

The Business Benchmark on Farm Animal Welfare 2024 Report

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**Business Benchmark on
Farm Animal Welfare**

The Business Benchmark on Farm Animal Welfare

The Business Benchmark on Farm Animal Welfare (BBFAW) is the leading global measure of farm animal welfare management, policy commitment, performance and disclosure in food companies. It enables investors, companies, NGOs and other stakeholders to understand corporate practice and performance on farm animal welfare, and it drives — directly and through the efforts of others — corporate improvements in the welfare of animals reared for food.

The BBFAW Secretariat maintains the Global Investor Statement on Farm Animal Welfare and convenes the Global Investor Collaboration on Farm Animal Welfare, a collaborative engagement between major institutional investors and food companies on the issue of farm animal welfare. In addition, the BBFAW Secretariat manages extensive engagement programmes with companies and with investors and provides practical guidance and tools for companies and for investors on key animal welfare issues.

The programme is supported by Compassion in World Farming and FOUR PAWS, who provide technical expertise, guidance, funding and practical resources, alongside supporting the assessed food businesses with training, programmatic expertise and consultancy engagement.

More information on the programme can be found at www.bbfaw.com



Compassion in World Farming

Compassion in World Farming is the leading international farm animal welfare organisation dedicated to ending factory farming and reshaping the food system to benefit the lives of animals, people, and the health of the planet. Through campaigning, lobbying for legislative change, and positive engagement with the global food industry, we seek to influence key decision makers that shape, make and fund the food system.

Through our Food Business programme, we work in partnership with leading food companies to drive transformational change for farm animal welfare, reduce the reliance on animal sourced foods and encourage a shift to regenerative farming practices. The team offers strategic advice and expert technical support for the development, implementation and communication of higher welfare policies and practices, and solutions and frameworks for a future-fit food system.

Compassion engages directly with many of the companies evaluated in the BBFAW to highlight and support with policy development, welfare improvement and transparent reporting. The Food Business team uses the Benchmark alongside Compassion's other tools such as its Awards programme, EggTrack, ChickenTrack, and its advisory services to help companies understand how they are performing relative to their peers, to identify areas and mechanisms for continuous improvement, and to highlight sources of risk and opportunity.

More information on Compassion in World Farming can be found at: www.ciwf.org

More information on the work of the Food Business team at Compassion in World Farming can be found at: www.compassioninfoodbusiness.com



FOUR PAWS

FOUR PAWS is the global animal welfare organisation for animals under direct human influence, which reveals suffering, rescues animals in need and protects them. Founded in 1988 in Vienna by Heli Dungler and friends, the organisation advocates for a world where humans treat animals with respect, empathy and understanding.

FOUR PAWS' sustainable campaigns and projects focus on farm animals, companion animals and wild animals kept in inappropriate conditions, as well as animals in disaster and conflict zones. With its current campaigns to reform animal welfare legislation, against live animal transport and cruel practices such as live lamb cutting (mulesing) and in favour of animal-friendly fashion, FOUR PAWS is committed to improving the living conditions of billions of farm animals. On a business level, the organisation supports the BBFAW to drive change in numerous international food sectors. FOUR PAWS also works on multiple other farm animal topics and raises awareness among the public through traditional and social media channels, lobbies politicians and runs awareness campaigns to hold the food and textile industries to account. One additional goal is to develop expertise on the intersection of farm animal welfare and the climate crisis and to translate this into effective campaign narratives and actions.

With offices in Australia, Austria, Belgium, Bulgaria, France, Germany, Kosovo, the Netherlands, Switzerland, South Africa, Thailand, Ukraine, the UK, the USA and Vietnam as well as sanctuaries for rescued animals in eleven countries, FOUR PAWS provides rapid help and long-term solutions.

For more information about FOUR PAWS please visit: www.four-paws.org

More about FOUR PAWS work on farm animals can be found at: <https://www.four-paws.org/campaigns-topics/topics/farm-animals>

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BBFAW

Foreword

Compassion in World Farming



Philip Lymbery

Global CEO

Since its foundation in 2012, the Business Benchmark on Farm Animal Welfare (BBFAW) has been a driving force in advancing animal welfare across the food industry. As the climate, health, and biodiversity crises intensify, BBFAW has expanded its scope to address the urgent need to reduce the reliance on animal-sourced foods — an essential step toward transforming our failing food systems.

The Food System Economics Commission reported last year that the economic cost of human suffering and planetary harm caused by food systems exceeds 10 trillion USD annually — more than food systems contribute to Global GDP. Even more concerning is that despite this enormous cost, our global food system fails to meet the most basic goal: feeding people. Over 780 million people go hungry while over half of all food is lost or wasted and billions of farmed animals are caged, crammed and confined.

Companies can't solve these systemic issues alone, but they play a critical leadership role. The urgency for humane and sustainable food systems will only intensify as the consequences of inaction grow more severe for people, animals and the planet.

Setting a course for a better tomorrow is something all companies can do by embedding clear intent for change into corporate policy, supported at board level. But intent alone is not enough, real progress requires robust roadmaps with clear commitments, targets and timelines. These must include wholesale shifts toward higher welfare products, diversification of protein portfolios to encompass more plant-based foods, and a transition to nature-positive, regenerative farming.

Government action is equally critical. Legislation can and must support businesses that are leading the charge. Proposals to ban cages — the very epitome of factory farming — across Europe and in the UK exemplify how governments can drive large-scale transformation in food production. Such policies not only level the playing field but also provide regulatory certainty, enabling businesses to invest in sustainable solutions.

Investors too have a pivotal role to play. They have the power to accelerate change by holding businesses accountable for transitioning to higher welfare, sustainable food systems. And by urging businesses to mitigate risk by moving away from industrial and nature-destroying forms of food production to ones that truly respect animals as sentient beings.

BBFAW provides a rigorous yet fair framework to guide businesses, policymakers, and investors toward a more sustainable food system. As a founding partner, Compassion in World Farming has helped establish BBFAW as the respected and authoritative benchmark it is today.

The goal remains clear: building a better food system requires bold steps toward production with higher standards of animal welfare. The elimination of cages is a crucial first move in the transition toward regenerative, nature-friendly farming and a significant reduction in consumption of animal products. BBFAW 2024 shows progress, but the road ahead demands action, collaboration, and commitment. The choices we make today have the power to shape food systems that are humane, sustainable, and resilient for generations to come.

FOUR PAWS



Dr Martina Stephany
Senior Programmes Director

Despite finding ourselves in a time of global change and uncertainty caused by political shifts, war, inflation, pandemics and climate crises it is more important than ever to not forget about the animals that we are responsible for.

Factory farming is the leading cause of animal cruelty worldwide. Globally, it is estimated that 92 billion animals are farmed for food each year, most of them being reared in intensive farms. These animals cannot fulfil their basic needs and in consequence develop behavioural disorders. Throughout their short lives, they are subjected to various cruel practices and must adapt to their housing conditions for economic reasons. Over the years, this abuse has taken its toll resulting in pandemic outbreaks, antibiotic resistance, climate change and loss of livelihood.

To drive the transformation of the agricultural system and to improve the life of farmed animals sustainably, FOUR PAWS promotes the 3Rs principle — Reduction, Replacement and Refinement. The aims are to reduce the consumption of animal-based products and therefore unnecessary suffering, to replace these products with plant-based alternatives as well as to refine farming practices and promote better living conditions. FOUR PAWS calls on every company that is profiting from animal-based products to act responsibly and to start following this principle, as it is the prerequisite for a sustainable food system.

It is essential companies set quantitative targets to address animal welfare and reductions in the numbers of animals farmed, to ensure the wellbeing of animals, humans and the planet. The food industry needs to commit the resources required for implementation of targets and to report transparently on progress. Ultimately, we need to see a race to the top, with leading companies demonstrating what is possible and inspiring others to follow.

FOUR PAWS is delighted to be a funding partner, together with CIWF, for this second iteration of the BBFAW following the revisions to strengthen the criteria in 2022. We are confident the updated criteria provide more comprehensive and accurate insights into the state of animal welfare in the supply chains of the world's largest food companies.

Animal welfare is no longer a nice-to-have, but a moral obligation to mitigate risk and ensure the wellbeing of humans and animals. We look forward to celebrating all achievements for the animals to come and commit to continuing supporting all stakeholders in creating a food system within planetary boundaries that is positive and healthy for animals, humans and the planet.

Acknowledgements

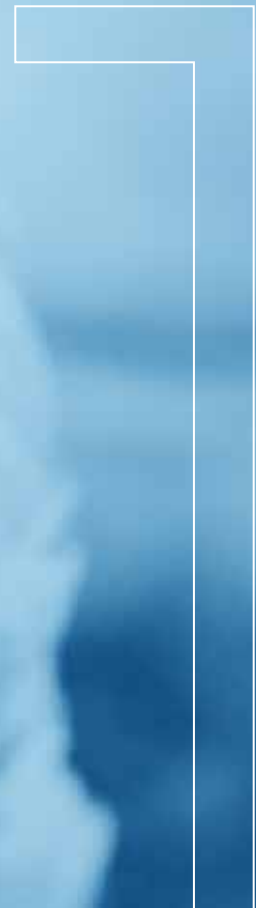
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- Dr Martina Stephany, Dr Marlene Kirchner, Dr Carolina Cardoso Nagib Nascimento, Carina Nierobisch and colleagues at FOUR PAWS.
- The many companies who have continued to engage with the BBFAW programme over the past year and who provided feedback during the assessment process.
- The many investors who have continued to engage with the BBFAW programme and the companies covered by the BBFAW.
- The team of BBFAW assessors and reviewers.

