



## NEWSLETTER – JANUARY 2011

It's a new year, alive with possibility and the potential for good. What will you do this year to benefit the lives of animals, and in so doing, ultimately benefit the planet and the people also?

**Beauty Without Cruelty** has been in South Africa for over 35 years, and while the initial focus was on the testing of cosmetics and skin care on animals, over time the organisation has embraced the fight against all exploitation and now works toward exposing and educating the public about all levels of use, misuse and abuse, including animals in entertainment (hunting, circuses, advertisements, for example) vivisection (the use of animals for medical and research procedures and testing) wildlife exploitation, (hunting, human-animal interaction, skins, porcupine quills etc) factory farming, fur and any other area where animals are exploited.

You can make a difference!

- Support only animal free circuses ( in Cape Town, there is a permanent circus – visit <http://www.sacircus.com> for information!)
- Do not visit wild animal petting establishments
- If schools offer these options, take your child to an animal free event instead and *tell the school your reasons*
- Use the BWC cosmetic and householder cleaner guide for humane options. Often the cleaners are concentrated / without fillers and so one uses less.
- Reduce or eliminate animal products in your diet. The BWC Living Without Cruelty cookbook makes this easier. <http://www.bwcsa.co.za/merch>
- If you see fur in vet shops, pet stores or at the vet, complain! Buying a toy mouse for your cat, which in all probability is made from the fur of another (skinned alive) cat, is unacceptable!
- Support demos and protests in person
- Do not attend fireworks displays
- Sign proper petitions (from the petitionsite / avaaz / care2 / causes, for example, where e-mail addresses are authenticated) The e-mail list of names that go around are invalid and a waste of valuable time.
- Take out BWC membership, send a donation. We rely completely on public support to be able to function. We literally cannot do it without you! You can **SUPPORT US HERE**

## HELP RID SOUTH AFRICA OF GIN TRAPS

Gin traps are legally allowed in South Africa in the use of predator control. The agricultural sector promotes it and continues to fight to retain the use of leghold (gin) traps. Try slamming your card door shut on your hand and leaving it there for a minute or so and you may have some marginal inkling of what a terrified trapped animal may undergo for many hours or days before death.

Thousands of these gin or leg hold traps are laid monthly. A factory in Prince Albert, is still manufacturing as many as 1200 gin traps each month. It is estimated that between 12 000 and



15 000 of these traps are purchased and used annually, and like land mines, lie waiting, perhaps for the next 15 to 20 years, for the next unsuspecting human or non-human to walk into those jaws of death, especially in far lying areas where traps are definitely not checked on a regular basis at all.

Beauty Without Cruelty's position favours outlawing the use of gin traps for the benefit of all animals who fall prey to these terrible devices. To this end we recognize the need to implement non-lethal deterrents for farmers, all of which

have been successful elsewhere.

Despite decades of intense persecution, farmers have failed to eliminate jackal and caracal, demonstrating the futility of attempting to eradicate them from farmland.

**There are a few days left in which to object** to the The 'Draft Norms and Standards for the Management of Damage-Causing Animals in South Africa'. We have, as individual citizens, until 31st January 2011 (an extended date) to submit written representations and/or objections to this document .

What is presented in the DEAT's draft is the continued decimation and persecution of our wild animals in a way far more serious than something like rhino poaching. You can view it at [www.environment.gov.za](http://www.environment.gov.za). Nothing really changes except the existing situation is couched in language which uses words like 'humane', 'ethical' and 'informed'. The use of 'soft' traps as an alternative is completely unacceptable, they are nothing more than standard traps with a strip of rubber. Immense suffering and trauma remains the order of the day.

It is a rare opportunity to have a say, and is one small thing that we can each do. Please click to read the [proposed objection letter](#) drafted by the Landmark Foundation. You can also sign the online petition at [www.thepetitionsite.com](http://www.thepetitionsite.com).

## **POISONS**

Do we REALLY need that tin is the question one must ask before grabbing a toxic pesticide from the shelves. It starts with us!

Spiders, usually the target at home, are an environmentally friendly, natural pest control system. Spiders should in fact be seen as natural insecticides and should never be killed, irrespective! Please, consider the animals who have been deliberately poisoned to test that insecticide as well as the consequences for your health, your immediate environment in which you use the poison.

