



ORGANIC LIVESTOCK MYTHS VS. FACTS

Myth: Organic livestock farming uses fewer resources.

Fact: Avg. **65% More Land** Is Needed¹

If the US converted to all antibiotic-free poultry, **680 to 880 Million More** birds would be needed.²

Chicken Raised w/o Antibiotics use **5.4 to 7.2 Million Tons** Additional Feed Annually = **655 to 873 More Miles** of Grain-filled Rail Cars.²

Myth: Organic livestock farming is better for the environment.

Fact: Organic, Grass-fed Cows Emit **20% MORE** Green-house Gasses

Organic Chickens Produce **4.6 to 6.1 Million Tons More Manure** Equaling Appx. All Sewage Produced by Texas Each Year³

Antibiotic-free Birds Annually Consume **3 BILLION more gallons of water** Equaling Appx. Amount Contained in **4,545 olympic-size swimming pools.**³

Myth: Animal welfare standards are higher in organic production systems.

Fact: **24% to 52% HIGHER mortality rate** in Organic Chickens, Raised w/o Antibiotics⁴

PROLONGED SUFFERING in Sick Animals When Conventional Medicines, i.e. Antibiotics, Are Withheld Until Alternative Remedies Have Failed⁵

Myth: Buying organic meat reduces your exposure to antibiotic resistance.

Fact: **ALL Grocery Store Meat Is ANTIBIOTIC FREE** By Law, Animals Must Be Completely Antibiotic Free Before Going to Market⁶

Hospitals & Residential Health Care Facilities = Most Deaths Related to Antibiotic Resistance⁸ (CDC report)

Pound for Pound, People & Pets Use **10x the ANTIBIOTICS** Used in Food Animal Production⁷

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¹A. G. Williams, E. Audsley, and D. L. Sandars, "Determining the Environmental Burdens and Resource Use in the Production of Agricultural and Horticultural Commodities" (2006), Main Report, UK Department of Environment, Food, and Rural Affairs Research Project 15020

²Salois, Matthew, et al., "Raising Broilers Responsibly" (2016), Elanco Animal Health

³Salois, Matthew, et al., "Raising Broilers Responsibly" (2016), Elanco Animal Health

⁴Salois, Matthew, et al., "Raising Broilers Responsibly" (2016), Elanco Animal Health

⁵Sutherland, M. A., Webster, J., & Sutherland, I. (2013). Animal Health and Welfare Issues Facing Organic Production Systems. Animals: An Open Access Journal from MDPI, 3(4), 1021-1035.

⁶Antibiotics In Organic and Conventional Production, <http://www.fooddialogues.com/article/antibiotics-organic-conventional-production/>

⁷Six Misconceptions about Antibiotics and Meat, <http://www.mymeatup.org/content/antibiotics>

⁸Antibiotic Resistant Threats in the United States, 2013, Center for Disease Control