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2024 Benchmark Headline Findings



2024 Benchmark Headline Findings

Headline Findings

1. Sustained and renewed focus on farm animal welfare by food companies

There has been a gradual rise in the overall average company score, from 16% in 2022, 17% in 2023, to 18% in 2024, which suggests that companies are continuing to focus on farm animal welfare management and disclosure and are beginning to respond to the new expectations on farm animal welfare, as introduced in the BBFAW criteria in 2022.

This is only the second year of published reports using the new Benchmark criteria, so progress is expected to be slower initially. A similar trend was observed among the 150 benchmarked companies following previous adjustments to the BBFAW criteria where meaningful improvements in company performance typically took two to three years to materialise.

A large, bold, blue percentage '94%' is displayed, indicating the percentage of companies that acknowledge farm animal welfare as a business issue.

**of companies acknowledge farm
animal welfare as a business issue**

Notably, in 2024 more global food companies recognise farm animals as sentient beings, with 67 companies (45%) citing farm animal sentience as a strong foundation for animal welfare policies, an increase from 54 companies (36%) in 2023.

Meanwhile, 141 of the 150 global food companies (94%) acknowledge farm animal welfare as a business issue and 128 companies (85%) have published a farm animal welfare policy statement.

2. The gap widens between higher performing companies and companies making little to no progress on farm animal welfare

It is evident that several food companies are accelerating action on farm animal welfare in comparison to their industry peers. For instance, 14 companies (9%) have improved their overall average score by five percentage points or more.

The greatest improvement seen was from Arla Foods Ltd, which improved their score by 23% moving from Tier 5 to Tier 4. In total, 14 of the 150 companies (9%) have moved up a tier ranking in 2024 (see table 1.1).

Against this progress, some major food companies appear to be taking limited or no action to address farm animal welfare in their operations and supply chains. Twenty-two companies (15%) have not published a formal animal welfare policy. Of these companies, nine (6%) do not appear to recognise farm animal welfare as a business issue.

Table 1.1
Companies that have risen a Tier Ranking in the 2024 Benchmark

| Tier ranking change | Companies that moved up a Tier in 2024 |
|---------------------|----------------------------------------|
| 3 to 2 | Greggs PLC |
| 4 to 3 | Danish Crown AmbA |
| | Fonterra |
| | Minerva Foods |
| 5 to 4 | Arla Foods Ltd. |
| | Hershey Co |
| | JD Wetherspoon PLC |
| | Mitchells & Butlers PLC |
| | Terrena Group |
| | Whitbread PLC |
| | Wm Morrison Supermarkets PLC |
| 6 to 5 | Campbell Soup Company |
| | Darden Restaurants PLC |
| | Wayne-Sanderson Farms |

The 14 companies whose scores have increased by five per cent or more in the 2024 Benchmark

| |
|------------------------------|
| Arla Foods Ltd |
| Danish Crown AmbA |
| Fonterra |
| Hershey Co |
| Hilton Food Group |
| JD Wetherspoon PLC |
| Marfrig Global Foods SA |
| Minerva Foods |
| Mitchells & Butlers PLC |
| SSP Group |
| Terrena Group |
| Wayne-Sanderson Farms |
| Whitbread PLC |
| Wm Morrison Supermarkets PLC |

The nine companies for which animal welfare does not appear to be a business issue are:

| |
|-------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|
| C&S Wholesale |
| China Resources Vanguard |
| Costco Wholesale Corporation |
| Dino Polska SA |
| JAB Holding Company (parent company for brands such as Pret A Manger and Krispy Kreme) |
| Lianhua Supermarket Holdings Co |
| Roark Capital (parent company for brands such as Dunkin' and Subway) |
| Yonghui Superstores Co Ltd |
| Zhongpin Inc. |

The three companies achieving Impact Rating B in the 2024 BBFAW benchmark are:

Fonterra (E to B)

Marks & Spencer PLC (C to B)

Premier Foods PLC (C to B)



3. Companies are making significant strides in performance impact reporting

One of the key objectives for the BBFAW is to drive positive welfare impacts for animals. It is therefore reassuring that companies are starting to show progress in their performance impact scoring in the 2024 Benchmark. This is an important development as it signals that companies' efforts to build their farm animal welfare management systems are starting to deliver welfare improvements for animals in their operations and supply chains.

Whilst the number of companies — 109 out of 150 companies (73%) — reporting performance impact data remains unchanged since 2023, we have seen an increase in the number of companies reporting on all 11 of the new species-specific questions introduced in 2022. This demonstrates that companies are responding to increased expectations of reporting on farm animal welfare performance.

Encouragingly, some companies are reporting significant progress in their performance impact data, with three companies achieving a B Impact Rating for the first time, and one company moving up three Impact Ratings, from E to B.

In total, 14 companies out of 150 (9%) increased their Impact Rating in 2024, which indicates that these companies are working to deliver welfare benefits to animals in their operations and supply chains.

Table 1.2
Companies whose Impact Rating improved in 2024

| Companies whose Impact Rating improved in 2024 | Impact Rating 2024 | Impact Rating 2023 |
|--------------------------------------------------|--------------------|--------------------|
| Fonterra | B | E |
| Marks and Spencer PLC | B | C |
| Premier Foods PLC | B | C |
| Greggs PLC | C | D |
| Danish Crown AmbA | D | E |
| Marfrig Global Foods SA | D | E |
| Minerva Foods | D | E |
| Arla Foods Ltd | E | F |
| Coop Group (Switzerland)/ Coop Genossenschaft | E | F |
| Hilton Food Group | E | F |
| Maple Leaf Foods | E | F |
| Terrena Group | E | F |
| Whitbread PLC | E | F |
| Wm Morrison Supermarkets PLC | E | F |

BBFAW

Company Tier Rankings and Impact Ratings



Company Tier Rankings and Impact Ratings

Tier Rankings

The 150 benchmarked companies are grouped into one of six tiers, based on their overall percentage scores, as indicated in Table 2.1. A composite picture of 2023 and 2024 company scores by Tier ranking and by Impact Rating (IR) appears in Figure 2.1.

Table 2.1
BBFAW Benchmark Tiers

| Tier | | Percentage score |
|------|--------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|------------------|
| 1 | The company has taken a leadership position on farm animal welfare | >80% |
| 2 | The company has made farm animal welfare an integral part of its business strategy | 62-80% |
| 3 | The company has an established approach to a farm animal welfare but has more work to do to ensure it is effectively implemented | 44-61% |
| 4 | The company is making progress on implementing its policies and commitments on farm animal welfare | 27-43% |
| 5 | The company has identified farm animal welfare as a business issue but provides limited evidence that it is managing the issue effectively | 11-26% |
| 6 | The company provides limited if any evidence that it recognises farm animal welfare as a business issue | <11% |

Figure 2.1

Company Tier Rankings and Impact Ratings* IR

Figure 2.1 presents company BBFAW Impact Rating and Tier Ranking in one table to provide the most accurate picture of company's performance within the benchmark.

