

Tesco tortures turtles



They die a prolonged death in agony, anyone can wield the knife and wild populations are being devastated. **But Tesco claims there's nothing wrong in selling live turtles to eat**

“No ethical company should be involved in this trade”

Dr John Wedderburn, Animals Asia Protection Network

**Complain to Tesco on freephone 0800 505 555
or email: customer.service@tesco.co.uk**

Viva!, 8 York Court, Wilder Street, Bristol BS2 8QH T 0117 944 1000 E info@viva.org.uk W www.viva.org.uk/turtles

Viva!

Turn over to speak out for the Tesco turtles >>>

YES, I want to help Viva! end Tesco's trade in live turtles.

I enclose a donation of:

£10 £15 £20 £50 £100 £200 Other £.....

Please make cheque/PO payable to Viva!

OR debit my Visa/Master/Switch/Maestro/Delta card

Expiry Date Switch Issue No/Start Date

Cardholder's Signature

Standing order...

You can also give by regular standing order. Giving just a small amount each month has a great impact on Viva!'s work. For example, a £3 or £5 monthly donation enables us to plan ahead how best to save animals. Please complete this form and return to **Viva!**, not your bank.

Title First Name

Surname

Address

I wish to give Viva! a monthly gift of:

£3 £5 £10 Other £.....

Your Bank's Name

And Address (inc Postcode)

Bank Instructions: Please pay the above amount on the same day every month starting on / / until further notice.

Bank Sort Code

(Six digit number at the top right of your cheque)

Account Holder's Name

Account Number

Signature

Today's Date / /

Bank: please quote the following reference

VIVA! USE ONLY

To the Co-operative Bank (08-92-99) for the credit of Viva! Campaigns Ltd
account 65052996

Please return to: **Viva!, 8 York Court, Wilder St, Bristol BS2 8QH**

Viva! agrees with the Tortoise Trust when it says:

“We find Tesco’s attitude ethically repugnant and morally bankrupt.”

And we hope you do too! If so, express your disgust direct to Tesco and ask them to stop selling live animals in China by ringing customer services on freefone 0800 505 555. Or write direct to the Chief Executive, Sir Terry Leahy, Tesco House, Delamare Road, Cheshunt, Waltham Cross, Herts EN8 9SL or email: customer.service@tesco.co.uk

Visit www.viva.org.uk/turtles for more ideas on how to campaign for turtles.

You can help us – add your voice to ours and join our campaign. Tick the boxes below to receive free information. Together we can save thousands of animals from acute suffering.

Please send me a free:

Turtles action pack Go veggie pack

Title First Name

Surname

Address



“Wild animals sold by Tesco are captured, tortured and slaughtered in the most horrible ways imaginable. Clearly, every little hurts.”

Hayley Mills, Viva! patron and star of ITV's Wild at Heart

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They saw the dinosaurs come and go but turtles now face the greatest threat in their 210 million years existence. Wild populations of red-eared terrapins and the Chinese soft-shelled turtles are under threat because some people eat them.

When Tesco bought the Hymall chain of 39 supermarkets in China it continued the store's policy of selling live turtles. Its sales assistants kill them to order or sell them live for their customers to butcher any way they choose.

This is how Tesco kill them.

If they can persuade the turtle to pop his head out of his shell, they chop it off. If he won't, they smash open the shell to get at it. Once severed, the head can live for up to an hour.

The live turtles people take away may be boiled alive, have their shells sliced off and organs and fat cut out leaving the animal still alive and in agony.

How do Tesco excuse their actions?

“Animals are killed immediately to minimise the risk of suffering.”

No they're not. Experts agree - it is almost impossible to kill a small turtle painlessly because of its slow metabolism and ability to live on very little oxygen.

“We comply with all the standards set in China.”

That's easy – there are no welfare standards.

“They are not caught in the wild and are sourced in a sustainable way.”

This makes the barbarity acceptable? Experts maintain that most turtles sold are wild caught and merely 'laundered' through turtle farms. Between 1996 and 2000, 25 million turtles were exported to China from the US – most were wild caught and many were bought by turtle farms. A further 12 million wild turtles are caught for the food trade every year in China.

Tesco knows the situation because some of the biggest wildlife organisations have told them – WWF, WSPA, Wildlife Conservation Union, World Conservation Union, Traffic International, Care for the Wild, Turtlesco and the Tortoise Trust. They've chosen to ignore them all.

“It would be wrong to impose our values on other countries.”

So presumably we can look forward to Tesco Rwanda selling gorilla and chimpanzee bush meat?



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