Raising Eggs and Meat on Your Urban Farm

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WARNING:
I will be talking about butchering and eating small livestock. Now is the time to leave the room if this will disturb you.

Today's topics

1) Objections to raising livestock in the city
2) Why raise your own livestock for eggs and meat?
3) Policies governing backyard butchering

1) Objections to raising livestock in the city

A. Public health concerns

- Exposure of people to disease
- Possibility of avian influenza
- Possibility of rodent proliferation

1) Objections to raising livestock in the city

B. Conflicts among neighbours

1) Objections to raising livestock in the city

C. Concern for humane treatment of livestock

1) Objections to raising livestock in the city

D. Cities are not farms

UP WITH CHICKENS
PUT UP A SQUAWK AT CITY HALL

END CHICKEN APARTHEID IN LONDON
CHICKENS ARE THE NEW DOG !

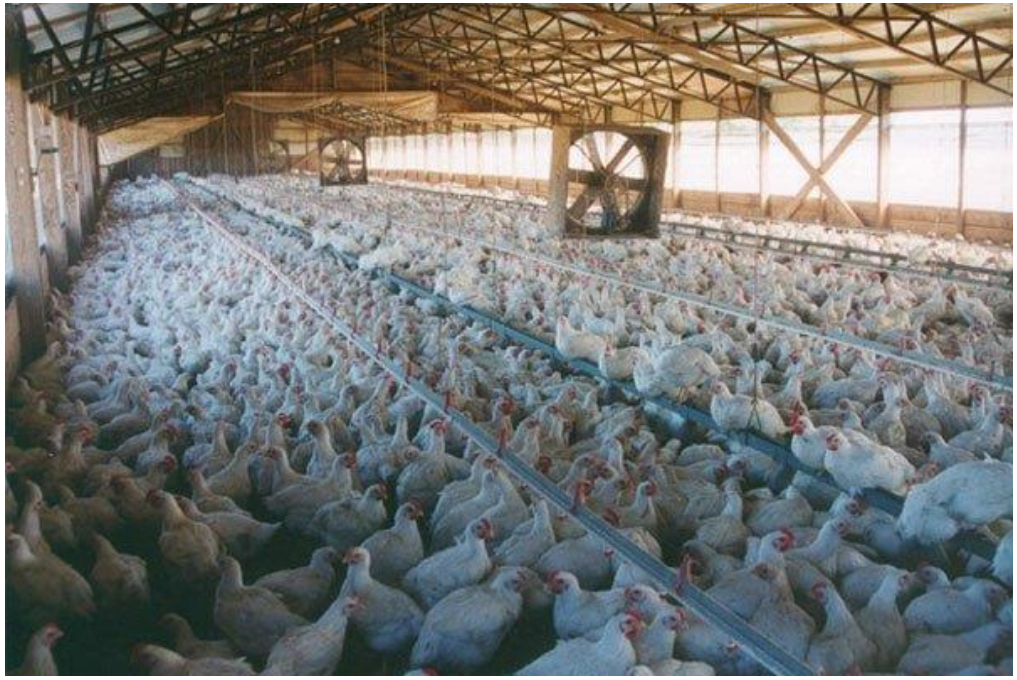
1) Objections to raising livestock in the city

E. It is not legal

2) Why raise your own livestock for eggs and meat?

A. Worries about how factory-farmed animals are raised

"Nobody trusts the industrial food system to give them good food."
–Joel Salatin



2) Why raise your own livestock for eggs and meat?

B. Concerns about food democracy

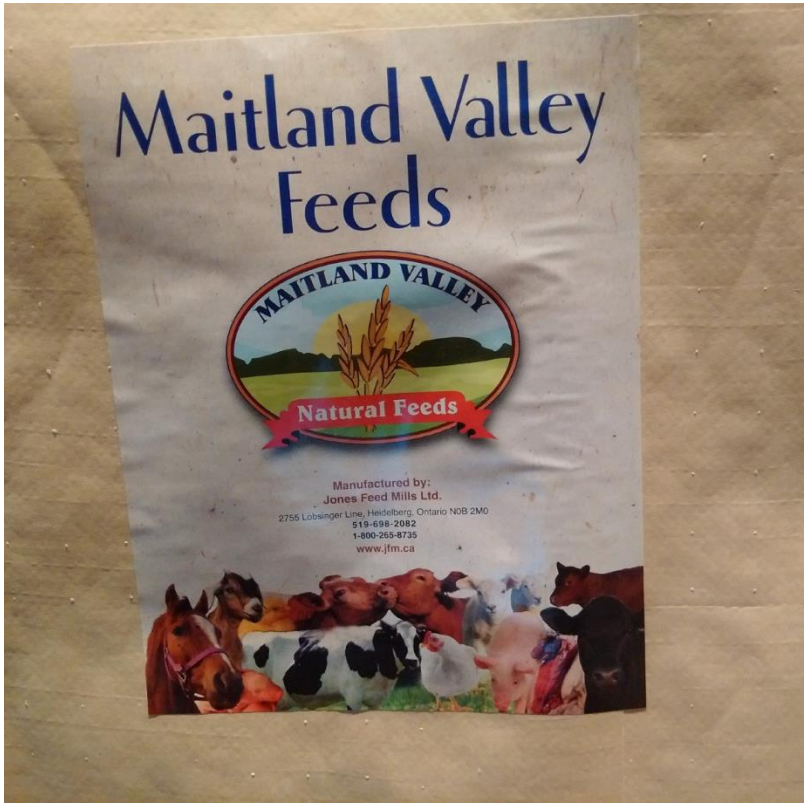
- Diversity
- Sustainability
- Security
- Sovereignty

"…if people lose their ability to feed themselves, how can they be said to be free?"
–Wendell Berry

2) Why raise your own livestock for eggs and meat?

C. Locally and ecologically raised eggs and meat

- Can avoid genetically modified (GMO) feed



2) Why raise your own livestock for eggs and meat?

C. Locally and ecologically raised eggs and meat

- Can avoid genetically modified (GMO) feed
- Reduces food waste sent to landfill
- Waste can be composted (does not pollute!)
- Backyards are local

3) Policies governing backyard butchering

OMAFRA regulations on urban livestock:

- "Animals must be slaughtered for consumption by the producer or the producers immediate family only,
- The slaughter must be performed on the producer's premises by the producers or a certified examiner, and;
- The meat must be consumed only by the producer or the producer's immediate family on the producer's premises."

OMAFRA Urban Agriculture Business Information Bundle:
http://www.omafra.gov.on.ca/english/busdev/valueadd-bib/index.htm