| Tier 1 Leadership | Tier 2 Integral to business strategy | Tier 3 Established but work to be done | Tier 4 Making progress on implementation | Tier 5 On the business agenda but limited evidence of implementation | Tier 6 No evidence on the business agenda |
|----------------------|--------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|--------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|-----------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|--------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|
| 0 | 4 | 8 | 20 | 60 | 58 |
| | Greggs PLC ↑ Ⓢ Marks & Spencer PLC ↑ Ⓢ Premier Foods PLC ↑ Ⓢ Waitrose Ⓢ | Co-op UK Ⓢ Cranswick PLC ↓ Ⓢ Danish Crown AmbA. ↑ Ⓢ Fonterra ↑ Ⓢ Groupe Danone SA Ⓢ Migros-Genossenschafts-Bund Ⓢ Minerva Foods ↑ Ⓢ Noble Foods Ⓢ | ALDI Süd/ALDI Einkauf SE & Co. oHG Ⓢ Arla Foods Ltd. ↑ Ⓢ Barilla SpA Ⓢ BRF SA Ⓢ Compass Group PLC Ⓢ Groupe Lactalis Ⓢ Hershey Co. ↑ Ⓢ Hilton Food Group ↑ Ⓢ J Sainsbury PLC Ⓢ JD Wetherspoon PLC. ↑ Ⓢ LDC Groupe Ⓢ Les Mousquetaires Ⓢ Marfrig Global Foods SA ↑ Ⓢ Mitchells & Butlers PLC. ↑ Ⓢ Terrena Group. ↑ Ⓢ Tesco PLC ↓ Ⓢ Unilever NV ↓ Ⓢ Whitbread PLC. ↑ Ⓢ Wm Morrison Supermarkets PLC. ↑ Ⓢ Woolworths Limited ↓ Ⓢ | (The) Kroger Company Ⓢ 2 Sisters Food Group (Boparan Holdings Ltd) Ⓢ Agro Super Ⓢ Ahold Delhaize Ⓢ ALDI Einkauf SE & Co. oHG (ALDI Nord) Ⓢ Aramark Corporation Ⓢ Bellis Topco Ltd./Asda Ⓢ Bimbo Ⓢ Campbell Soup Company ↑ Ⓢ Cargill Ⓢ Carrefour SA. ↓ Ⓢ Casino Guichard-Perrachon SA Ⓢ Charoen Pokphand Foods Ⓢ Chipotle Mexican Grill Ⓢ Coles Group Ⓢ Colruyt Ⓢ ConAgra Ⓢ Coop Group (Switzerland)/Coop Genossenschaft Ⓢ Cooperativa Central Aurora Alimentos Ⓢ Coopérative U Enseigne ↓ Ⓢ Cooperl Arc Atlantique Ⓢ Cremonini SpA Ⓢ Darden Restaurants PLC. ↑ Ⓢ E.Leclerc Ⓢ EDEKA Group Ⓢ Elior Group Ⓢ Elo Group Ⓢ Ferrero Group Ⓢ General Mills Inc Ⓢ Gruppo Veronesi Ⓢ Harmel Foods Corporation Ⓢ ICA Gruppen AB Ⓢ IKEA (Inter IKEA Group) Ⓢ JBS SA Ⓢ Jeronimo Martins Ⓢ Kraft Heinz Company Ⓢ Maple Leaf Foods ↑ Ⓢ McDonald's Corporation Ⓢ METRO AG Ⓢ Metro Inc Ⓢ Mowi ASA Ⓢ Nestlé SA Ⓢ OSI Group Ⓢ Papa John's Pizza Ⓢ Perdue Farms Ⓢ Plukon Food Group Ⓢ Restaurant Brands International Ⓢ REWE Group Ⓢ Royal FrieslandCampina. ↓ Ⓢ Saputo Inc Ⓢ Schwarz Gruppe Ⓢ Sodexo Ⓢ SSP Group Ⓢ Sysco Corporation Ⓢ The Cheesecake Factory Ⓢ Tönnies Group Ⓢ Tyson Foods Inc Ⓢ Vion Food Group Ⓢ Wayne-Sanderson Farms. ↑ Ⓢ Yum! Brands Inc Ⓢ | Aeon Group Ⓢ Albertsons Ⓢ Alimentation Couche-Tard Ⓢ Amazon/Whole Foods Market Ⓢ Avolta AG (previously Autogrill) Ⓢ Beijing Dabeinong Technology Group Co., Ltd. Ⓢ BJ's Wholesale Club Holdings Ⓢ Bloomin' Brands Inc Ⓢ C&S Wholesale Ⓢ Camst – La Ristorazione Italiana Soc. Coop. ARL Ⓢ Cencosud Ⓢ Chick-fil-A Ⓢ China Resources Vanguard Ⓢ China Yurun Group Limited Ⓢ CKE Restaurants Ⓢ Canad Consorzio Nazionale Ⓢ Cooke Seafood Inc Ⓢ Coop Italia. ↓ Ⓢ Costco Wholesale Corporation Ⓢ Cracker Barrel Ⓢ Dairy Farmers of America Ⓢ Dico's/Ting Hsin International Group Ⓢ Dino Polska SA Ⓢ Domino's Pizza Inc Ⓢ Empire Company/Sobey's Ⓢ Gategroup Holding AG Ⓢ H E Butt Company Ⓢ Habib's Ⓢ Industrias Bachoco Ⓢ JAB Holding Company Ⓢ Kerry Group. ↓ Ⓢ Lianhua Supermarket Holdings Co Ⓢ Loblaw Companies Limited Ⓢ Mars Inc Ⓢ Maruha Nichiro Ⓢ Meiji Holdings Ⓢ Mercadona SA Ⓢ Mondelēz International Ⓢ Müller UTM Ⓢ New Hope Liuhe Co Ltd Ⓢ Nippon Ham Ⓢ Publix Super Markets Inc Ⓢ Roark Capital (Inspire Brands, Subway et al.) Ⓢ Seaboard Corp Ⓢ Seven & i Holdings Ⓢ Spar Holding AG Ⓢ Starbucks Corporation Ⓢ Target Corporation Ⓢ UNFI Ⓢ US Foods Ⓢ Walmart Inc Ⓢ Wendy's Company (The) Ⓢ Wens Foodstuff Group Ⓢ WH Group Ltd Ⓢ Yili Group Ⓢ Yonghui Superstores Co Ltd Ⓢ Yum China Holdings Ⓢ Zhongpin Inc (Huayu Holdings) Ⓢ |

* Impact ratings are based on companies' scores for the 20 performance impact questions, namely Q30 to Q49. The scores are presented in a six-tier rating, labelled A-F, using the percentage boundaries presented in Table 2.5. The arrows indicate the change in Tier Ranking and Impact Rating compared to 2023.

Table 2.2
Year-on-Year Tier Comparison

| Tier | No. Companies 2024 | No. Companies 2023 | No. Companies 2022 |
|------|-----------------------|-----------------------|-----------------------|
| 1 | | | |
| 2 | 4 | 3 | 1 |
| 3 | 8 | 7 | 6 |
| 4 | 20 | 16 | 14 |
| 5 | 60 | 66 | 74 |
| 6 | 58 | 58 | 55 |

Table 2.3
Comparative Tier Movements

| Tier Movements | 2024 |
|----------------|------|
| +1 | 14 |
| - 1 | 4 |

Table 2.4
Company tier ranking changes

| Tier ranking changes in 2024 from 2023 | Company | |
|-------------------------------------------|------------------------------|--------|
| 1 Tier rise ↑ | Arla Foods Ltd | 5 to 4 |
| | Campbell Soup Company | 6 to 5 |
| | Danish Crown AmbA | 4 to 3 |
| | Darden Restaurants PLC | 6 to 5 |
| | Fonterra | 4 to 3 |
| | Greggs PLC | 3 to 2 |
| | Hershey Co | 5 to 4 |
| | JD Wetherspoon PLC | 5 to 4 |
| | Minerva Foods | 4 to 3 |
| | Mitchells & Butlers PLC | 5 to 4 |
| | Terrena Group | 5 to 4 |
| | Wayne-Sanderson Farms | 6 to 5 |
| | Whitbread PLC | 5 to 4 |
| | Wm Morrison Supermarkets PLC | 5 to 4 |
| 1 Tier fall ↓ | Carrefour SA | 4 to 5 |
| | Coop Italia | 5 to 6 |
| | Kerry Group | 5 to 6 |
| | Royal FrieslandCampina | 4 to 5 |

Impact Rating

The BBFAW Impact Rating was introduced in 2020 to provide a more accurate picture of the welfare benefit to animals in a company’s supply chain. Companies are awarded an Impact Rating of A-F as shown in Table 2.5. The Impact Ratings are based on company scoring across 20 Performance Impact questions, namely Q30 to Q49.

Table 2.5
2024 Impact Ratings*

| Impact Rating | | Number of companies 2024 | Number of companies 2023 |
|---------------|------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|--------------------------|--------------------------|
| A >80% | These companies are declaring improved welfare impacts for a reasonable proportion of farm animals in their operations and/or supply chains. | | |
| B 62-80% | | 3 | |
| C 44-61% | These companies are declaring improved welfare impacts for at least some farm animals in their operations and/or supply chains. | 4 | 6 |
| D 27-43% | | 7 | 5 |
| E 11-26% | These companies have yet to demonstrate that they are delivering improved welfare impacts for farm animals in their operations and/or supply chains. | 14 | 13 |
| F <11% | | 122 | 126 |

Table 2.6
Company Impact Rating Movements

| Impact Rating Movements | 2024 |
|-------------------------|------|
| +3 | 1 |
| + 1 | 13 |
| - 1 | 6 |



Table 2.7
Company Impact Rating Changes

| Impact rating change in 2024 from 2023 | Company | Rating 2023 to 2024 |
|-------------------------------------------|----------------------------------------------|------------------------|
| 3 Impact Rating rise ↑ | Fonterra | E to B |
| 1 Impact Rating rise ↑ | Arla Foods Ltd | F to E |
| | Coop Group (Switzerland)/Coop Genossenschaft | F to E |
| | Danish Crown AmbA | E to D |
| | Greggs PLC | D to C |
| | Hilton Food Group | F to E |
| | Maple Leaf Foods | F to E |
| | Marfrig Global Foods SA | E to D |
| | Marks & Spencer PLC | C to B |
| | Minerva Foods | E to D |
| | Premier Foods PLC | C to B |
| | Terrena Group | F to E |
| | Whitbread PLC | F to E |
| | Wm Morrison Supermarkets PLC | F to E |
| 1 Impact Rating fall ↓ | Coopérative U Enseigne | E to F |
| | Cranswick PLC | C to D |
| | Royal FrieslandCampina | E to F |
| | Tesco PLC | D to E |
| | Unilever NV | E to F |
| | Woolworths Limited | E to F |

Tier Ranking and Impact
Rating results and comparison

The 2024 Benchmark shows an overall positive trend with companies improving both their Tier Rankings and their Impact Ratings compared with the previous year. This is encouraging given the more stringent criteria introduced in 2022 as it shows that companies are responding to increased expectations of them on their animal welfare management and reporting.

Fourteen companies (9%) have moved up a tier ranking this year, compared to four companies (3%) that dropped down a tier. Notably, Greggs PLC has moved up a tier to join Premier Foods PLC, Marks & Spencer PLC, and Waitrose in Tier 2. This indicates that some companies are continuing to make efforts to significantly improve their farm animal welfare management and reporting.

The Impact Rating movements are also positive. Performance impact questions have since 2022 accounted for 55% of the total company score in the BBFAW assessment; this requires companies to demonstrate actual improvements in the welfare of animals on the ground. Measuring and reporting animal welfare performance data across species, global operations and supply chains will take time which means that year-on-year progress is expected to be gradual.

Companies in Tier 6 not recognising
farm animal welfare as a business issue

In the thirteen years BBFAW has been assessing companies — since 2012 — farm animal welfare has become an established business issue for many companies. Despite the significant improvements seen across the benchmarked companies, 59 companies (39%) appear in Tier 6 in 2024, indicating that these companies are making limited or no progress on farm animal welfare.

