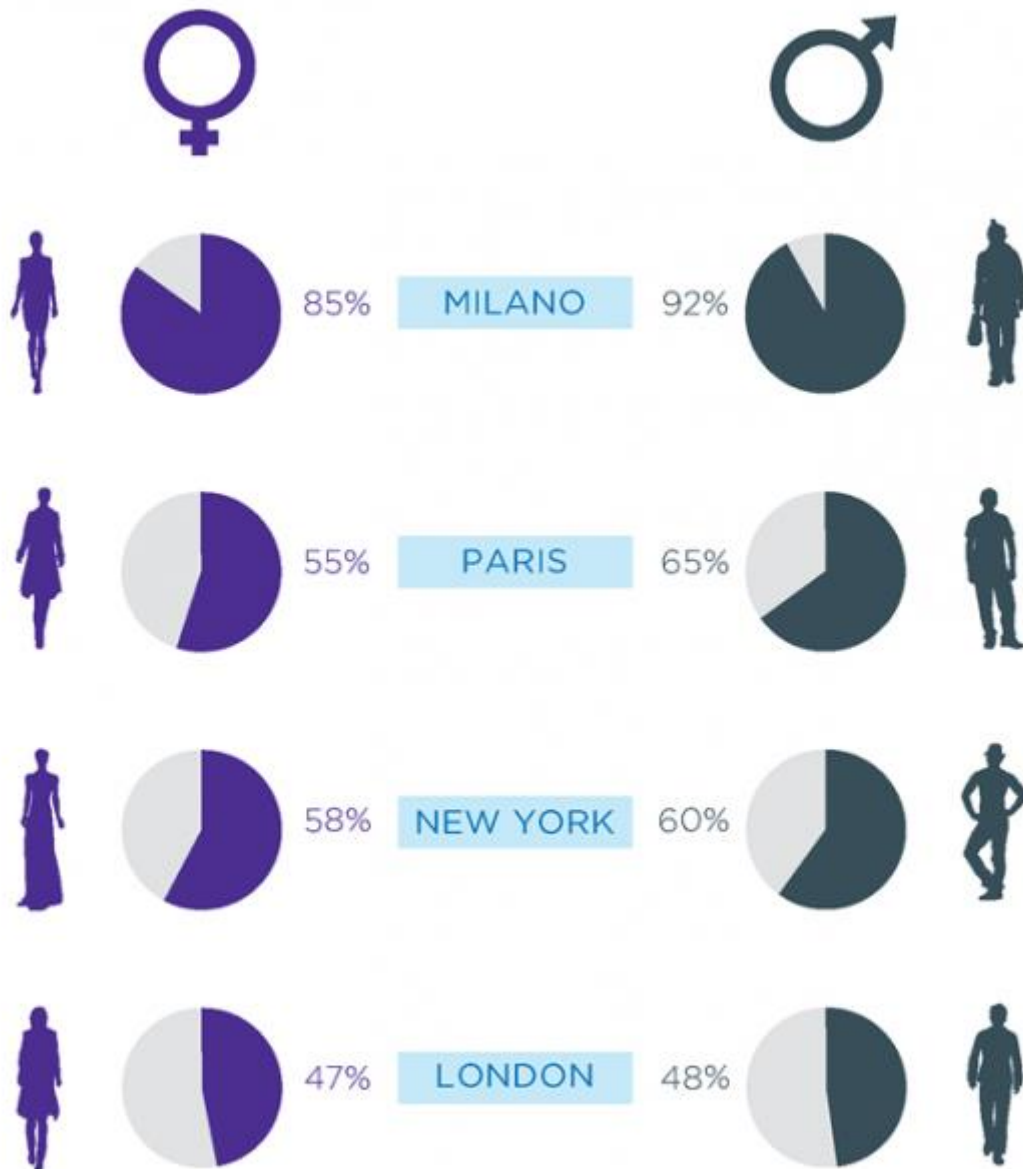
Source: "A Comparative Life Cycle Analysis: Natural Fur and Fake Fur" by DSS management Consultants. *Scores are reported in 'millipoint' units. Millipoints are an abstract unit used to express diverse types of potential impacts. Refer to the 'Impact 2002+' website, University of Michigan Risk Science Center, for further details.

Fur in Fashion Week Collections 2016

June 15, 2017 - Percentage of fur used in autumn/winter 2016 men's & women's collections

