KNOW THE IACIS

ABOUT PREMARIN PRODUCTION

Please use this fact sheet to educate others about what is happening in the Premarin producing pee barns of Canada and North Dakota.

Premarin stands for **Pre**gnant **Mar**es Urine, used in synthetic hormone replacement therapy drugs for women.

Besides causing many life altering side effects in women including stroke, gallbladder disease, abnormal blood clotting, depression, dizziness, irregular bleeding or spotting, bloating, nausea, and increased risk of breast or uterine cancer, the production of Premarin is a cruel and inhumane business.

Here are the facts:

- Pregnant mares are confined to tiny stalls for six to seven months of their elevenmonth pregnancy. They cannot turn around or lie down comfortably. Most stand the entire length of their confinement.
- The mares are harnessed to urine collection devices, which cause infections and painful chafing of their legs. Infected sores are often left untreated.

- The mares are fed and watered on a timereleased basis. They are deliberately deprived of water so estrogen in their urine is as concentrated as possible.
- Many foals born to the mares die shortly after birth, unable to survive the harsh environmental conditions. Surviving colts are considered "by-products" and are sold for slaughter.
- Many mares experience severe hoof neglect.
 Overgrown, curled-up hooves are common and painful.
- Specific laws and government regulations do not apply to the treatment of mares on Premarin farms. Instead, the standard is dictated only by an inadequate code called "Recommended Code of Practice for The Care and Handling of Horses in PMU Operations," which was written by Wyeth Ayerst and is poorly enforced. Thus, the horses do not have any legal protection.
- Sadly, many mares endure years of the production process until they can no longer conceive, and then are cruelly sent off to slaughter.

