



TARGET FOOD ANIMAL WELFARE & ANTIBIOTICS POLICIES

Summary

This policy captures standards and principles that we expect our Meat, Dairy, and Deli vendors to follow when sourcing and producing products for sale at Target.

FOOD ANIMAL WELFARE POLICY

We Believe:

That every animal deserves to be:

- Free from hunger & thirst
- Free from discomfort
- Free of pain, injury or disease
- Free to express normal behavior
- Free from fear & distress

For their entire lifetime, including:

- Birth
- Growth/Rearing/Breeding
- Feed/Water/Shelter
- Transport
- Slaughter

We Expect:

- Our vendor and supplier partners to meet the following standards or better, based on their business.
- Written policies detailing best practices for management of painful procedures to reduce suffering.

Poultry	Documented adherence to the National Chicken Council (NCC) and National Turkey Federation (NTF) guidelines
Eggs	Documented adherence to the United Egg Producers (UEP) guidelines
Pork	Documented adherence to the Pork Quality Assurance + (PQA+) and Transportation Quality Assurance (TQA+) and to the North American Meat Institute slaughter guidelines
Dairy	Documented adherence to Farmers Assuring Responsible Management (FARM)
Beef	Documented adherence to the North American Meat Institute slaughter guidelines

We Will:

- Transition to only cage-free shell eggs by 2025, pending available supply.
- Only partner with suppliers who do not use sow gestation crates by 2022.

ANTIBIOTICS & ANTIMICROBIAL POLICY

We believe sick animals must be treated appropriately to end or reduce suffering. When antibiotics or antimicrobials are administered by a registered veterinarian, using them judiciously for therapeutic purposes, they play a critical role in the overall well-being of an animal.

However, we do not support the use of routine, non-therapeutic antimicrobials to promote growth. We expect our suppliers and the producers they work with to phase out this practice and only use antimicrobials when medically necessary.

There is greater risk to human health when antimicrobial-resistant bacteria develop due to overuse and misuse of certain medically-important antimicrobials. In response to this risk, we ask our suppliers to minimize and eventually remove the use of those deemed critical for human health by the World Health Organization (WHO) in its [2014 Antimicrobial Resistance Global Report](#) and listed in [FDA Guidance #209](#).

If animals are put into situations during their lives that increase their risk of disease or illness, that's a concern. That's why we have developed our food animal welfare policy that details the expectations we have of our suppliers and partners throughout the supply chain.

*[American Veterinary Medical Association FAQ](#): Antibiotics are a type of antimicrobial, but not all antimicrobials are antibiotics. The term "antimicrobial" is the proper scientific term, while the word "antibiotic" is generally more widely used, so we use both words in the title and at the beginning of the section, then continue using the proper scientific term, "antimicrobial."

Vendor Expectations

All vendors must comply with Target's Food Animal Welfare and Antibiotics Policies or begin to take steps toward compliance. At this point, Target will rely on vendors to become compliant with the policy. However, in the future, vendors should expect that Target will assess vendor compliance with the policy.
