INVESTIGATIVE SPECIAL REPORT
VERSION 1.1 DECEMBER 15, 2020

SOUTH CAROLINA
THE NORTH CAROLINA COCKFIGHTING INDUSTRY
AN INVESTIGATION OF NORTH CAROLINA’S INVOLVEMENT IN THE COCKFIGHTING INDUSTRY
North Carolina is the number two pork-producing state in the nation and also the second largest grower of turkeys. It is also one of the nation’s top states for producing fighting birds, despite unambiguous state and federal laws that bar possessing and selling animals for fights in the state and beyond. Link to the law: [Click here](#).

There are occasional arrests of fighting enthusiasts, including two individuals arrested recently in Catacamas County at a cockfight in progress, and 70 individuals with North Carolina addresses apprehended at a fight over the border in Virginia. (Article 1)(Article 2) But most cockfighters continue to operate without consequence. The biggest part of their business involves the illegal trafficking of fighting animals for export.

This investigative report reveals illegal shipments of fighting animals from North Carolina to Guam and to other nations, including the Philippines and Vietnam. An Animal Wellness Action (AWA) and Animal Wellness Foundation (AWF) review of shipping records of fighting animals to Guam found that North Carolina cockfighters were collectively among the biggest “growers” of fighting birds moved to the tiny U.S. territory of Guam, which has for decades been a Pacific Island hub for cockfighting.

We determined that birds were shipped from North Carolina to Guam without food or water on a multi-day journey of 9,000 miles, illegally transported through the U.S. mail. Animals are fraudulently described as “brood fowl,” when in fact they are destined for fighting pits. The masquerade that the North Carolina cockfighters are shipping “brood fowl” – rather than birds for fighting – does not withstand scrutiny. Guam has no broiler bird or laying hen industry, and it has no show fowl circuit. Our report also documents that the people shipping the fighting animals are unmistakably involved in illegal fighting, and that the Guam shipment of animals nearly 9,000 miles could only be justified because other cockfighters are willing to pay as much as $2,000 for a bird with a good bloodline. The offspring of birds who win major derbies are the ones coveted by other cockfighters, who can win cash prizes and trophies if their birds prevail in derbies, such as the World Slasher Cup in the Philippines.

A review of avian shipping records to Guam from U.S states found more than 500 probable illegal shipments of fighting birds during a four-year period ending in September 2020. There were 137 Guamanians who imported nearly 9,000 fighting birds onto Guam, and 60 “exporters” who sent birds from U.S. states to Guam. North Carolina cockfighting farms rank fourth in the
number of birds shipped to Guam, only behind Oklahoma, California, and Hawaii and just ahead of Alabama. These five states accounted for 52 percent of all cockfighting roosters sent to Guam during the period we examined.

Since 2002, it has been illegal to transport birds from any state to any other jurisdiction in the U.S. or abroad.

**Under federal law, it is a crime to:**

- Knowingly sponsoring or exhibiting in an animal fighting venture;

- Knowingly attending an animal fighting venture, or knowingly causing an individual who has not attained the age of 16 to attend an animal fighting venture;

- Knowingly buying, selling, possessing, training, transporting, delivering or receiving any animal for the purposes of having the animal participate in an animal fighting venture;

- Knowingly using the mail service of the U.S. Postal Service, or any “written, wire, radio televisions or other form of communications in, or using a facility of, interstate commerce;” to advertise an animal for use in an animal fighting venture, or to advertise a knife, gaff, or other sharp instrument designed to be attached to the leg of a bird for use in an animal fighting venture, or to promote or in any other manner further an animal fighting venture except as performed outside the U.S.;

- Knowingly selling, buying, transporting, or delivering in interstate or foreign commerce “a knife, a gaff, or any other sharp instrument” designed or intended to be attached to the leg of a bird for use in an animal fighting venture.

Penalties for each violation of any one of these provisions allows for a maximum of 5 years in prison and a $250,000 fine for perpetrators, except for an adult attending an animal fighting venture. Penalties for adult attendance are 1 year in prison and a $5,000 fine. An “animal fighting venture” involves “a fight conducted or to be conducted between at least 2 animals for purposes of sport, wagering, or entertainment, except that the term animal fighting venture shall not be deemed to include any activity the primary purpose of which involves the use or one or more animals in hunting another animal.”

