

# We can improve farm animal welfare

## HOUSING TECHNOLOGY CERTIFICATION CAN HELP



Agricultural payments and other market-based mechanisms drive investments in intensification over sustainable alternatives. Policies target farmers – just one part in the supply chain – ignoring other directly related industries like tech suppliers and their products.

### Technology certification works

The Swiss mandatory technology certification system – also applied in Austria – has ensured that:

- ✓ Farmers are choosing to use fewer technologies that may harm animal welfare.
- ✓ There are major improvements in technology standards available on the market.
- ✓ National legislation is regularly revised and effectively enforced.
- ✓ Collaborative efforts between different actors, including farmers, technology suppliers and authorities are successful.
- ✓ Production methods incorporate scientifically validated practices in animal housing and management.

### Intensive farming is a choice, not a necessity

- Large-scale intensive farming systems inherently cause complex challenges, including animal welfare problems.
- Evidence suggests an ever-growing urgency to ensure the production of quality goods in sustainable and welfare-friendly ways, instead of an increase in the quantity of food production.

### Animal welfare is important because...

- All farm animals are sentient and deserve to be housed and cared for in accordance with their physical, physiological and behavioural needs.
- Intensive systems are a response to market pressures to make more food at lower cost, and it's nearly impossible for farmers to prioritise profitability *and* welfare.



Technology certification of intensive housing systems provides checks and balances that ensure high welfare standards in production.



Mariann Molnár, PhD • Animal Welfare Program, University of British Columbia  
mariann.sz.molnar@ubc.ca

Learn more: [tinybeamfund.org/Fellowship-Awards-Mariann-Molnar](https://tinybeamfund.org/Fellowship-Awards-Mariann-Molnar)

TINY  
BEAM  
FUND