There are essential oils that are most effective at repelling insects including spiders, for example a few drops of peppermint oil mixed with water and sprayed will repel ants, spiders Aphids, beetles, fleas, lice, and moths!

The poison of choice used by the majority of South African criminals is a pesticide called Aldicarb. Criminals steal small amounts of this chemical which they usually mix with maize, bread, meat or corned beef. Despite legislation, control is clearly insufficient as Aldicarb and

other agricultural pesticides are available freely on street markets, where it is sold as a rat poison. Aldicarb is often illegally sold on the street in 5 g amounts of Temik (the trade name) and often mixed with mealie-meal for bulk.

But poisoning doesn't stop with the much-loved pets who are obstacles to criminals. Wild animals also fall victim to poisoning as farmers often use pesticides to get rid of "problem animals", such as jackals. Many non-target animals are also killed in the process and secondary poisoning then occurs when others, such as vultures, feed on the bodies of poison victims. *This is another reason for signing the above mentioned petition.*

Bayer imports and distributes Temik as an 'agricultural aid'. Poisoning is an extremely cruel method of killing animals and should one's animal be the target of poison, the animal poisoning must be reported to the police. One must insist that a case is opened when a poisoning case is reported. In addition to being able to lay charges in terms of the Animal Protection Act, charges can be laid in terms of the Fertilisers, Farm Feeds, Agriculture Remedies and Stock Remedies Act 36 of 1947 and Possession of an Illegal Substance Hazardous Substances Act 15 of 1973 in cases of Aldicarb (Temic) poisoning.

One of the worst poisons, 1080, is still available in South Africa. The poison was originally developed by the Nazis and its effects on humans and animals is frightening

I recently discovered that buying non-organic potatoes resulted in the terrible deaths of deliberately poisoned 'problem' animals – the effects and impact of not buying organic vegetables wherever possible goes beyond the impact to our own health, to the poisoning of insects, affecting our soil quality and also affecting or killing birdlife and fish, to the deliberate laying of bait traps near potato fields! Original source Servamus



Beauty Without Cruelty  
Defending Animal Rights

**YOU CAN SUPPORT US HERE**

## **APATHY IS JUST AS BAD AS ACTIVE CRUELTY**

Beauty Without Cruelty (South Africa), in its 36<sup>th</sup> year, is dedicated to educating the public about the use, misuse and abuse of animals for the pleasure and benefit of mankind, which is always to the detriment of the animals involved.

Animals have natural rights which include the right to freedom from unnaturally induced pain; the right to shelter; the right to nourishment; the right to indulge their natural instincts (behaviours); the right to freedom of movement and most importantly, the right to exist. Obviously, and shamefully, these rights are ignored for certain animals, for example, so-called 'farm' and 'laboratory animals'. Animals have intrinsic worth and their value should not be based on their usefulness or monetary value to humans.

Compassion, non violence and understanding or tolerance for all should form the basis of our education and the concept of animal sentience is paramount. Too often we hear 'but it's just an animal' If we treat the weak and helpless with disdain and contempt, it leads to treating all others in the same manner. First and foremost our language identifies our emotions – think about the fact that we often refer to cars and ships and 'she' yet we call a dog, cow or hippo as an 'it' – and so we behave accordingly.

A cat was recently crucified near Pretoria for having 'bewitching powers'. Superstition and lack of education regarding animals has led to some horrific behaviour on the part of humans. The fact that animals are perceived as having no soul, or having no feelings, or being seen as 'beneath' us has resulted in terrible agonies being inflicted on them, either through neglect or deliberate action. But humans who are supposedly educated are also responsible for the suffering of animals, some directly and others indirectly. For example, if there is a choice of purchasing a moisturizer or household cleaner that has been tested using animals or one that has been tested using non-animal methods, how many of us can't be bothered to shop with conscience, or don't want to think about it or just choose the cheapest option available?