Additionally, 22 companies (15%) have not published a formal animal welfare policy, and nine (6%) do not appear to recognise farm animal welfare as a business issue.

The nine companies for which animal welfare does not appear to be a business issue are:

- 1. C&S Wholesale
- 2. China Resources Vanguard
- 3. Costco Wholesale Corporation
- 4. Dino Polska SA
- 5. JAB Holding Company
(parent company for brands such as Pret A Manger and Krispy Kreme)
- 6. Lianhua Supermarket Holdings Co
- 7. Roark Capital
(parent company for brands such as Dunkin' and Subway)
- 8. Yonghui Superstores Co Ltd
- 9. Zhongpin Inc.



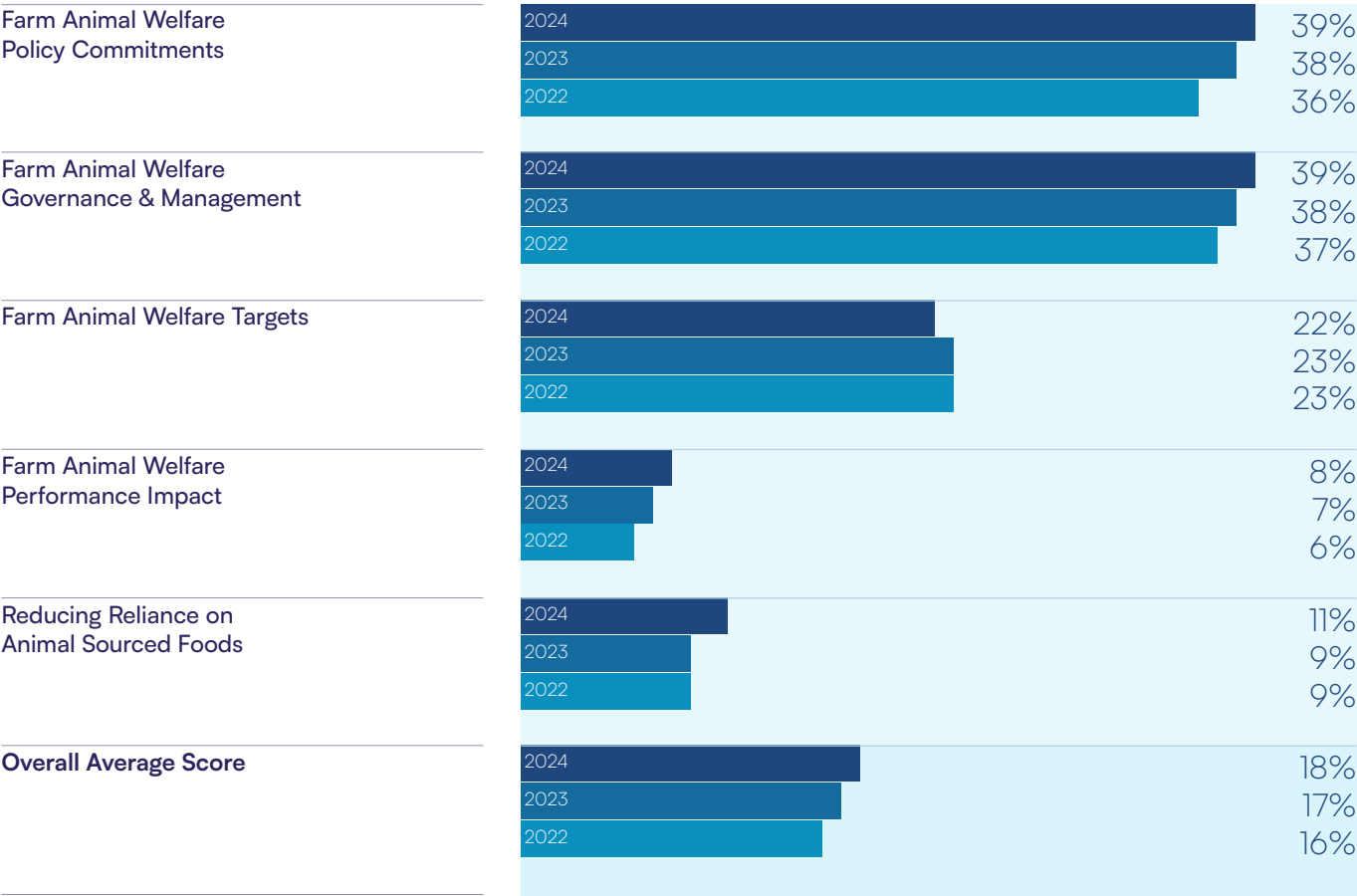
Encouragingly, 14 companies (9%) have improved their performance impact score by five percentage points or more. The highest score awarded for the performance impact questions in 2024 was 66% compared with 61% in 2023.

We are starting to see a positive correlation between the BBFAW Tier Rankings and the BBFAW Impact Ratings. In 2024, all companies in Tier 2 achieved an Impact Rating of B or C, and all companies in Tier 3 achieved an Impact Rating of B, C or D. The Impact Rating supports the BBFAW's overall aim to substantially improve the welfare of farm animals in the global food system, and it can help investors and other stakeholders to assess whether companies are delivering actual welfare improvements to animals in their operations and supply chains.

Pillar Analysis

The BBFAW benchmark is divided into five pillars that each assess a different aspect of company management and reporting on farm animal welfare.

Figure 2.2
Average Score per Pillar



The highest average scores are achieved in the Farm Animal Welfare Policy Commitments and Farm Animal Welfare Governance & Management pillars. This shows that many companies have put in place the policy commitments and governance and management systems required to effectively manage animal welfare in their operations and supply chains. Nevertheless, there remains scope for improvement across all pillars, including within the Policy and Commitments section where many companies score only partial points due to their stated commitments applying only to limited parts of their operations and supply chains.

Progress is being made on Farm Animal Welfare Performance Impact. Whilst overall performance lags other sections of the benchmark, we are starting to see policy commitments, management practices and time-bound targets delivering performance impacts on the ground to farm animal welfare.

It is also encouraging to see progress in the Benchmark's newest area of focus, the Reducing Reliance on Animal Sourced Foods pillar, where the assessment has revealed a strong response from some companies. Whilst the average score is still relatively low, there are encouraging signs that companies are starting to address this issue in their operations.

In contrast to the other pillars of the assessment, the Farm Animal Welfare Targets pillar is the only pillar to see a marginal drop in average score, at 22% in 2024, down from 23% in 2023. It is not possible to say at this stage whether the decrease in score represents a change in companies' positions on targets or a drop in reporting, which could be temporary.



Sub-sector Comparison

The BBFAW benchmark companies are divided into three industry sub-sectors: Retailers and Wholesalers; Producers and Manufacturers; and Restaurants and Bars (see also Appendix table A1).

Figure 2.3
Sub-sector Comparison

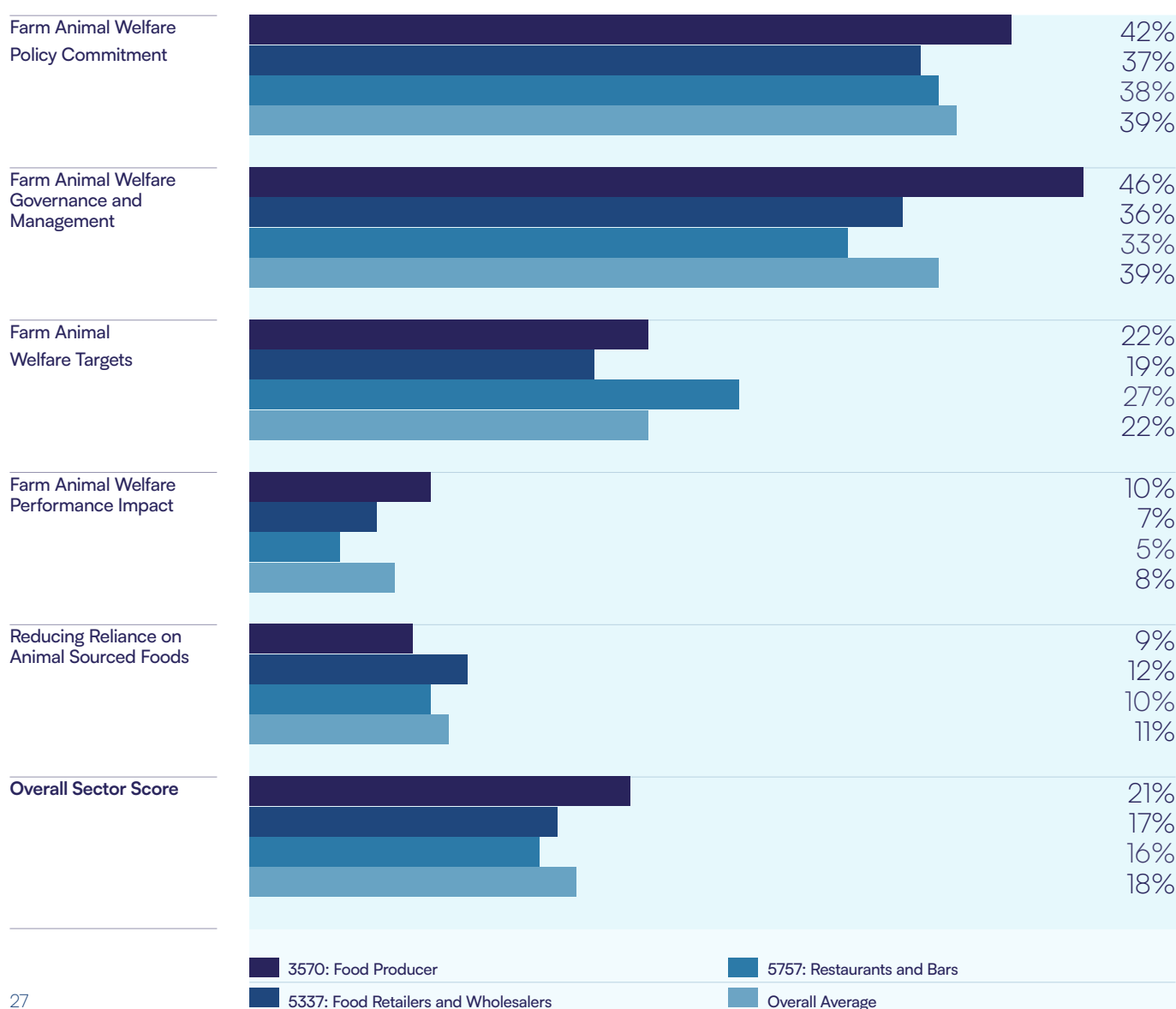


Table 2.8
Sub-sector Tier Movements

| Tier Ranking Movements | Retailers and Wholesalers | Producers and Manufacturers | Restaurants and Bars |
|------------------------|---------------------------|-----------------------------|----------------------|
| +1 | 1 | 8 | 5 |
| -1 | 2 | 2 | 0 |