North Carolina’s Congressional delegation has been consistently supportive of the enactment of federal anti-animal fighting policies. A House amendment to fortify the federal law to ban cockfighting and dogfighting everywhere in the U.S., including in the U.S. territories, attracted
the support of 12 of 14 members of the North Carolina delegation, with only Virginia Fox, R-5th, and Rep. Butterworth, D-1st, opposing the provision.

Based on our multi-faceted investigation, we have reason to believe that the individuals named in this report are engaged in prohibited activities. We examined satellite images of their gamefarms, captured social media posts and images, mined cockfighting magazines and other primary industry sources, and reviewed videos from cockfighting YouTube pages providing tours of their farms and marketing their birds to the Philippines. In addition, we have received tips from local citizens of North Carolina, concerned about animal abuse, and illegal activity in their communities.

The following table lists exporters found to have shipped birds from their gamefarms in North Carolina to Guam. In addition, we also list additional gamefarms in NC found to advertise shipping to other states and other cockfighting hubs of the world like the Philippines,

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Last</th>
<th>First</th>
<th>Address</th>
<th>City</th>
<th>State</th>
<th>Zip</th>
<th># Shipped to Guam</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Reece</td>
<td>Kevin</td>
<td>237 Traphill Ridge Rd</td>
<td>Traphill</td>
<td>NC</td>
<td>28685</td>
<td>654</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Edwards</td>
<td>James</td>
<td>245 Tidline Road &amp; 215 Tidline Rd</td>
<td>Traphill</td>
<td>NC</td>
<td>28685</td>
<td>297</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Hudspeth</td>
<td>Jeff</td>
<td>121 Meadowlark Lane</td>
<td>Ronda</td>
<td>NC</td>
<td>28670</td>
<td>152</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Morton</td>
<td>Anthony</td>
<td>277 Bettys Trail</td>
<td>Parkton</td>
<td>NC</td>
<td>28371</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Brower</td>
<td>Noah</td>
<td>5364 Old Edgar Rd*</td>
<td>Sophia</td>
<td>NC</td>
<td>27350</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Ramirez</td>
<td>Jose</td>
<td>579 Pace Rd</td>
<td>Hendersonville</td>
<td>NC</td>
<td>28792</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Yates</td>
<td>Jamey</td>
<td>182 Watson St</td>
<td>Boone</td>
<td>NC</td>
<td>28607</td>
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</tr>
<tr>
<td>Marida</td>
<td>Jesus</td>
<td>Could not locate</td>
<td>Hendersonville</td>
<td>NC</td>
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<tr>
<td>Kearn</td>
<td>Walton</td>
<td>3154 Bethel Lucas Rd</td>
<td>Asheboro</td>
<td>NC</td>
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<tr>
<td>Wayne</td>
<td>Carolina Gamefarm</td>
<td>2618 Emmanuel Church Rd.</td>
<td>Conover</td>
<td>NC</td>
<td>28613</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Covington</td>
<td>William</td>
<td>1216 Turtle Dove Rd</td>
<td>Conover</td>
<td>NC</td>
<td>28613</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Malone</td>
<td>Roney</td>
<td>6464 Beale Rd</td>
<td>Snow Camp</td>
<td>NC</td>
<td>27349</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

*indicates possible address
KEVIN REECE

Widowcreek Gamefarm
237 Traphill Ridge Road, Traphill, NC 28685 (Wilkes County)
Phone: 336-466-8509

Kevin Reece’s Facebook Page: Click here

Satellite picture of his property
Featured in cockfighting publications and advertisements for winning derbies:
KEVIN REECE (Continued)

Reece admitted under oath to cockfighting, breeding and exporting roosters to the Philippines and Guam while he was a town Commissioner of Ronda, NC in 2014.

