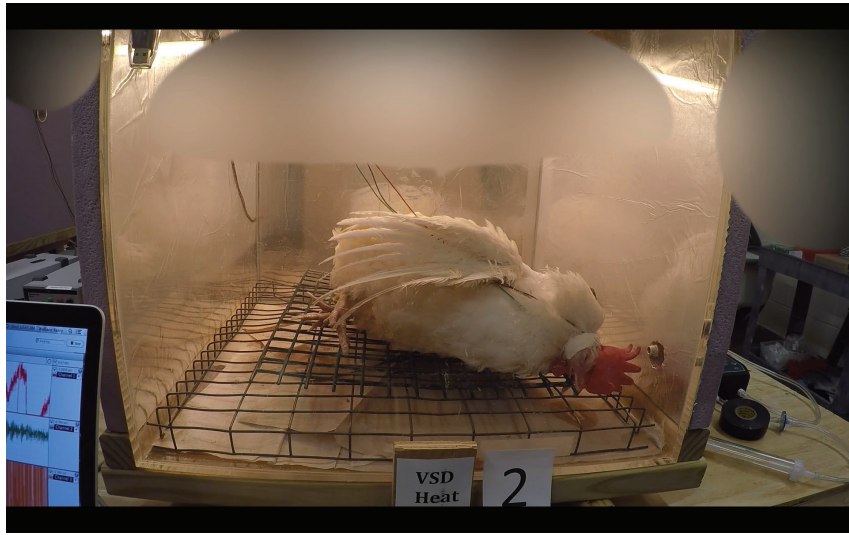


They Shut Their Ears to Her Cries as She Died a Merciless Death

“The suffering is extremely profound.”
– Attorney Will Lowrey, Animal Outlook, *The Intercept*, April 14, 2022.



Attorney Will Lowrey watched 10 hours of footage, obtained through a public records request to NCSU. The footage shows birds being subjected to ventilation shutdown procedures known as VSD and VSD-Plus.

Watch the footage: www.upc-online.org/vsd-footage

VSD and VSD-Plus are used to exterminate millions of birds on farms by depriving them of air. “Plus” means adding intolerable levels of heat to the suffocation process. Ventilation deprivation plus intolerable heat is designed to asphyxiate the birds and induce heatstroke. Carbon dioxide poisoning is often added to assist suffocation, as the birds struggle to breathe while baking to death.



VSD-Plus is being used by the poultry and egg industries to control the recurring avian influenza outbreaks that sicken chickens, turkeys and ducks locked in filthy agribusiness sheds. The cesspool conditions and severe overcrowding, plus manmade breeding anomalies, overwhelm the birds’ fragile immune systems with ever more virulent strains of avian flu.

Photos shown here are from experiments conducted by NCSU researchers who obtained funding from the U.S. Poultry and Egg Association, to observe and videotape the effects of VSD on chickens in 2016. Animal Outlook explains:

In the NCSU study, researchers subjected chickens for each phase of the experiment—plus additional birds for pilot phases—to VSD in various forms. The birds’ suffering was documented and, in some instances, recorded on video, in graphic detail. Each video depicts a single hen enclosed in a small box with a glass/plastic front panel for observation.

As the boxes get hotter and the air inside more stagnant, and as carbon dioxide is sometimes added, the chickens writhe, gasp, pant, stagger and even throw themselves against the walls of their confinement in a desperate attempt to escape. Eventually the birds collapse and, finally, die from heat and suffocation.

In the footage, researchers are seen observing the suffering hens, taking notes and manipulating equipment as they sipped bottled water with oscillating fans cooling them.

The cries of each bird as she suffers, alone without mercy from these people, are blocked out.

If you are sickened by such experiments, and believe that North Carolina State University has a moral obligation to act honorably toward our fellow creatures, let your voice be heard for the sake of these helpless, *innocent* birds whose pitiful voices were muted by their abusers.

Email W. Randolph (Randy) Woodson, Chancellor:
chancellor@ncsu.edu.

Email Professor Peter Ferket, Interim Head of the Poultry Science Department: peter_ferket@ncsu.edu.

Submit a letter to the editor of *The Technician*.

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Photo of UPC
sanctuary hens by
Davida G. Breier.