Producers and Manufacturers continue to out-perform the other sub-sectors with an overall average score of 21%, up from 19% 2023. Indeed, seven out of the 12 companies (58%) in Tier 2 and Tier 3 are Producers and Manufacturers. This is likely reflective of the closer proximity many Producers and Manufacturers have to their supply chains and greater opportunity for monitoring and reporting on performance. The Retailers and Wholesalers sector has four companies in Tier 2 and 3 (33%), and the Restaurant and Bars sector has one Tier 2 company.

A large, bold, blue '21%' is centered on the page. It is positioned below a horizontal blue line and above a block of text. The font is a clean, sans-serif typeface.

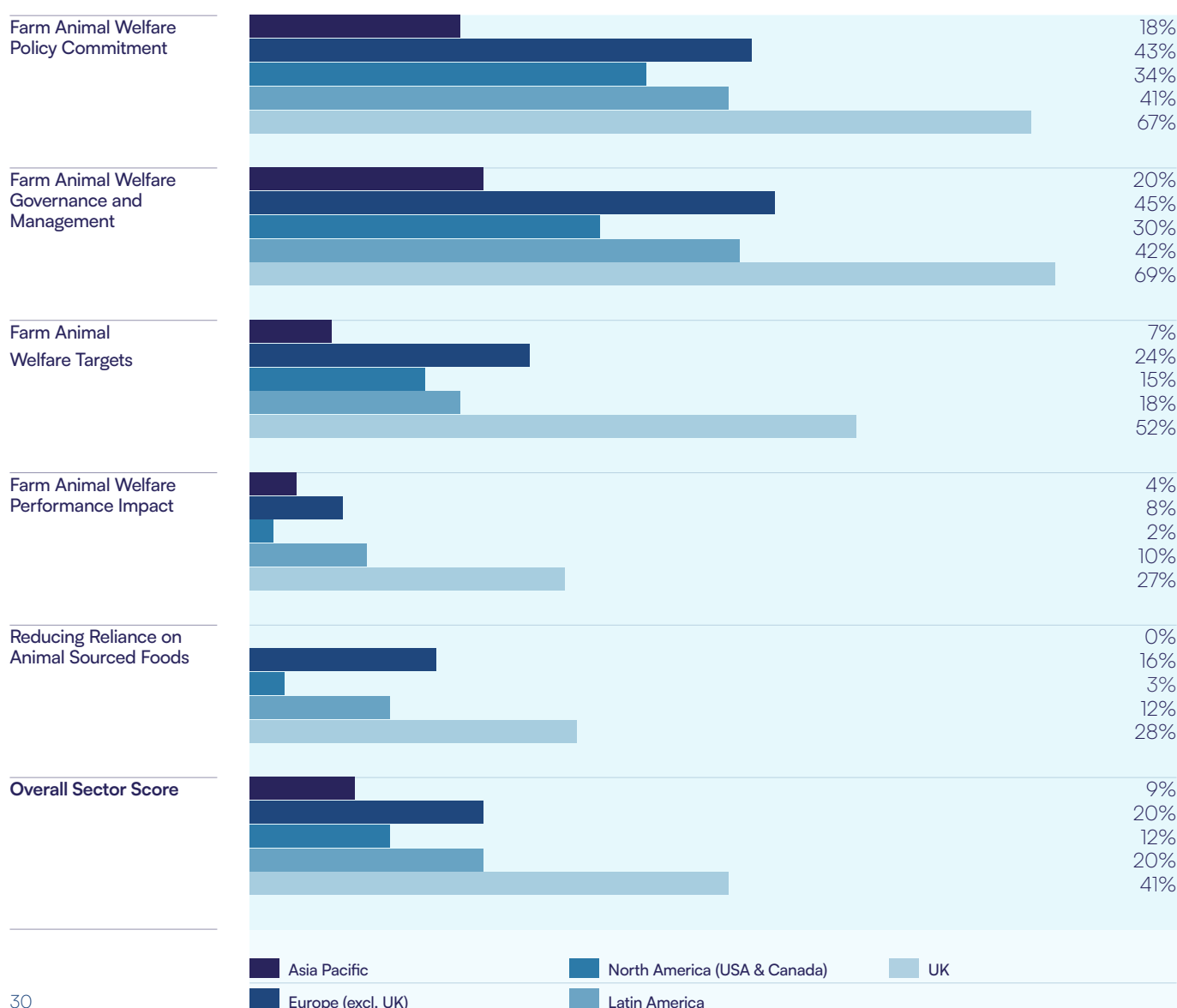
**The overall average score for
Producers and Manufacturers**

Conversely, the Restaurants and Bars sub-sector has the lowest overall average score at 16% (14% in 2023). Notably, 27 out of a total of 32 (84%) Restaurants and Bar companies in the Benchmark appear in Tiers 5 and 6. The Restaurants and Bars sub-sector is often the most removed from production and the lower average performance in this sector likely reflects the difficulties this poses in influencing production practices and obtaining performance data. However, the sub-sector is showing some improvement in scoring, particularly in the Farm Animal Welfare Policy Commitments (38% in 2024 compared with 35% in 2023) and Governance and Management pillars (33% in 2024 compared with 29% in 2023). This suggests that Restaurants and Bar companies are focusing effort in formalising their management commitments and their governance of farm animal welfare. Indeed, five of the 14 companies that have increased their Tier Ranking in 2024 are Restaurants and Bars companies, including Greggs, that has moved up to Tier 2 and Impact Rating C in 2024.

Geographical Comparison

Five geographical regions are covered by the BBFAW benchmark: Asia Pacific; Europe, excluding the UK; Latin America; North America; and the UK. The comparative regional company performance is outlined in Figure 2.4 (see also Appendix table A2).

Figure 2.4
Geographic Comparison



UK — Highest performing region

UK companies again achieved the highest overall average score of all regions, at 41%. Indeed, UK companies achieved the highest average score across all pillars of the Benchmark.

Looking at the UK sub-sector scores, UK Restaurants and Bars achieved the highest increase in overall average score from 31% in 2023 to 36% in 2024. UK Food Retailers and Wholesaler companies achieved the highest overall average score in the Farm Animal Welfare Governance and Management Pillar (81%), and in the Farm Animal Welfare Performance Impact Pillar (31%). Meanwhile, UK Restaurants and Bar companies achieved the highest average score in the Policy Commitments pillar at 70%, the Farm Animal Welfare Targets pillar at 60% and the Animal Sourced Food pillar at 36%.

UK companies dominate the upper Tier Rankings of the 2024 Benchmark, with all four Tier 2 companies and three out of the eight Tier 3 companies based in the UK. This means that seven out of the 12 companies (58%) in Tiers 2 and 3 are UK domiciled. The other five companies in Tier 3 are domiciled in Asia Pacific, Europe (excluding the UK), and Latin America.

Furthermore, two of the three companies in Impact Rating B are UK domiciled. Of the 14 companies in Impact Ratings B to D, eight (57%) are based in the UK.


41%

The overall average score of UK companies

Latin America and Europe (excl. UK) — Joint second-highest performing regions

Europe (excluding UK) and Latin America are now joint-second highest-scoring regions with overall average scores of 20%. This reflects a slight increase in scoring for Latin American companies, from 18% in 2023, and no change in scoring for European companies (excluding UK), from 20% in 2023. European companies (excluding the UK) were the second-highest performing region after the UK on Impact Rating, with three companies (21%) achieving ratings B to D.

Producers and Manufacturers were the highest scoring sub-sector in Europe (excluding UK) and in Latin America, with an overall average score of 25% and 24% respectively. Notably, Producers and Manufacturers in Latin America saw an increase in overall average score from 21% in 2023 to 24% in 2024, the second-largest increase seen this year, following the increase in overall average score achieved by Restaurants and Bars in the UK.



It is notable that one Asia Pacific company (Fonterra) bucks this overall trend and has risen three Impact Ratings, from E to B, and one Tier Ranking, from Tier 4 to Tier 3, to become one of the highest performing companies in 2024.

Other Geographical Findings

Companies domiciled in North America and Asia Pacific lag those in other regions with overall average scores of 12% and 9% respectively, both representing 1% increases since 2023 (from 11% and 8%). Indeed, 49 of the 50 companies (98%) in North America appear in Tiers 5 and 6, suggesting that the majority of North American companies have yet to formalise their farm animal welfare approaches or provide up to date reporting on farm animal welfare.

