

Animal protection laws

LETTER TO THE EDITOR – THE IRISH TIMES

Dear Editor –

Dear Madam

Your report of Monday, May 4th – “Outbreak of brucellosis denied by dog breeder” – draws attention yet again to one of the great lacuna in our animal protection laws. Such as they are. We are still awaiting any legislation to control “puppy farming”, or, indeed, any aspect of small animal breeding on any scale.

Numerous attempts to arouse the interest of the “Green” element of this Government have been studiously ignored and unanswered. Even with this supposed “Green” input Ireland’s animal protection lags pathetically behind that which we should expect from a civilised and educated modern nation. Shame on us all and particularly on our politicians.

Yours sincerely,

Veronica Lynam

Chairperson

Westmeath Environmental Group

High Town

Corals Town

Mullingar

Co Westmeath, 7 May 2009

P.S. 700 breeding bitches and over 300 puppies – despite what the spokeswoman said those numbers make it a farming operation of some size.