

## **Something to chew on:**

Based on live value, byproducts account for more than 10 percent of the value for cattle (almost 19 billion pounds in 2010), and more than 6 percent of the value for hogs (about 8.9 billion pounds-2010) Exports alone, of beef/ veal and pork offal in 2010 reached a record \$1.2 billion

Animal byproducts also are important to the development and ultimate availability of modern human medicines. Glands removed from livestock at slaughter, such as the adrenal, parathyroid, pituitary, thyroid, and thymus glands; ovaries; pancreas; and testes provide many of the hormones and enzymes used in the medical field (Aberle et al., 2001). Among the medicines that can be obtained from animal glands are epinephrine, estrogens, progesterone, insulin, trypsin, parathyroid hormone, adrenocorticotrophic hormone (ACTH), somatotropin, thyroid stimulating hormone, testosterone, thyroxin, and thymosin. source: Economic Research Service USDA . gov LDP-M-209-01 Nov. 2011

Now, if your dogs hormones are of so little importance to their overall well being, why is it such a lucrative business for the pharmaceutical companies to harvest those very animal parts to retrieve the very hormones (vets so readily push you into removing), so that synthetic versions can be made for humans (who's health is at risk due to lack of important hormones).

Progesterone and estrogen can be extracted from pig ovaries. It may be used to treat reproductive problems in women. Relaxin is a hormone taken from the ovaries of pregnant sows, and is often used during childbirth.

It is practically guaranteed that once you neuter your female boxer she will end up getting an acquired thyroid problem, often losing hair on her trunk that most often cannot be regrown until they put her on a synthetic thyroid hormone to replace those she lost due to neutering in the first place.

## **Ironic**

I find it mind blowing that there are so many animal activists, animal lovers etc. of all walks of life and education levels, who happily tout boycotting companies that use animals to test their human consumption products, i.e.: makeup, perfumes, various skin products etc. Yet these same peoples can be found on various internet forms telling other pet loving people they are irresponsible for not using the toxic flea, tick and heart worm pesticides pushed on them from their veterinarians - all of which were tested on lab animals, all of which sacrificed their lives in various stages of the study or at the end of it.

It'd be almost comical if it weren't so tragic.