Similarly, 19 of 21 companies (90%) in Asia Pacific appear in Tiers 5 and 6. Moreover, four out of the nine companies (44%) that appear not to recognise farm animal welfare as a business issue are domiciled in this region. This is perhaps indicative of a region where the issue of farm animal welfare is not as well established as in other regions, and where farm animal welfare legislation is less advanced.

BBFAW

The 2024 Benchmark Results in Detail



The 2024 Benchmark Results in Detail

Farm Animal Welfare Policy Commitments

The 2024 Benchmark indicates that a majority of companies, 141 out of the 150 companies (94%), acknowledge farm animal welfare as a business issue, and 128 companies (85%) have formal policies on farm animal welfare in place. However, despite the high proportion of food companies publishing formal animal welfare policies, it is disappointing to see

that 22 companies (15%) are yet to publish formal policies on this critical issue. Indeed, whilst 85% of companies have published an overarching animal welfare policy, only 36 companies (24%) have universal animal welfare policies, covering all relevant species, all relevant geographies and all relevant products.



In 2024 more global food companies recognise farm animals as sentient beings, with 67 companies (45%) recognising farm animal sentience as a strong foundation for animal welfare policies, an increase from 54 companies (36%) in 2023.

Case study examples

We fundamentally understand that animal welfare is not a singular issue for a single species, but rather, a set of holistic and comprehensive principles for all sentient animals throughout their lifecycles.

The Cheesecake Factory

We believe livestock are sentient creatures and recognize the significant social issue of improving animal welfare in supply chain. We emphasize the dignity of life and humane treatment of livestock in the supply chain as much as we respect human rights and the environment.

Meiji Holdings

Animal welfare is central to our values and integral to our business, enabling us to meet our customers' expectations for high quality, sustainably reared livestock and farmed fish. [...] We recognise animal sentience; we accept that animals can experience both positive and negative emotions. We take into account the Five Domains model which focuses attention on those factors that give rise to specific subjective experiences which ultimately contributes to an animals' mental state. However, we also acknowledge the limitations of the Five Domains model as a welfare assessment tool. We recognise that good or acceptable animal welfare cannot be achieved by simply mitigating or avoiding negative experiences but that pleasurable experiences are needed as well and we will support and promote those opportunities for animals within our supply chain.

Hilton Food Group

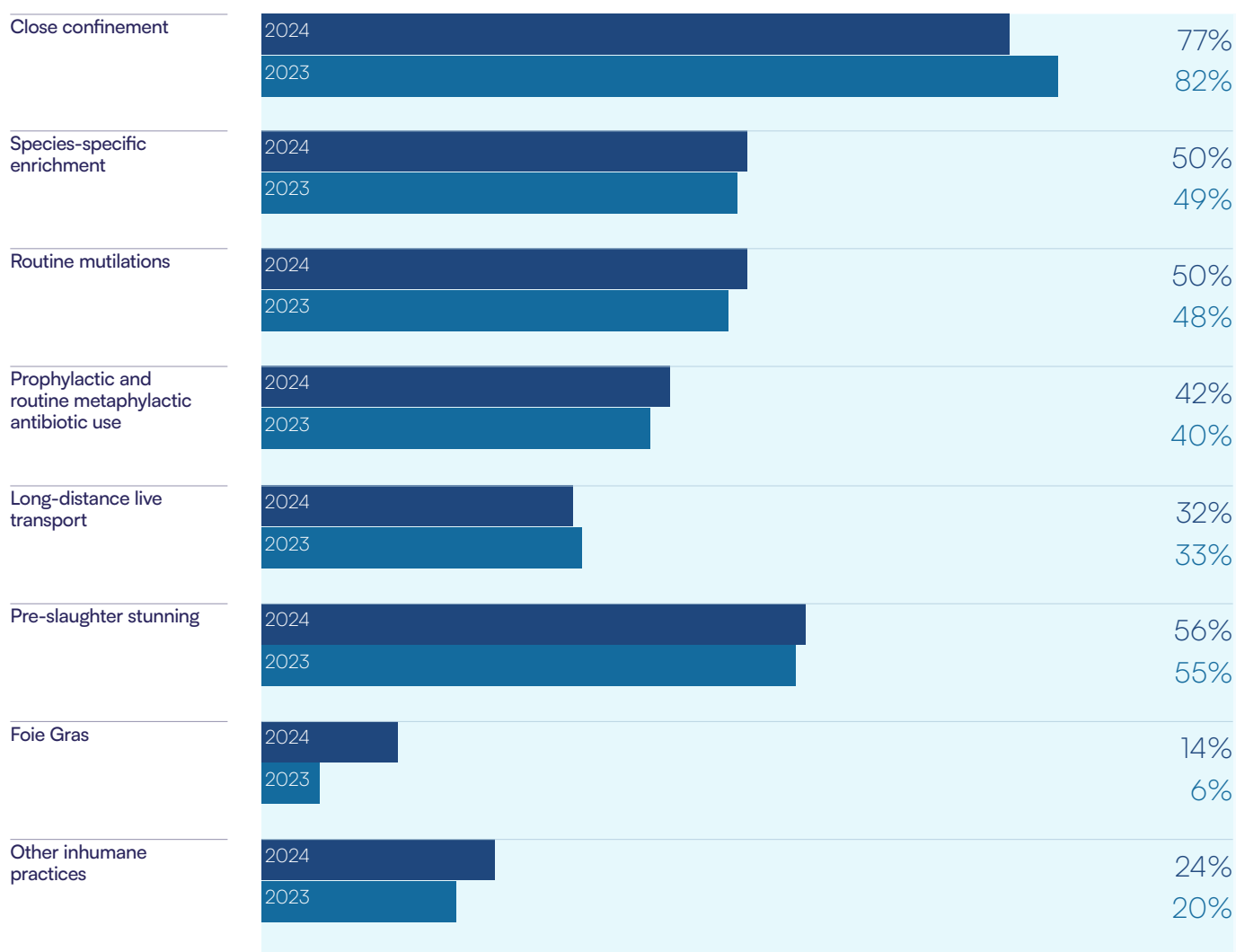


The specific welfare issues most addressed by companies include ending the use of close confinement and ensuring the use of humane methods of pre-slaughter stunning, with 77% (82% in 2023) and 56% (55% in 2023) of companies respectively having partial or universal policy commitments in place to address these issues. This reflects the greater level of awareness of the impact of close confinement production systems, such as cages for laying hens and gestation crates for sows, on the welfare of farm animals. These production systems have been the focus of public and corporate campaigns from animal welfare NGOs for many years.

As in previous years, the 2024 Benchmark results show that over 90% of company commitments addressing specific welfare issues (with the exception of commitments on foie gras) are limited in scope to specified species, geographies and/or products. This reflects differences in the drivers and opportunities for addressing species-specific issues, with NGO and civil society pressure having largely been focused on laying hens and broiler chickens in recent years, and availability of alternative, higher welfare supply chains varying in different regions. For example, the barriers to adopting cage-free supply chains in Germany, where over 95% of egg production is now cage-free and the use of cages for laying hens will be completely prohibited in January 2026, are very different to Brazil, where 95% of national production is from barren battery cage systems.

Figure 3.10

Companies with partial or universal policies addressing specific farm animal welfare issues



N.B. The question on foie gras only applies to the 83 companies with ducks or geese in their supply chain.

In 2022, BBFAW started assessing companies' positions on additional key welfare issues not covered by the long-standing cross-species questions. The additional issues assessed are grouped under the heading of 'other inhumane practices' (Question 12) and are:

1. The culling of day-old male chicks in egg supply chains;

2. Cow-calf separation in dairy and beef supply chains;

3. Fully slatted flooring for pigs, dairy and beef cattle, and ducks;

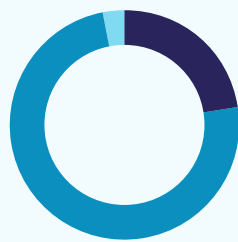
4. Live plucking or live harvesting for geese.

In 2024, there is encouraging progress to be seen on these issues. In total, 36 companies (24%) have made commitments to ending one or more of these practices, a rise from 30 companies (20%) in 2023. Notably, 23 companies (15%) have committed to ending the culling of day-old male chicks, compared to 18 companies (12%) in 2023. Male chick culling is performed because the male chicks from laying hen breeds are not needed within egg-laying supply chains and do not grow sufficiently fast for efficient meat production.

Company commitments on this issue have been driven both by the introduction of national bans on the culling of day-old male chicks in several EU Member States such as Germany (2022) and France (2023), and also technological advancement. For instance, in-ovo sexing techniques are now in use at hatcheries in Europe and North America, making it possible to identify male chicks early in incubation and to remove them before hatching.

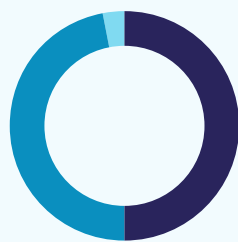
The 2024 Benchmark results indicate that most companies publishing management commitments on specific welfare issues continue to score only partial points due to their policies being limited to specified species, geographies or products.