Reece was fined 25K in a lawsuit filed by the Mayor against him in a case of blackmail after Reece acted illegally when he didn’t like an ordinance the Mayor tried to pass to limit rooster ownership. (Article Here)

Video of Reece telling cockfighters to not email reporters if they are angry about coverage. It will only draw more attention to them: Video here

Reece shares on social media multiple trophies and derby wins, his bloodlines are proven to win and are in demand:
Prices of his roosters for export reflect the bloodlines ability to win fights:

Updated Price list
EXPORT ONLY on Roundhead broodfowl. No exceptions.
Pure Bruner and Brownred trios 2000 US dollars plus shipping.
Pure Bruner or Brownred Stag or Cock 1000 US dollars plus shipping.
Pure Bruner or Brownred hen or pullet 500 US dollars each plus shipping.

-------------------------------------------------------------
Pure Sweater Kelso Grey Albany
1500 US Dollars plus shipping
Pure Sweater Kelso Grey Albany Stag or Cock 750 US dollars plus shipping
Pure Sweater Kelso Grey Albany hen or pullet 375 US dollars plus shipping

-------------------------------------------------------------
Cross Cock 300 US dollars plus shipping
Cross Stag October 1-February 1 1200 US Dollars each plus shipping
Cross Stag February 2-April 1 1230 US Dollars each plus shipping
Cross Stag April 2-June 15 260 US Dollars each plus shipping
Cross Pullet 100 US Dollars each plus shipping

These prices DO NOT APPLY for our personal brood fowl.
Shipping roosters to Mexico:

Shipping roosters using USPS:

Widowcreek Farm
April 28, 2017
Thanks David! They are on the way...
PROFILES

JAMES EDWARDS
245 Tidline Road, Traphill, NC 28685 (Wilkes County)
215 Tidline Road, Traphill NC 28685
Phone: 336-244-0088

Satellite picture of his property
PROFILES

JEFF HUDSPETH
121 Meadowlark Lane, Ronda, NC 28670 (Wilkes County)
Cedar Creek Farm, LLC
336-984-2724 and 336.469.3710

Satellite picture of his property
JEFF HUDSPETH (Continued)

Also owns C&J Supplies:

**LIVE BIRD SHIPPING BOXES**

*New Smaller Size for Better Postal Shipping Rates!*

NEW BOX

13" 18"

ORIGINAL BOX

16.6" 20"

(833)-BIRD BOX

247-3269

122 Meadowlark Ln. - Ronda, NC 28670

All C&J Supplies shipping boxes have been certified and approved by the Post Master General of the United States Postal Service, Approval #14 & 14B

www.cjsupplyco.com
JEFF HUDSPETH (Continued)

This ‘sabong’ (means ‘cockfight’ in Filipino) forum describes his participation in cockfighting and his roosters are being used by those he sells them to for the purpose of cockfighting:

Note that “LK” in the following post means “long knife” and “SK” means “short knife”:

Re: Cedar Creek Greys -- Jeff Hudspeth
Lurena,

thanks for the connection.

I am having best results with his Leipers; pure and straight (properly aged), Leiper X Kelso or Kelso X Leiper, and Leiper X Banogon (my White Kelso concoction). Jeff's Leipers and its crosses have won me 4 and 5 cock Derbies.

My observation, Jeff’s Leipers have the CUT and smart which are best for LK.

Lately, i am bringing out Leiper X Roundhead, and Greys X Banogon Grey pullets.

Regrettfully, i am not doing good with the Leiper X Sweater or Sweater X Leiper crosses; and i tried with different Sweater lines. Must be the too much Hatch in the blood or other factors. Tremendous power but not much cut. Perhaps these can be good with SK.

Just please, I am sharing these statements in honor of Jeff's lines, not for personal reasons. Jeff's lines can improve the %s. But no matter what, its what we do ourselves to his fowls that determines our own results and having said that, other breeders lines as well.

Thanks. . .

Rickc
PROFILES

ANTHONY MORTON AKA BUG

LumbeeBoy Gamefarm
277 Bettys Trail
Parkton, NC 28371

Facebook Page: Click here
ANTHONY MORTON AKA BUG (Continued)

An interview he did on “Journey to the Pit” where he describes his breeding program (Interview Here)

An interview he did for Purebred Warrior (Interview Here)

Quotes from this interview include:

• “My BlueFace bloodline is a hard-hitting fowl, they’re known to be gentle birds with a huge breast and big legs. My yellow-leg-hatch is very smart and accurate cutters. I have a few other lines that I love and they all bring something different to the table.”

