

**WHEREAS:**

Whole Foods claims to lead the industry in responsible sourcing, proudly stating on its website, “[W]e take pride in what we do sell and even more in what we don’t. ... Before they go in your cart, they go through us.”

Despite such assertions, Whole Foods is selling products linked to unethical practices, including the use of cruel, exploitative monkey labor in Thailand’s coconut milk industry.

Between 2019 and 2022, PETA Asia conducted three extensive investigations that included 143 locations across 14 provinces in Thailand. After PETA Asia’s first investigation, the Thai government and coconut milk producers claimed that monkeys were no longer being used in the making of exported products; however, investigators have confirmed that the abuse of primates for coconuts remains rampant.

In the Thai coconut milk industry, endangered pig-tailed macaques are illegally snatched from the wild and forced into “monkey schools,” where handlers use intimidation and abuse to force them to obey. When their training is complete, the monkeys are sold to coconut pickers. Tethered by the neck with a metal collar, the monkeys are forced to climb up and down trees and pick heavy coconuts all day. They’re chained for extended periods, condemned to a lifetime of misery on barren or trash-strewn patches of dirt with almost no protection from the elements.

Although Whole Foods has denied sourcing coconut milk that uses monkey labor for its own brand, PETA exposés demonstrate that it is nearly impossible to guarantee that any coconut milk from Thailand is exempt from this abuse. Due to the extensive media coverage and intense international pressure to stop this inhumane practice, Thai coconut industry insiders have turned to hiding monkey labor. One broker even admitted to investigators that with no oversight, coconut pickers simply lie. And Whole Foods continues to sell coconut milk from other brands implicated in the investigations.

Given the extensive use of forced monkey labor in Thailand, the wide availability of coconut milk sourced from countries that do not use monkey labor, and the Thai coconut industry’s dishonesty and refusal to transition to monkey-free harvest methods, it is reasonable for shareholders to demand that our company reevaluate its coconut milk supply chains.

**BE IT RESOLVED:**

Shareholders request that Amazon.com Inc. issue a report prior to December 31, 2024, assessing the feasibility of halting Whole Foods’ sourcing of any coconut milk from Thailand, whether through its own 365 label or other brands. The report should consider the potential risks to Whole Foods’ reputation, sales, and share value by continuing to sell coconut milk sourced from Thailand. The report should omit confidential and privileged information and be prepared at a reasonable expense.