



Dear Prince Charles,

Greetings from the farm!

I don't suppose you have many of your subject cows writing to you, but as you know COP26 is coming up fast so I feel I have to urgently put hoof to paper.

It's about an important issue that is incredibly vital to the world's survival, and yet rarely if ever discussed and in fact mostly ignored. Without any irony, I call it the 'cow in the room'.

And it's this:

it's a scientific fact that animal agriculture overall is responsible for a staggering 87% of greenhouse gas emissions. So eating animals is one of the leading causes of climate change. Going vegan can save us all.

Why is that? Well two main reasons. Firstly, and not to put too fine a point on it, I blow off a lot. I naturally emit methane from both ends and always will.

There are at least a billion cows like me being farmed right now, that's a lot of methane coming out.

Secondly, meat producers are forcing us to over-graze and destroy plant life, they're removing vegetation such as trees that would sequester carbon dioxide from the atmosphere.

In fact if grazing lands were restored to forests, they could suck up the CO₂ from all our fossil fuel emissions. Existing grazing lands could also be used to grow crops for you humans to eat, rather than to be inefficiently turned into meat.

And it isn't just about us cows, all animal agriculture contributes to climate change and ill-health in humans. I know you care about obesity in children, but pigs are still being pumped full of hormones and chemicals that make humans as fat as them.

I know you are a champion of environmentalism and, as you said yourself on the BBC, you foresee "catastrophic" impact if more ambitious action isn't taken on climate change. You have also called for people to reduce their meat intake, as you already have.

Can I ask you to go further?

Encouraging veganism will reduce damage to our climate, and our health, in one simple stroke.

I know the pressures the meat industry can exert and I know their arguments, which are dishonest, corrupt and often crazy. We need a voice as powerful as yours to state that a better way to tackle climate change is through what we eat.

We need to end the killing and burning machine, reset the planet's food system. You said the Glasgow climate conference was "a last chance saloon" and said it would be "a disaster" if the world did not come together to tackle climate change.

On behalf of all animals, I'll be at COP26, in fact you won't be able to miss me.

Let's start a movement together.

Yours faithfully,

Vega,

Cow and Climate Healer
thecowintheroom.org