How many of us will want the car with leather upholstery anyway, even while knowing those animals have in all likelihood been skinned alive, as the leather industry is a separate entity? (leather is not automatically a 'by product' please see <http://www.bwcsa.co.za/issues/animals-in-fashion/cows-in-fashion> )

Do we still insist on the perfume with real musk, knowing the animal died just for that product? How many of us turn away and refuse to see the reality of the suffering we cause through our own behaviour and purchases?

Do we insist on going to circuses that have animal acts, thus teaching our children that animals are here just to amuse us? An hour's entertainment for you means a lifetime of suffering for them! <http://www.bwcsa.co.za/animal-exploitation/entertainment>



Apathy is as dangerous as active cruelty. By ignoring the suffering we are complicit. Until we have respect and reverence for all life, until we truly live with compassion – not just for the select few, we will not find true peace within ourselves or in the world around us. We cannot continue to ignore the violence towards millions of earthlings and expect peace for ourselves.

Make this the year in which you will make conscious choices. Our free downloadable BWC approved list makes it easy! You can also get your handy one page BWC calendar. <http://www.bwcsa.co.za/downloads>

## **COMMON SALT** (Use Himalayan salt for consumption, gargling, etc)

Instead of buying poisons and toxic sprays and cleaners, use cheap salt. Here are just a few ideas:

**Deter ants.** Sprinkle salt at doorways, window sills or anywhere else. Ants don't like to walk on salt. **Deter weeds.** If weeds or grass grow between bricks or block, simply spread salt between the cracks, then sprinkle with water or wait for rain to wet it down. **General cleaning** For a basic soft scrub, make a paste with lots of salt, baking soda and dish soap and use on appliances, enamel, porcelain (including stained tea and coffee cups), etc. **Treat mosquito bites.** A saltwater soak can do wonders for itchy mosquito bites. **Cream.** Add a tiny pinch of salt to Orley Whip cream for quicker, higher peaks. **Save the bottom of your oven.** If a pie or casserole bubbles over in the oven, put a handful of salt on top of the spill. It won't smoke or smell and it will bake into a crust that makes the baked-on mess much easier to clean when it has cooled.

## MEAT FREE MONDAYS

If you still eat meat, make this the year to reduce or eliminate meat from your diet and enjoy the health benefits like significantly decreasing the likelihood of heart attacks and high blood pressure, for example. Meat Free Mondays are an easy way to lower your own environmental impact and help ensure worldwide food security. Pledge your support for the Meat Free Monday campaign, a Fry's initiative, in association with BWC and others. Also, you can support us with your purchase of a shopper, bracelet or recipe booklet. [www.supportmfm.co.za](http://www.supportmfm.co.za)



*There are great recipes using Fry's in the BWC Living Without Cruelty cookbook!*

## EDUCATION

Please mail Heather Howe in Cape Town ([heatherhowe@mweb.co.za](mailto:heatherhowe@mweb.co.za)) or Denis Fajans in Johannesburg to arrange a free, age suitable interactive presentation on the Beauty Without Cruelty concept at your child's school.

## RECIPE

Just one this time! Old fashioned, homemade Romany Creams are simply superb, easy to make and best of all, contain no animal ingredients!

125gr Cardin  
100 gr castor sugar (or organic sugar, blitzed to powder)  
100 gr coconut  
100gr cake flour  
2 Tbs cocoa powder  
 $\frac{3}{4}$  tsp baking powder  
Pinch salt  
50gr dairy free chocolate

Beat the marg and sugar together until creamy. Add coconut. Sift the other dry ingredients together and add to the creamed mixture, mix together (you can use your hand) until you have a ball of dough. Roll tsp of the dough into a ball and place on baking sheet, flattening them with a fork. Bake @ 180 for about 10 minutes.

Cool, melt the chocolate and use it to sandwich pairs of biscuits. Enjoy!

## MERCHANDISE

Visit <http://www.bwcsa.co.za/merch> and see how easy it is to order our fabulous Living Without Cruelty cookbook, blank cards or tee shirts.

**Please support BWC while shopping- to get your free My Village loyalty card, click here**



*If you need to update your details so you can add us as a beneficiary without losing your current beneficiary, please contact 0860 100 445. For a list of other partners in your area where you can swipe your card when you shop, please click here*

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