

healthy vegetarians. As for governments, if they want to subsidize something, why not the small family farm instead of the beef industry? The beef industry may have a powerful lobby, but who wants all that heart disease, diabetes, colon cancer, not to mention all the bad karma from killing innocent animals!

Don't we all hanker for a simpler, cleaner, more wholesome, less violent Earth?

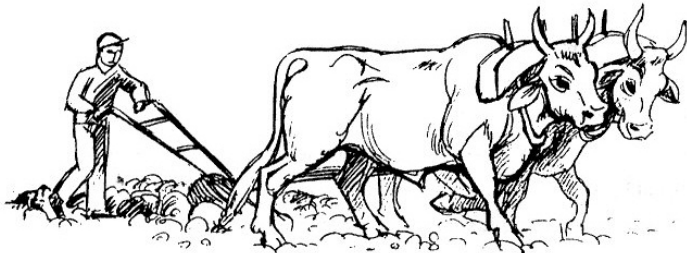
Want to know more? Check one of the below.

___ put my name on the mailing list for more information

___ annual membership for \$21. (tri-annual ISCOWP newsletter)

Name	E-mail	
Street/Box	City	
State	Zip.	Tel#

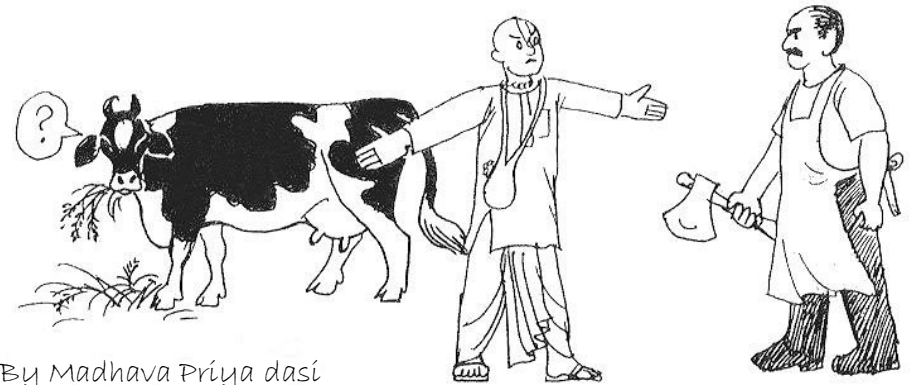
ISCOWP (International Society for Cow Protection, Inc.)
 ISKCON Ministry for Cow Protection and Agriculture
 RD 1 Box 322A, Moundsville, WV 26041, USA
iscowp@earthlink.net
www.iscowp.org
<http://iscowp.blogspot.com>



***The Ox is the Backbone of the Farm,
 NOT the Soupbone***

* worldwatch.org, madcowboy.com,

WHAT DO THEY *MEAN* BY COW PROTECTION?



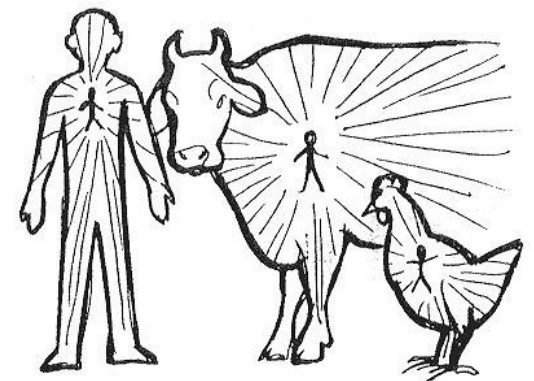
By Madhava Priya dasi

Hearing the term "Cow Protection," people typically have one of two reactions. Some think protection is for endangered species, and since there are lots of cows, it's better to concentrate on whales. Others think it may be some pagan worship of animals – the "sacred cow" image.

THE ACTUAL PHILOSOPHICAL REASON FOR COW PROTECTION IS VERY SIMPLE: First of all, all living entities should be protected from slaughter and other violence at the hands of humans. Not only cows, but animals have SOULS the same as we do. All are children of God, all are dear to Him.

With this view in mind, it can be seen that slaughter is a from of MURDER.

The cow, however, is our



MOTHER. Vedic philosophy teaches this and that there are 7 mothers: 1) the birth mother, 2) the nurse, 3) the wife of the father (if she is not the birth mother, 4) the wife of the king, 5) the wife of the spiritual master, 6) the earth, and 7) the cow because she gives milk to nourish us.

All mothers should hold a position of respect, and since one does not kill and eat one's mother, the cow should not be killed and eaten. Likewise, the bull is our father, because he can plow the earth to produce food grains. One does not kill and eat one's father and mother—not even when they are old and less economically useful.

5000 years ago, Lord Krishna, the Supreme Personality of Godhead appeared on earth to protect His devotees and to demonstrate His pastimes. Among those pastimes was His childhood role as a cowherd boy. The cows were very dear to Him because of their affectionate and gentle nature as well as their contributions to human society, and He was kind to them in return and protected them. We should follow His example.

In practice, the first principle of cow protection, surprisingly, is OX EMPLOYMENT.



employed as oxen, their only economic usefulness will be their slaughter.

The modern system of agriculture sees no other economically viable means of management. And most people, accustomed to this viewpoint and seeing no alternative, will throw up their hands and agree, even if they'd prefer a less violent solution.

But that is only because they don't have all the facts. They don't know that the overall value of an ox is greater when he's utilized for work than when he's slaughtered for meat.



The present system is full of ironies and very wasteful. Everyone laments the loss of the small family farm. But economic forces today require quantity control—which is dependent on expensive tractors, polluting fossil fuels, chemical fertilizers, and heavy mortgages—and the small farmer is driven out of business.

Yet, beef production is subsidized in countries like USA and India. To produce beef there is a disproportionate expenditure of the Earth's resources. In a world with increasing population and mass starvation, producing one calorie of flesh (beef, pork, or chicken) requires 11-17 calories of feed. 78 calories of fossil fuel are needed to produce 1 calorie of protein from beef. Two-thirds of Central America's rainforest have been destroyed to supply beef. *

A BETTER SYSTEM would require rearranging the components. First, breed cows not to provide milk with calves as the by-product, but to provide a team of oxen for every family farm with milk as the by-product. There will be neither excess milk nor excess calves. The oxen will be out in the pastures eating simply—they do not need a heavy grain diet—and naturally fertilizing the soil, saving the farmer the cost of tractor, fuel, and fertilizer. The oxen will be quite content to use their big muscles in such wholesome work, and the humans can become

A mistake is made when only the cow is considered because typically her main usefulness is seen as milk production, and she won't give milk unless she first has a calf. Since half of all calves are bulls, the result is a lot of excess bovine population. The expense of feeding them will be a deficit to the farmer. Unless

