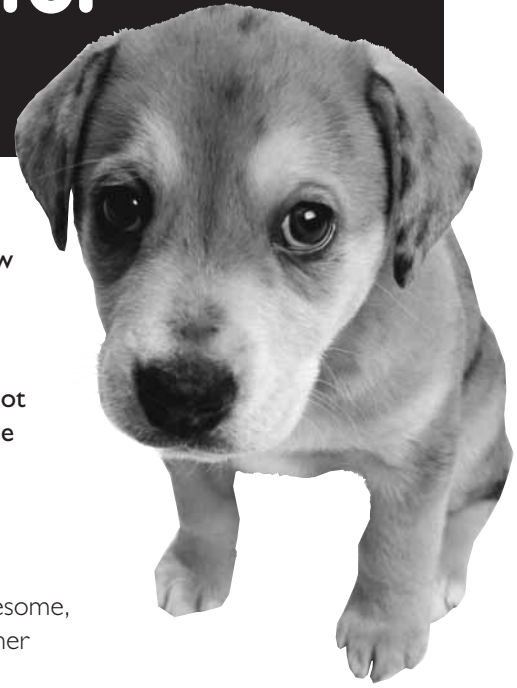


Iams & Eukanuba: Bad for Dogs' and Cats' Lives



Advertisements for Iams and Eukanuba-brand dog and cat food show happy animals frolicking across lawns and snuggling up to guardians. What they don't show is the pain and suffering inflicted on animals in Iams-funded tests that most people don't even realise the pet-food maker is conducting.

The cruel experiments that Iams conducts on animals are not necessary and are not required by law. Many companion-animal food companies conduct humane, in-home studies using animals who have been volunteered by their guardians and perform chemical analyses to test the palatability and composition of their products.

A History of Abuse

In 2001, *The Sunday Express* printed information from published papers detailing gruesome, often fatal experiments conducted by Iams laboratories on dogs and cats. Among other abuses, the tests involved the following:

- Deliberately inflicting chest wounds on 36 dogs in order to test fur regrowth based on diet
- Overfeeding 24 cats to obesity, then starving them until they lost 30 percent of their weight, in order to study weight loss and liver disease
- Removing the right kidneys and damaging the left kidneys of 24 dogs to study kidney failure
- Surgically exposing the stomachs of 28 cats in order to observe the effects of fiber on their diets

In September 2001, following these revelations, Iams met with PETA, claiming that it had turned over a new leaf and would 'not fund or participate in any study requiring or resulting in the euthanasia of cats or dogs'. Furthermore, Iams said that it would not conduct any nutritional studies on animals that would not be acceptable on humans.

PETA Uncovers the Truth

For nearly 10 months in late 2002 and early 2003, an undercover PETA investigator worked at an Iams contract testing laboratory in the United States. She videotaped Iams representatives visiting the laboratory and witnessing animals' circling endlessly from boredom and loneliness or simply sweltering in the heat and humidity of the kennels. Iams did nothing to improve these cruel conditions. Meanwhile, the company was telling PETA and the public that the dogs and cats used in its tests lived like royalty.

During her time at the lab, PETA's investigator witnessed an Iams veterinarian inspecting a group of dogs purchased from an animal dealer licensed to source animals from shelters. The Iams vet ignored a mother dog who had just given birth in a cement kennel and had no bedding to rest on. The investigator was instructed by a coworker to hit dogs on the chest if they stopped breathing during biopsy surgeries.

PETA's investigator also witnessed the following:

- Dogs dumped on concrete flooring after huge chunks of muscle had been cut out of their thighs – 27 of the 60 dogs who suffered this invasive procedure were killed, and two others were found dead in their cages
- A dog limping in pain from Lyme disease
- Dogs forced to swallow vegetable oil through tubes shoved down their throats
- Dogs with such severe tartar buildup on their teeth that it was painful for them to eat
- Cats kept in a cinderblock room with wooden "resting" boards that had nails sticking out of them (one of these cats was crushed to death by a falling board)
- Dogs who were bled so that their blood could be sold to other laboratories

PETA's investigator overheard these remarks:

- Coworkers talking about a live kitten who was washed down a drain
- Coworkers saying that the ammonia fumes coming from animal trailers were so overwhelming that they had to go home
- The lab director telling the vet technicians to surgically debark all the dogs because he was irritated by their cries for attention
- A vet technician explaining that since the lab's existing X-ray machine dated from the 1960s and there was no film for it, the lab director preferred to kill rather than treat animals with broken bones

Iams' Response

When PETA went public with this evidence of abuse, Iams officials claimed that they had had no idea what conditions were like inside the laboratory – even though video footage showed Iams reps touring the facility. Iams then cut ties with the lab and told PETA that the dogs had been taken to accommodations in Dayton, Ohio, where Iams is headquartered. While Iams claims on its Web site that the dogs were placed in homes, it has not provided PETA with documentation supporting this claim, nor has it allowed PETA to tour the Dayton facility. Iams continues to contract with outside laboratories.

What You Can Do

Never buy Iams Company products. Call, write, e-mail or fax Iams and its parent company, Procter & Gamble, and tell them that you won't be buying Iams or Eukanuba for your animal companions until they stop conducting laboratory experiments on animals. They should rely instead on chemical analyses of formulas for nutritional composition and in-home studies with dogs and cats whose human companions have volunteered them for such tests.

Also, contact your local animal shelters, rescue groups and companion-animal supply stores and ask them not to purchase or promote Iams products. Visit our Web site at IamsCruelty.com for more information on how you can help end the suffering of thousands of animals in Iams laboratories.



These dogs were dumped together on the floor after surgery to remove chunks of muscle from their thighs.



This lonely kitten didn't know what Iams had in store for her.

Please only buy dog and cat food that is home-tested, not lab-tested. For a list of companies, visit IamsCruelty.com.



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The dogs didn't have even the simple comfort of a resting board in their cement cages.



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