• “I have sold fowl all over the US, here lately I’ve had a lot of interest out of Mexico, the great Philippines has always been a popular area and I’ve been getting some great feedback from Vietnam.”
PROFILES

JAMEY AKA JAMES YATES

Jamey Carolina Yates Fowls
182 Watson St
Boone, NC 28607

Facebook Page: Click here

Shipping using the USPS:

![Facebook Post](image-url)

Leaving out today for their new home in Texas thanks Mr. Martinez
Using Domi Corpus, the largest broker in the cockfighting industry located in CA, to ship birds to the Philippines:
Shipping to the largest cockfighting areas of the world:

Jamey Carolina Yates Fowls
October 15, 2018

Superb fowl he's a super nice stag, no doubt
Born in 2017 in May
17- months old
White Devil Kelso stag
Available if interested private message me thank's
Shipping available to Manila Philippines Province Philippines all of USA Mexico, Vietnam, Guam
Shipping rates differ

Note:
- Stag stil in molt but almost finished he's a awesome stag●

Fill free to share on your time line with this link:
https://m.facebook.com/story.php?
story_fbid=2198581070425175&id=100008199105544
PROFILES

NOAH BROWER

Brower Gamefarm
Possible address: 5364 Old Edgar Rd Sophia, NC 27350 (Randolph County)
(336) 858-6498

He states on Facebook that he's hatched about 400 this year so far, his farm is growing with new
stag houses being built.

Facebook pages: Click Here, Click Here, and Click Here

Video of his roosters and property on Kingras YouTube channel, they advertise for gamefarms
across the world: Video Here

Shipping roosters:
Monday morning shipments of Brower Game Farm. These are going to California, Florida, and Washington.

Brandon Thompson
Do you ship them next day?

Noah Brower
Brandon Thompson yes sir. It always takes 1-2 days depending where they are located.

Nicholas Ledford
Is it not to hot for shipping?

Noah Brower
Nicholas Ledford I prep my birds good before the trip. I've never had a problem.

Noah Brower
August 24 at 8:11 AM
Brower Game Farm. Few more leaving this morning representing me in Fort Worth, TX.

Daniel Wald
Awesome 😎

Martha Lane
Amazing!

Valerie Fizer
That's awesome!
PROFILES

JOSE RAMIREZ FIGUEROA AKA JOSE RAMIREZ

579 Pace Rd, Hendersonville, NC 28792 (Henderson County)

Facebook Page: Click Here

Satellite photo of the property
JOSE RAMIREZ FIGUEROA AKA JOSE RAMIREZ (Continued)

Other pictures of the property

Shipping to Mexico
JESUS MERIDA

Mérida Reynoso Farm
Cannot locate property address
Hendersonville, NC per Facebook page (Henderson County)

Note: Jesus Merida is an employee of Jose Ramirez's stucco business

Facebook page: Click Here

Shipping birds through the USPS:

Sparring videos on his Facebook page: Click Here
PROFILES

WALTON KEARNS
Outback GameFarm
3154 Bethel Lucas Rd
Asheboro, NC 27205
910-549-9410

Facebook page: Click Here

His website states there are over 300 for sale and export: Website Here

Photo of his property:
PROFILES

WAYNE SMANOVICh

Carolina Gamefarm
2618 Emmanuel Church Rd
Conover, NC 28613
Email: info@carolinagamefowl.com
Phone: 828.615.4160

Website: Click Here

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RUBLE TRIOS FOR SALE

Few Hatch gamefowl have the rich history of the Ruble with show successes worldwide. The original Ruble pen comes from a family with over 30 yrs of show successes. The young Ruble stag above is from the original pen. We have Ruble gamefowl for sale from three different pens. Select Ruble Trios for Sale.

