**1. Industrial Livestock Production**

Today, most animals are no longer raised on small farms. Instead, they live in huge buildings or feedlots with many other animals. They don’t graze outside or eat natural food.  
Their waste is stored in big pits and sprayed onto fields, but this often causes pollution.  
This system breaks the natural farming cycle where animals and plants help each other. Now, animals are just part of a machine to make food quickly and cheaply.

**2. Why Is Industrially-Raised Meat So Cheap?**

Meat is cheaper today because big companies raise lots of animals very fast.  
They get help from the government and save money by using large farms.  
But they don’t pay for the damage they cause, like water pollution or health problems.  
In the end, regular people pay for those problems with their taxes.  
That’s why industrial meat may look cheap, but it has hidden costs.

**3. Animal Feeding Operations (AFOs)**

These big animal farms are called Animal Feeding Operations, or AFOs.  
Animals are kept in one place for many days, without growing plants or grass.  
If the farm is very large or pollutes the water, it’s called a CAFO—Concentrated Animal Feeding Operation.  
Most meat in the U.S. comes from CAFOs.  
These places focus on raising as many animals as possible, not on animal care or the environment.