

As reported in a OBS article about the heartbreaking spread of Covid among mink in parts of Europe that led to millions being killed "They're packing them in, cage-next-to-cage," says Ohio State University veterinarian and infectious disease specialist Mike Oglesbee. In a situation like that, mink have an awful lot of trouble social distancing, creating what Oglesbee calls an "ideal situation for an outbreak." Fur farming is unnecessary cruelty to animals and has been shown to increase spread of COVID19 and potentially create new mutations of the virus.

Mink, like humans, have a genetic make up that makes them more likely to contract the virus and ones like it, and some of that is also due to the horrible environments they are forced to live in. That same PBS article quoted Joao Rodrigues, a computational biologist at Stanford regarding this exact issue "Mink aren't just more susceptible to COVID-19 on a molecular level; they also get sick more than other animals because of their environment. "An organism can be the most susceptible in the world but live just in the Antarctic, and it's not going to catch COVID," Rodrigues says. He sees mink getting sick with COVID as a "perfect storm" situation, since "they are very susceptible, and we just happen to farm them in these very high density farms."

I support anything that hinders the fur industry, and prevents this virus from having more susceptible organisms to spread and mutate in/on, especially when there are other textiles that are humane and environmentally considerate to use instead.