Stags $500

Pullets $300

Select Brood Cocks $1000
PROFILES

WILLIAM COVINGTON

William Covington
Rambler Farm
1216 Turtle Dove Rd. Conover N.C.28613
828.612.4571
ramblerfarm@ramblerfarm.com

Website advertising birds for export: Click Here
Covington's advice to buyers (sk = short knife):

Satellite view of the property:
PROFILES

RONEY MALONE
Malones Gamefarm
6464 Beale Rd, Snow Camp NC 27349
Facebook page: Click Here

Property photos:
JOSE RAMIREZ FIGUEROA AKA JOSE RAMIREZ (Continued)

Other pictures of the property

Shipping to Mexico
JOHN CAMBRA (Continued)

Article from 2005 describing his participation in breeding and selling "fighting roosters":
Click here.

- John Cambra, 53, a longtime state employee who lives on his family’s 30-acre compound in Kahalu‘u, grew up around gamebirds.
- Today he runs Cambra Game Fowl Farm/Onipa‘a and sells fighting roosters to cockfighters in Guam, Latin America, Micronesia, Louisiana, Oklahoma, California and New Mexico.
- He made $21,000 selling birds last year and he said the side business has helped him put two sons and a daughter through college. A 2003 federal law prohibits the interstate transportation of chickens for fighting purposes, so he has buyers sign affidavits saying they won’t use the bird for fighting.
- He currently has about 500 chickens of various ages at his Kahalu‘u farm, as well as ducks and pheasants. He also rents a two-acre farm in Louisiana, where fighting birds still is legal. Cambra does all his fighting in Louisiana these days because he doesn’t want to risk his legitimate business of selling birds, nor does he want to get his family in trouble.
- “My son’s a policeman; my brother is a policeman; I don’t want to jeopardize them,” he said.

Article from 2006 regarding the FBI investigation into cockfighting that lead to indictment:
Click here.

- The second indictment alleges officer John Edwin Cambra IV and his father, John Edwin Cambra III, tried to prevent the FBI on June 21, 2005, from recovering cockfight gaffs from the family’s farm during a search.

Participation in cockfighting in 2017 at the World Slasher Cup in Manila: Click here

- “The World Slasher Cup 2017 is actually a 9-cock invitational derby featuring the best breeders and cockers and the finest winged warriors.”

- “Among the Americans vying in the event are Titing Ariosa and Erik Rosales of California, Tim Fitzgerald of Utah, Butch Cambra of Hawaii, Larry Whitehead of Tennessee, Dr. Bel Almojera of Chicago, Roger Roberts of Georgia, and Matthew Dunne, Cornelio Amby, Lester Chow, Ken
JOHN CAMBRA (Continued)

At the 2019 World Slasher Cup in the Philippines

Participating in the 2020 World Slashers Cup.
In addition to the gamefarms listed previously in this report, the following breeders were identified as major players in the industry.

**PROFILES**

**BRYSON AU**

Red Raiders Gamefarm  
Phone: 808-600-1344

“Butch” John Cambra (included in this report) is his uncle. In this interview from 2018, it sounds like they are openly fighting in derbies in Hawaii.

Interview he did on BNTV in 2018. BNTV is a cockfighting broadcaster in the Philippines whose hosts toured the U.S showcasing what they consider to be the best gamefowl farms. This footage has since been deleted by the source but was saved prior to deletion:

[Click here to view the interview](#)

- Host says, “So you been winning a lot on this side of town?” – Au responds, “yes”.

- “I spar everyday.”

- “I band all the chickens that are sparring good.”

- “If I pick one on entry, I go spar them all the way until the day I fight…no rest.”

- “I’m more of an aggressive fighter.”

- “5 derbies this year so far.”

- Host says, “…you still have a regular job?” – Au responds, “Not right now. No, because I’m winning.”

- “My kids walk with me in the pit.”

