



Target's Animal Welfare Commitment

As a retailer with a wide variety of products, we have a responsibility to ensure high standards of welfare of animals in our supply chains. Our goal is to ensure that our suppliers adopt and implement high standards of animal welfare across our food and general merchandise supply chains.

Our Food Animal Welfare Commitments outline our requirements for suppliers of poultry, eggs, pork, dairy and beef. This includes our goals to transition to 100% cage-free shell eggs by 2025 pending available supply and to only partner with suppliers who do not use sow gestation crates by 2022, as well as our stance on antibiotics and antimicrobial stewardship.

Our Animal Welfare Derived Raw Material Standards outline prohibited animal-derived raw materials in addition to additional requirements for sourcing other materials.

Compliance and Training

All suppliers must comply with these standards. We also expect supplier partners to maintain written policies detailing best practices for each of the areas relevant to their products. Where possible, we perform product testing protocols to verify conformance with our commitments.

We provide training on animal welfare topics to internal teams responsible for buying/sourcing animal products and we expect all our suppliers to provide adequate training to all individuals involved with the direct handling of animals throughout the supply chain.

Food Animal Welfare Commitments

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

Scope

We expect our suppliers to follow the standards below (or better) when producing products for sale at Target. Our commitment applies to the following product groups:

Food:

- Meat (beef, pork, lamb) and poultry (chicken, turkey)
- Shell eggs
- Dairy products
- Meat, poultry or dairy deli products

Standards & Commitments

We expect our vendor partners producing both owned brand and national brand food and beverage items to meet or exceed the following standards:

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.

Furthermore, Target commits to transition to only cage-free shell eggs by 2025, pending available supply.

Pork: Documented adherence to the Pork Quality Assurance+ (PQA+) and Transportation Quality Assurance+ (TQA+) and to the North American Meat Institute slaughter guidelines.

Furthermore, Target commits to only partner with suppliers who do not use sow gestation crates by 2022.

Dairy: Documented adherence to Farmers Assuring Responsible Management (FARM) program.

Target supports advances in dairy farming practices to include the use of genetic breeding programs to promote polled cattle (naturally hornless) to benefit the welfare of the cows and of the farmers who care for them by eliminating the need for dehorning.

Target supports the National Milk Producers Federation (NMPF) [ban](#) on tail docking and asks suppliers to provide evidence that they do not use this practice.

Beef: Documented adherence to the North American Meat Institute slaughter guidelines. Target supports its **beef vendors transitioning to Dr. Temple Grandin's Responsible Cattle Care Audit** program.

Pain Management

We ask all suppliers of meat, deli, and dairy products to find and implement alternative solutions to painful procedures (for example, tail docking, de-horning and castration) where

avoidable. We ask that pain management be used during the transition period of eliminating painful procedures.

Stunning Requirements

Meat and poultry suppliers must ensure that animals are rendered unconscious and insensible to pain prior to slaughter, except where prohibited by religious constraint.

Target supports the Orthodox Union [ban](#) on shackling and hoist method for Kosher slaughter and asks suppliers to provide evidence that they do not use this practice and are using Dr Temple Grandin's [Upright Restrain Box Method](#).

Auditing

We expect all suppliers of meat and egg products to work with their suppliers to conduct weekly internal animal welfare evaluations and at a minimum, annual third-party animal welfare audits on every farm supplying Target and provide third party audit details and results to Target on an annual basis. We expect all suppliers of dairy products to work with their suppliers to conduct weekly internal animal welfare evaluations and at a minimum, annual 2nd Party FARM program Evaluations on every farm supplying Target and provide Evaluation details and results to Target on an annual basis.

Antibiotics and Antimicrobial*

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 or prevent disease. We expect our suppliers and the producers they work with to phase out these practices 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 remove the use of those deemed critical for human health listed in the [2017 WHO Guidelines On Use Of Medically Important Antimicrobials In Food-Producing Animals](#) and listed in FDA Guidance #152.

We also request that our suppliers promote transparency by annually providing an antibiotics management report to Target and publicly report antibiotic use on an annual basis.

*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.”

Animal-Derived Raw Material Product Standards

Overall Expectations

- We only allow for the use of animal-derived raw materials when those animals can be farmed in a way that enables them to have a good quality of life as defined by the Five Freedoms.
- We expect that our suppliers only use skins, down and feathers from animals bred for food and are a derivative of the food market.
- Where available, we expect our suppliers using animal-derived raw materials to use robust traceability and animal welfare assurance schemes.

Owned Brand Animal-Derived Raw Material Product Standards

Category	Prohibited	Additional Requirements if used	Better Options
Fur/Hair/Wool/Whiskers	Fur* Angora Hair Mohair Alpaca Wool Whiskers/Hair/Bristles derived from wild animals and/or non-food markets	Wool: When wool is used, it must be non-mulesed Whiskers/Hair: If used, may only be derived from food supply chain	Wool: Use Responsible Wool Standard (RWS) where possible Wool: Recycled Wool preferred where possible
Skins	Leather derived from wild animals	Leather: For products in which leather is the primary component, all leather must be derived from the food industry. This includes uses of rawhide and hair on hide**	Leather: Recycled Leather preferred where possible
Feathers	Feathers derived from wild animals and/or non-food markets	Down: All products containing feathers must be certified by the	Down: Recycled Down preferred where possible

		Responsible Down Standard (RDS) Other Feathers: If used, may only be derived from food supply chain	
Other	Bone/Horn derived from wild animals and/or non-food markets	Bone/Horn: If used, may only be derived from food supply chain	

*Fur Definition: A thick growth of hair that covers the skin of an animal

**Hair on Hide Definition: Tanned leather skins which have not had follicles of hair removed