

FACTORY FARM OFFENDER

PILGRIM'S PRIDE CORP.

Pilgrim's Pride Corp.
4845 US Highway 271 N
Pittsburg, TX 75686-0093
Phone: 903-855-1000
Web Site: <http://www.pilgrimspride.com>

CEO: O.B. Goolsby Jr., Age: 59, Salary: \$ 1.62 million

COMPANIES (dba): Comercializadora de Carnes de Mexico, Inmobiliaria Avicola Pilgrim's Pride, Pilgrim's Pride Affordable Housing Corp., Pilgrim's Turkey Co., Mayflower Insurance Co., and others not listed here for lack of space. For a complete list please see Pilgrim's Pride's 10-K report.

FORTUNE 500 RANKING: 364

ANNUAL REVENUE: 5.64 billion

NUMBER OF EMPLOYEES: 35,400 in the U.S. and 5,150 in Mexico

HEADQUARTERS: Pittsburgh, Texas

LOCATIONS: Pilgrim's Pride operates 22 chicken processing plants in Alabama, Arkansas, Georgia, Kentucky, Louisiana, North Carolina, Tennessee, Texas, Virginia, and West Virginia. They have one turkey processing plant in Pennsylvania, one chicken processing plant in Puerto Rico, and three chicken processing plants in Mexico. In the U.S., the processing plants are supported by 26 hatcheries, 20 feed mills and eight rendering plants. In Puerto Rico, the processing plant is supported by one hatchery and one feed mill. In Mexico, the processing plants are supported by six hatcheries, four feed mills, and two rendering facilities. They also operate ten prepared foods plants, nine of which process chicken products and one that processes turkey products. These plants are located in Georgia, Louisiana, Pennsylvania, Tennessee, Texas and West Virginia.

BRANDS/PRODUCTS: Pilgrim's Pride produces fresh and prepared chicken and turkey products, including chicken strips, nuggets, sausage, burgers, and whole birds. They also produce eggs, commercial feeds and proteins used for animal feed. The company sells its products to chain restaurants, food processors, grocery store chains, and other retail distributors. Brands include Pierce, Easy-Entre and Wing-Dings, but the majority of their products are marketed under the brands Pilgrim's Pride, Country Pride and Pilgrim's Signature.

POLLUTION VIOLATIONS:

- **Mt. Pleasant, TX** - Pilgrim's Pride was cited on numerous occasions by both the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency and the Texas Water Commission for repeatedly violating the terms of its waste discharge permit. But rather than attempt to clean up the pollution and prevent future waste discharges, Pilgrim's Pride requested a 25 percent increase in its discharge limit.

- **National** - The company's other facilities are also guilty of repeated pollution violations. Between 1986 and 1996, Pilgrim's Pride received nearly 200 violations, notices of violations and official complaints, as well as seven out-of-court settlements. They have received violations for a variety of reasons, including waste water pollution and nuisance odor violations due to the spreading of chicken parts, including intact feet and beaks, on land as "fertilizer."

OCCUPATIONAL HEALTH & SAFETY VIOLATIONS & LABOR STANDARDS VIOLATIONS:

- **National** - The U.S. Department of Labor, Occupational Health & Safety Administration (OSHA) assessed Tyson slaughter and processing operations and issued more than 18 violations and fines between 2001 and 2006 for failing to provide employees with a safe work environment.
- **Arkansas** - On December 31, 2003, Pilgrim's Pride was served with a class action complaint entitled Angela Goodwin, Gloria Willis, Johnny Gill, Greg Hamilton, Nathan Robinson, Eddie Gusby, Pat Curry, Persons Similarly Situated v. ConAgra Poultry Co. and Pilgrim's Pride, Inc. in the U.S. District Court, Western District of Arkansas, El Dorado Division, alleging racial and age discrimination.

HUMANE SLAUGHTER VIOLATIONS & DOCUMENTED ANIMAL ABUSE:

- **Morgantown, WV** - In July 2004, representatives of an animal advocacy group released a videotape showing the severe abuse of chickens by workers at a Pilgrim's Pride slaughterhouse in West Virginia. An undercover investigator observed workers at the plant tearing beaks off chickens, spitting tobacco juice into birds' mouths, suffocating a chicken by tying a latex glove over her head and squeezing birds like water balloons to spray feces over other birds. Although Pilgrim's Pride eventually fired 11 workers, the county prosecutor refused to file charges because she felt the incident did not "rise to the level of a criminal prosecution due to the fact that these were chickens in a slaughterhouse."

FOOD SAFETY VIOLATIONS:

The U.S. Department of Agriculture, Food Safety & Inspection Service (FSIS) took the following enforcement actions against Gold Kist slaughter and processing plants in 2005 :

- **Farmerville, LA** - Plant was issued a Notice of Intended Enforcement for Sanitation Standard Operating Procedures (SSOP), Hazard Analysis Critical Control Point System (HACCP) and Sanitation Performance Standards (SPS) violations on September 9, 2005.

PRODUCT RECALLS:

- **Franconia, PA** - In 2002, in the Northeast U.S., there was a massive outbreak of Listeriosis caused by *Listeria monocytogenes*, a bacteria found in animal feces. In an effort to determine the cause of the mysterious and widespread outbreak, a team of more than 50 FSIS and Centers for Disease Control (CDC) investigators and scientists launched an investigation. After what they described as a "very difficult case" they were able to trace the outbreak back to a Franconia, Pennsylvania Pilgrim's Pride plant. In response to this, Pilgrim's Pride recalled all potentially contaminated products produced at the plant from May 1 through October 11, 2002. In connection with this recall, they were named as defendant in a number of lawsuits brought by individuals alleging sickness and long-term injury resulting from contracting *Listeria monocytogenes*.

OTHER:

- Pilgrim's Pride slaughters over 30 million chickens every week. In 2003, they purchased industrial giant ConAgra Foods' chicken division, making them one of the largest producers of poultry in the U.S., Mexico, and Puerto Rico.

- In 2006, Pilgrim's Pride was ranked number two overall in the food production industry on Fortune magazine's list of Most Admired Companies. It is the fourth consecutive year that the company has been included on the list. The ranking is based on quality of products, financial soundness, use of corporate assets, social responsibility, innovation, employee talent, long-term investment, quality of management, and several other factors.

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