Figure 3.2

Q4 Commitment to avoid close confinement

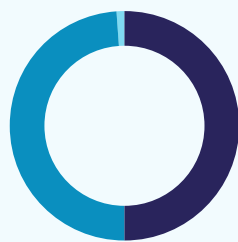
| | |
|-------|------------------------------------------------------------------|
| ○ 23% | Not addressed. |
| ○ 75% | Limited to certain species, products or geographies. |
| ○ 3% | Universal across all relevant species, products and geographies. |

Figure 3.3

Q5 Commitment to environmental enrichment

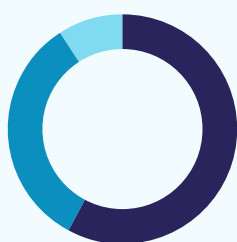
| | |
|-------|------------------------------------------------------------------|
| ○ 50% | Not addressed. |
| ○ 47% | Limited to certain species, products or geographies. |
| ○ 3% | Universal across all relevant species, products and geographies. |

Figure 3.4

Q6 Commitment to ending the use of routine mutilations

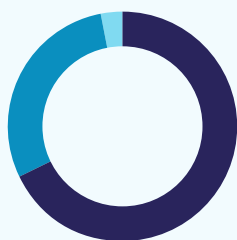
| | |
|-------|------------------------------------------------------------------|
| ○ 50% | Not addressed. |
| ○ 49% | Limited to certain species, products or geographies. |
| ○ 1% | Universal across all relevant species, products and geographies. |

Figure 3.5

Q7 Commitment to ending the prophylactic and routine metaphylactic use of antibiotics

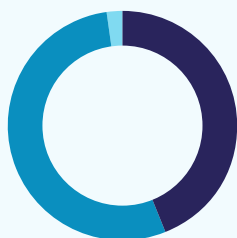
| | |
|-------|------------------------------------------------------------------|
| ○ 58% | Not addressed. |
| ○ 33% | Limited to certain species, products or geographies. |
| ○ 9% | Universal across all relevant species, products and geographies. |

Figure 3.6

Q8 Commitment to ending long distance live transport

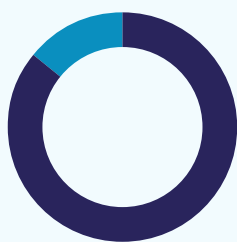
| | |
|-------|------------------------------------------------------------------|
| ○ 68% | Not addressed. |
| ○ 29% | Limited to certain species, products or geographies. |
| ○ 3% | Universal across all relevant species, products and geographies. |

Figure 3.7

Q9 Commitment to humane forms of pre-slaughter stunning

| | |
|-------|------------------------------------------------------------------|
| ○ 44% | Not addressed. |
| ○ 54% | Limited to certain species, products or geographies. |
| ○ 2% | Universal across all relevant species, products and geographies. |

Figure 3.8

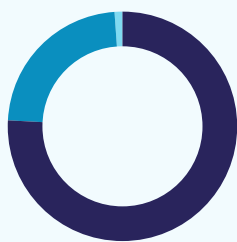
Q11 Commitment to not produce or sell foie gras or meat from birds reared for foie gras

○ 86% Not addressed.

○ 14% Limited to certain species, products or geographies.

○ 0% Universal across all relevant species, products and geographies.

Figure 3.9

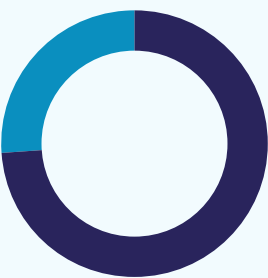
Q12 Commitment to ending the use of other inhumane practices

○ 76% Not addressed.

○ 23% Limited to certain species, products or geographies.

○ 1% Universal across all relevant species, products and geographies.

Q10 Commitment to ending the use of breeds with low welfare potential



- 74% Not addressed.
- 26% Limited to certain species, products or geographies.
- 0% Universal across all relevant species, products and geographies.

In the 2024 Benchmark, we assessed companies on their commitments to ending the use of breeds with low welfare potential for the first time, covering broiler chickens, pigs and beef cattle (this question was applicable to 139 companies with these species in their supply chains). The welfare of farmed animals is not only influenced by management practices and the inputs provided to them, but also by genetic selection. For example, some breeds selected for high growth rate and lean meat deposition can suffer a range of physiological and metabolic health issues, as well as poor immunity and lethargy and poor behavioural expression. The choice of breed or strain of animals used in livestock production can therefore have a significant impact on animal welfare. Given this is a new question, points from this question have not been included in overall scores for 2024 but will be incorporated in scores in future assessments.

The specific requirements by species are as follows:

Broiler chickens
End the use of breeds that do not meet the Better Chicken Commitment/European Chicken Commitment requirements for

improved welfare outcomes or a slower growth potential, defined as <40g/d averaged over the growth cycle according to the breeding company specification.

Pigs
End the use of sows with an average >16 piglets liveborn per litter.

Beef cattle
End the use of double-muscled breeds (e.g. Belgian Blue and Piedmontese).

The 2024 baseline data show that 36 out of 130 (28%) companies with beef, chicken and pork in their supply chains have made commitments to end the use of breeds with lower welfare potential. The majority of these commitments focus on broiler chickens, with 32 companies (21%) having made commitments that apply to at least part of their chicken supply chains, predominately driven by this being one of the requirements of the Better Chicken Commitment/European Chicken Commitment. Five companies (3%) have made commitments to end the use of double-muscled breeds in beef supply chains but only one company (1%) has made a commitment to end the use of sows with an average >16 piglets liveborn per litter.

Case study examples

Q10 Does the company have a clear commitment to ending the use of breeds with low welfare potential?

The following welfare statements include the minimum standards required for livestock reared to produce meat and poultry products supplied to Mitchells & Butlers [...] Welfare statements relating to the production of beef cattle: Mitchells & Butlers prohibit the use of double-muscled breeds (e.g. Belgian Blue and Piedmontese) in pure-bred and cross-bred form.

Mitchell & Butlers PLC

By 2026, we will require our suppliers to meet the following requirements for 100% of our fresh, frozen and ingredient chicken meat, including ambient, in our supply chain [...] Comply with all EU animal welfare laws and regulations, regardless of the country of production; Adopt breeds that demonstrate higher welfare outcomes: Hubbard JA757, 787, 957 or 987, Rambler Ranger, Ranger Classic, Ranger Gold, Redbro or others that meet the criteria of the RSPCA broiler breed assessment protocol.

Waitrose



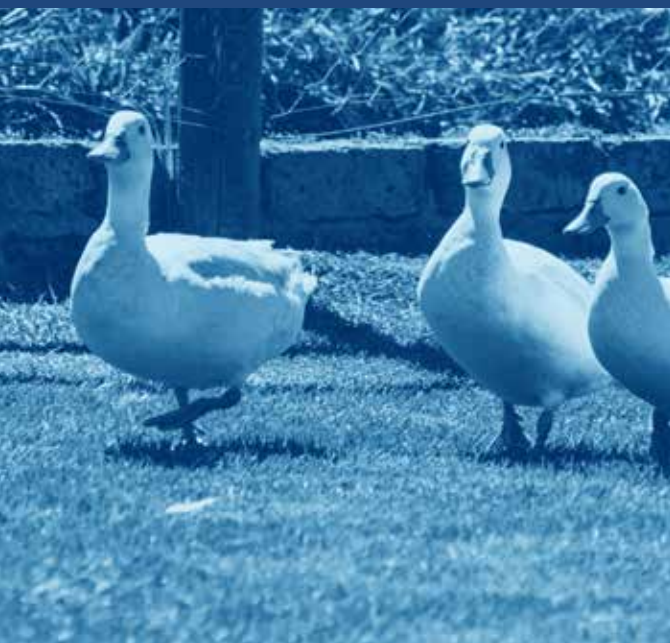
Farm Animal Welfare Governance and Management

Farm Animal Welfare Governance and Management, alongside Policy Commitments, continues to be the highest scoring pillar in the 2024 Benchmark. The average score has shown a steady upward trend, increasing from 37% in 2022, to 38% in 2023 and 39% in 2024. This reflects a growing proportion of companies with established management systems and processes in place for managing farm animal welfare.

Whilst input measures are critical, such as the avoidance of caged production systems and the provision of environmental enrichment, it is also important to have in place monitoring of welfare outcomes to ensure the desired positive impacts on welfare benefits and improvements are being seen.

Improvement can be seen in the number of companies assigning day-to-day and board or senior management responsibility for farm animal welfare, which is an essential element for effective implementation of policies. In the 2024 benchmark, 88 companies (59%) report board or senior management oversight of farm animal welfare compared to 81 companies (54%) in 2023. Meanwhile, 83 companies (55%) reported assigning day-to-day management responsibility for farm animal welfare, which is a slight decrease on the 56% of companies in 2023. The proportion of companies reporting on both senior management oversight and operational responsibility rose marginally in 2024, with 70 companies (47%) scoring maximum points for both question parts (compared to 45% in 2023).

Slightly more companies provide information on how they use welfare outcome measures to inform continuous improvement in their supply chains, or report on welfare outcome measure data from their supply chain. In the 2024 benchmark, 45 companies (30%) describe their use of welfare outcome measures and 42 companies (28%) report data on indicators such as mortality rates, lameness, effectiveness of pre-slaughter stunning, and the expression of positive behaviours such as dust-bathing.



The number of companies auditing their products to either basic or higher farm assurance standards has also increased. In 2024, 88 companies (59%) reported that a substantial proportion of products conform to basic or higher welfare assurance schemes across certain species and geographies, compared with 85 companies (57%) in 2023.

Meanwhile, year-on-year findings for other governance and management criteria are relatively unchanged or showing marginal declines. For example, on companies reporting on employee training and supplier management. Here, 77 companies (51%, compared with 52% in 2023) describe their provision of employee training on animal welfare in 2024, and 77 companies (51%, compared with 53% in 2023) describe the actions taken in the event of non-compliance with their farm animal welfare policies. Further, 77 companies (51%, compared with 53% in 2023) describe how they provide education and support to suppliers and 86 companies (57%, compared with 59% in 2023) include farm animal welfare in supplier contracts, with around half of these companies only doing so for specific species, geographies or products (40 companies, or 47% of those that include farm animal welfare in supplier contracts).



