

Frank Perdue: Liar. Polluter. Mobster.

"Like the Chicago meat-packing industry, exposed by Upton Sinclair in 1906, today's poultry business is an over-heated jungle that cripples workers (mostly Black women), cheats farmers and poisons consumers at an alarming rate. Perdue Farms is a company that typifies the industry."

Bob Hall, Institute for Southern Studies

In 1986, Frank Perdue confessed to the President's Commission on Organized Crime that he asked the Gambino crime family in New York to help him fight the United Food and Commercial Workers union.

Frank Perdue lied to the public on television, claiming to offer healthy birds fed a natural diet. In fact, the Perdue diet includes items no bird would eat naturally and Perdue factories have been observed processing birds with cancerous tumors. Unlike the Perdue birds on TV, Perdue birds in real life live for six weeks in squalid misery and then die painfully before reaching maturity.

"Decades of relentless growth have propelled the poultry industry into the primary source of pollution reaching key portions of the Chesapeake and coastal bays of Maryland, Virginia and Delaware....Perdue, the country's second-largest chicken producer, trucks millions of gallons of waste a year from its Delaware slaughterhouses into Maryland, where the loads are injected into fields. Delaware limits such dumping, but Maryland does not."

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Frank Perdue: Law-breaker. Exploiter.

In 1989, National Public Radio reported that Perdue workers in Lewiston, North Carolina, were fired if they reported injuries.

In February 2000, a federal judge ruled that Perdue Farms willfully violated federal wage laws by denying its workers overtime wages

"The fear, the harassment is so bad, I call it a closed-in slave camp... Most people just can't take it. The pay is good for these rural areas, but the treatment is inhuman. They actually feel like they own you."

Former Perdue factory worker Donna Bazemore

"The problem with Perdue might reflect the ethics of its founder, Frank Perdue."

Russell Mokhiber, Multinational Monitor, upon naming Perdue Farms one of the 10 worst corporations of 1989.

Perdue helped block federal legislation to add poultry to the Humane Methods of Slaughter Act and has fought Maryland's efforts to regulate poultry waste, despite mounting evidence of damage to the Chesapeake Bay.

Frank Perdue: Shame on you!