- Host states, “taking about Hawaii and the Philippines. I heard that, number one, you have a five-minute limit…in the Philippines it’s ten minutes, draw. Here, only five minutes, it’s a draw.” Au responds, “Yes”:
BRYSON AU (Continued)

- Host states, “…and then if you send gamecocks from Hawaii to the Philippines it’s going to cost you a lot of money…so you send them by post office to California and then send it through Willy Dunca, or Henry Navarro, or Dom Corpus to the Philippines, it’s a lot cheaper.” – Au responds, “Yes”. (Note – Com Corpus is included in our CA investigative report)

- Host says, “How long have you been showing.” Au responds, “I been fighting since I was a little kid, but I really got into it in 2003.”
PROFILES

CHRIS IBANEZ
Phone: 808-479-3398

Listed on Pit Games list of breeders:
IBANEZ GAMEFARM
Country: United States
Address: Waianae, Hawaii
Owner: Mike And Chris Ibanez
Email: mikeibanez1976@gmail.com

Facebook page is private: Click here

Interview he did on BNTV in 2018. BNTV is a cockfighting broadcaster in the Philippines whose hosts toured the U.S showcasing what they consider to be the best gamefowl farms. This footage has since been deleted by the source but was saved prior to deletion: Click here to see interview

• Host says, “…they like off season, off colored gamecocks…the blacks, the gold, the greys and of course a sprinkling of red.” Ibanez says, “Just get different colors to spar the chickens to everything. Use it to fight in all different colors I guess.”

• Host asks, “And which are good for the long knife?” Chris says, “I like the buliks and the greys…”

• Host asks, “Do you mean to say other than derbies you have hack fights here?” Chris says, “Yeah, we got hack fights here.”

• Host asks, “But for the hack fights, is there any special prize?” Chris explains, “Just whatever you bet.”
Chris Ibanez (Continued)
GINO JOSEPH
Oahu, HI

Interview he did on BNTV. BNTV is a cockfighting broadcaster in the Philippines whose hosts toured the U.S showcasing what they consider to be the best gamefowl farms. This footage has since been deleted by the source but was saved prior to deletion: Click here to view the interview

- Host says, “So you’ve been fighting gamefowl for a long time already?” Gino responds, “We call it elementary school, 9-10 years old.”

- Host says, “So you breed them cousin to cousin mating?” Gino says, “I guess you could say that.”

- “You know, there are some people here with really good roosters. There’s a lot of people here, that are really good rooster men. What holds us down is the fact that we not supposed to be doing it here.”

- “There is a lot of animal species that will fight but injured badly and maybe go off and die, you know, in an hour or two hours or what it may be so, it is a cycle of a lot of animals not just roosters, you know.”

- Host asks, “You have a lot of neighbors that are in it small time.” He says, “Yes, small time.”
Interview he did on BNTV in 2018. BNTV is a cockfighting broadcaster in the Philippines whose hosts toured the U.S showcasing what they consider to be the best gamefowl farms. This footage has since been deleted by the source but was saved prior to deletion: [Click here](#) to view the interview.

Hosts describe this as the largest farm they’ve been to in Hawaii

- “They do well here for as long as I can remember in the long knife.” (talking about the pumpkin bloodline he has)

- Host asks, “What is your market?” He says, “Mostly local and Guam.”

Stoney also calls John Cambra an uncle. (John Cambra is included in this report and is seen in this video) and he states that, “My brother he also breeds and fights also too...if he needs something then I give hm or vice versa. Just to help keep the birds just how we like them, you know, winning.”
PROFILES

VERNON LOWRY

Phone: 808-258-8946
85-1256 D Waianae Valley Rd, Waianae, HI

Facebook page is private: Click here

2017 – sued by Dept of Labor for not paying laborers at his construction business: Click here
Interview he did on BNTV in 2018. BNTV is a cockfighting broadcaster in the Philippines whose hosts toured the U.S showcasing what they consider to be the best gamefowl farms. This footage has since been deleted by the source but was saved prior to deletion: Click here to view the interview

- “Far as their ability…high flying good cutting roosters, very game.”

- “Very good for long knife.”

- “Depends if I’m training roosters, then it takes longer.” (discussing time spent on raising roosters)
animal wellness
action

Marty Irby
Executive Director, Animal Wellness Action
Email: Marty@AnimalWellnessAction.org
Phone: (202) 821-5686
Featured in cockfighting publications and advertisements for winning derbies:
PROFILES

JOSE RAMIREZ FIGUEROA AKA JOSE RAMIREZ

579 Pace Rd, Hendersonville, NC 28792 (Henderson County)

Facebook Page: Click Here

Satellite photo of the property