FUR IN FASHION WEEK COLLECTIONS

AUTUMN/WINTER 2016 MENS & WOMENS COLLECTIONS



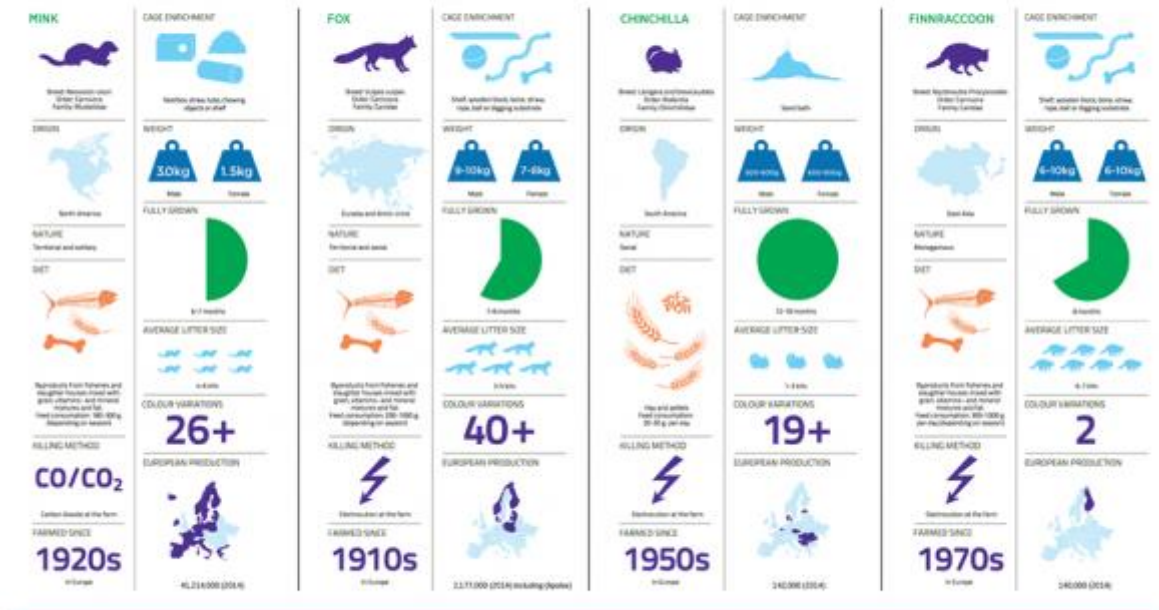
During the international fashion weeks in Milan, Paris, London and New York in late 2016, fur was featured on the catwalk in more than 2/3 of the collections.

March 18, 2015 - Early records about fur farming dates back to the 1860's in North America. In Europe, Norway is widely recognised as the pioneer of fur farming. See other statistics concerning farmed species such as Mink, Fox, Chinchilla and Finnraccoons.

FAST FACTS ABOUT FUR FARMED ANIMALS

Early records about fur farming dates back to the 1860s in North America. Farming began to replace hunting as a source for the valuable skins. In Europe, Norway is widely recognized as the pioneer of fur farming. In 1914 the first foxes were imported from

Canada to Norway and Finland. Today, fur farming is an agricultural activity in 22 European countries. The farmed species are mink, foxes, chinchillas and finnraccoons.



EUROPE
Innovating Heritage Responsibly

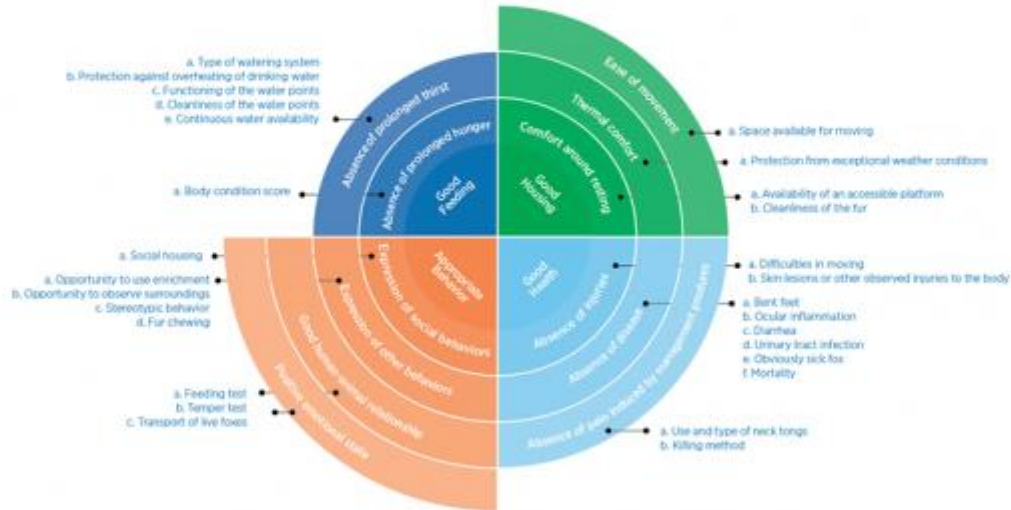
How to Ensure Animal Welfare on Fur Farms

March 18, 2015 - The European Commission's Welfare Quality project is a standardised way of assessing animal welfare with scientifically proven methods

HOW TO ENSURE ANIMAL WELFARE ON FUR FARMS

The European Commission's Welfare Quality[®] project is a standardized way of assessing animal welfare with scientifically proven methods. The Welfare Quality[®] principles are innovative in the field of animal welfare as they combine animal-based, resource based, and management-based measures in the assessment. Detailed protocols have been developed for cattle, pigs and poultry. Based on the Welfare Quality[®] principles, the

European fur sector has initiated welfare assessment protocols for fur farmed animals to ensure better welfare. The project is called WelFur and European-wide implementation of WelFur will begin in 2013. External scientific reviewers have been appointed to conserve the quality of the scientific work, the independence of any recommendations, and the alignment with the original Welfare Quality[®] project.



The above definitions are from the fox protocol, National Institute of Agronomic Research and the European Fur Breeders Association.

The WelFur project is carried out in co-operation between the following institutions: University of Eastern Finland (Department of Biociences), MTT Agrifood Research Finland (Animal Production Research), Aarhus University (Department of Animal Health and Biocscience), Norwegian University of Life Sciences (Department of Animal and Aquacultural Sciences), Swedish University of Agricultural Sciences (Department of Animal Environment and Health), University of Utrecht (Department of Animals in Science & Society), France.

