



## Translation (by Marrie Powell)

The Federal Minister for Nutrition, Agriculture  
Mrs. Julia KLÖCKNER  
Wilhelmstr. 4  
10117 Berlin

Stelle, August 07<sup>th</sup>, 2018

Dear Madam,

In the name of the **Working Group for Species-Appropriate Animal Husbandry (AGfaN)**, I would like to thank you for your vote regarding increased controls in livestock managements.

In particular the widely differing executions of controls within the states of the federation have reached a scandalous extent and appear to be one of the main causes – if not even the decisive cause - for situations which are violating the situation in animal welfare.



Not only during their first pasturage of the year, dairy cattle enjoy the kind of management that is most agreeable with their needs! © AGfaN e.V.

From our perspective, which is based on dialogues with managers of animal livestock and public veterinarians, we request you to consider the following aspects:

1. As a rule, controls should be carried out without previous announcement so that the possibility of a quick elimination of abuses in animal welfare situations cannot take place.
2. As a goal, in the case of follow-up controls that are required due to ascertained shortcomings, we regard the charging of cost-covering fees a necessity in order to achieve long-term effects (compare the example of Lower Saxony).
3. It is of importance that public veterinarians – at least in the case of previously announced controls - should be accompanied by legal experts with special additional training in animal welfare legislation. *Justification:* In particular owners (managers) of large-scale animal managements are frequently accompanied by their legal representatives who most of the time exercise an intimidating influence.
4. These controls should also be extended to animal waste processing plants. *Justification:* The broad-based study of Prof. Dr. Elisabeth Große Beilage has – as must be known to you – resulted in the fact that numerous perished animals that were rendered must have previously been suffering for longer periods of time. In particular, we must point out here the wide-spread camouflaged suffering of dairy animals who are driven into the milking parlour „as long as they are able to walk on three legs“ because the expenses for their treatment would be so high that they are milked „to the bitter end“ due to the notoriously low disbursements of the dairies.

Yours sincerely,

*Eckard Wendt*, chairman