Farm Animal Welfare Targets

Over the past decade, we have seen significant industry movements of hundreds of companies committing to time-bound targets for specific animal welfare improvements. In contrast to the steady progress seen in the other pillars, the average score for the Farm Animal Welfare Targets pillar is broadly unchanged in 2024, at 22% compared with 23% in 2023. It is not possible to say at this stage whether the decrease in score represents a change in companies' positions on targets or a drop in reporting, which could be temporary. Nonetheless, companies will likely come under increased scrutiny on animal welfare targets from NGOs and civil society this year, as 2025 is the deadline set by many companies for achieving cage-free egg commitments.

Looking at the species-specific targets in more detail:

Laying hen welfare

99 of the 140 companies with eggs in their supply chains (70% compared with 73% in 2023) publish a time-bound target or provide evidence of having achieved 100% of eggs from cage-free sources.

Broiler chicken welfare

40 of the 134 companies that have broiler chickens in their supply chain (30% compared with 31% in 2023) have set a time-bound target to achieve the requirements for the Better Chicken Commitment/European Chicken Commitment.

Dairy cow welfare

31 of the 142 companies (22% compared with 18% in 2023) that have dairy cows in their supply chain in have published time-bound targets to eliminate the use of tethering or have provided evidence that they have achieved 100% zero tethering.

Pig welfare

Only 13 of the 137 companies with pigs in their supply chains (9%, compared with 10% in 2023) have published time-bound targets to end the use of gestation/sow stalls and farrowing crates for sows.

Farm Animal Welfare Performance Impact

There are early signs of companies responding to the new Farm Animal Welfare Performance Impact criteria introduced in 2022. Encouragingly, all 11 of the new species-specific criteria introduced in 2022 have seen an increase in company scoring this year. This indicates that more companies are introducing the required monitoring and reporting processes to enable disclosure on these practices across at least some of their supply chains and operations (see Figure 3.10).

Figure 3.10
Proportion of companies reporting on species-specific performance measures introduced in 2022

| Species | New Species-specific performance measures | 2024 | 2023 |
|------------------|------------------------------------------------|------|------|
| Laying Hens | Day-old male chicks not killed | 9%* | 9% |
| Broiler Chickens | Humane stunning | 30% | 28% |
| Pigs | Sows free from farrowing crates | 16% | 14% |
| Dairy Cattle | Provided with pasture access | 16% | 15% |
| | Free from disbudding/dehorning | 8% | 6% |
| Beef Cattle | Free from confinement in CAFOs or feedlots | 16% | 13% |
| | Group housed as calves, throughout rearing | 10% | 9% |
| | Free from disbudding/dehorning | 11% | 7% |
| Salmon | Reared at lower stocking densities | 13% | 11% |
| | Free from fasting lasting longer than 72 hours | 11% | 5% |
| | Effectively stunned and killed | 23% | 18% |

*Although the percentage remains the same, one additional company reported on the proportion of day-old male chicks in its supply chain that are not killed in 2024, compared to 2023.

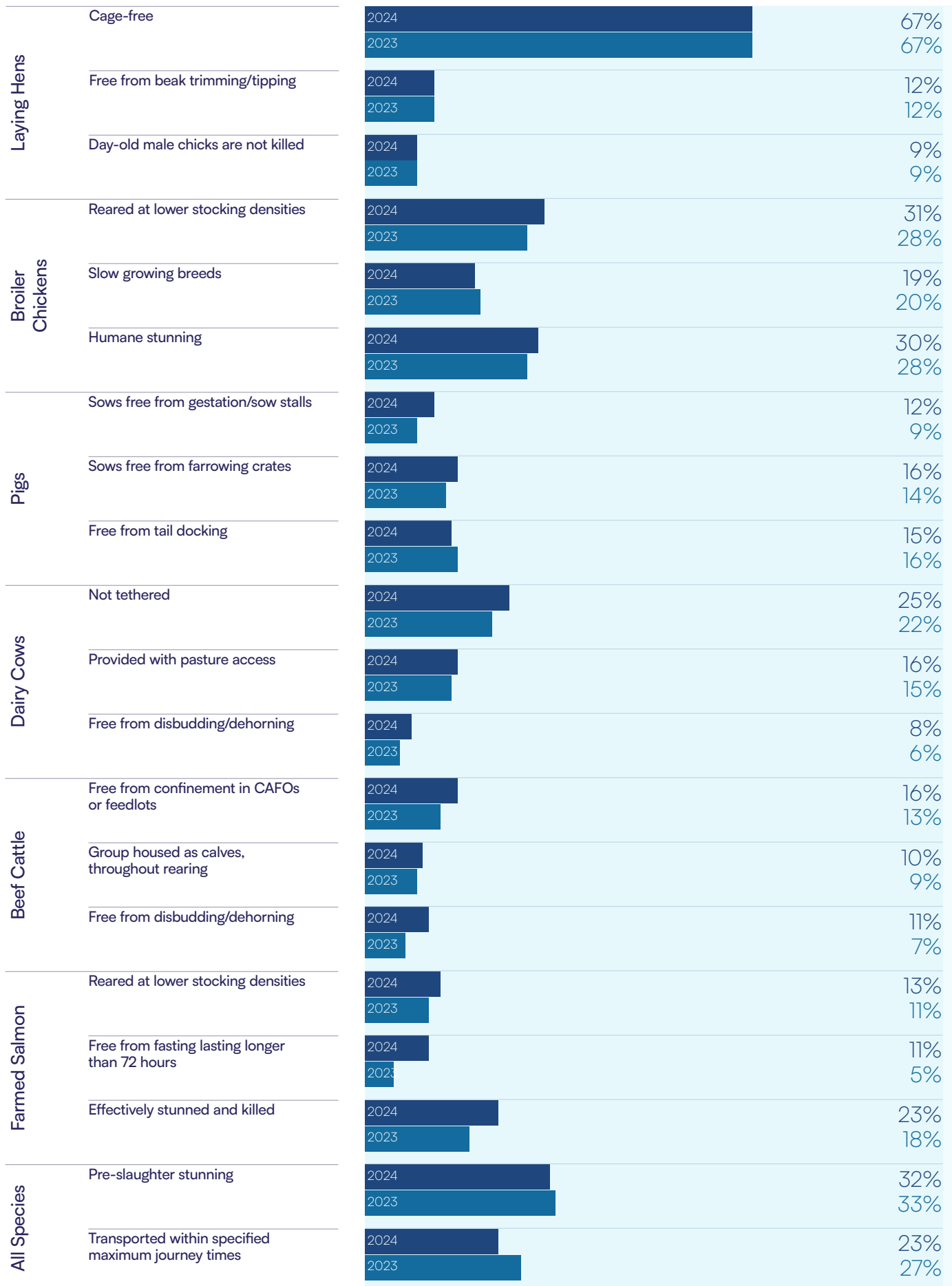


In total, 109 companies (73% in 2024 and 2023) provide some performance reporting data across their global supply chain in 2024, and the average score has increased to 8% from 7% in 2023 and 6% in 2022.

This pillar is the most challenging for businesses as it requires reporting species-specific welfare impact data across global supply chains. It is therefore encouraging to see a gradual increase in reporting from companies. Nonetheless, the relatively low average score for this pillar of the assessment indicates that more needs to be done by many companies to monitor and report on key welfare risks in their supply chains.

Figure 3.11

Proportion of companies reporting on species-specific performance measures



The impact measure most reported on by companies remains the proportion of laying hens that is cage-free. Here, 94 of the 140 companies (67% in 2024 and in 2023) with laying hens in their supply chains publish impact data (67%).

89%

of companies awarded points for having a time-bound target, or evidence of achievement, for ending the use of cages for laying hens are reporting on progress.

63%

with a time-bound target to achieve the requirements for the Better Chicken Commitment/European Chicken Commitment have reported on progress on lower stocking densities.

The next most reported on species-specific measures relate to broiler chickens:

- 41 of the 134 companies (31% compared with 28% in 2023) report on the proportion of broiler chickens reared at lower stocking densities
- 40 of the 134 companies (30% compared with 28% in 2023) report on the proportion of broiler chickens subject to controlled atmosphere stunning or electrical stunning without live inversion

Reporting on performance impact data for other species is less well progressed. For instance, only 16 of the 137 companies with pigs in their supply chain (12%) report on the proportion of sows free from gestation crates/sow stalls, and only 12 of the 142 companies with dairy cows in their supply chain (8%) report on the proportion of dairy cattle that is free from disbudding or dehorning.

It is encouraging that more companies are reporting they have made significant progress on priority issues. In particular, the number of companies reporting more than 60% progress on specific issues has increased on the issues of:

- **Cage-free laying hens (33 companies in 2024, up from 28 in 2023)**
- **Laying hens free from beak trimming or tipping (five companies in 2024, up from zero in 2023)**
- **Use of broiler chicken breeds with improved welfare outcomes or with a slower growth potential (6 companies in 2024, up from zero in 2023)**
- **Beef cattle group housed as calves, throughout rearing (11 companies in 2024, up from 5 in 2023)**



Figure 3.12

BBFAW 2024 Impact Ratings

| Impact Rating | Company | |
|--------------------|--------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|---------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|
| A >80% | These companies are declaring improved welfare impacts for a reasonable proportion of farm animals | |
| B 62-80% | in their operations and/or supply chains. | Fonterra ↑↑↑ . Marks & Spencer PLC ↑ . Premier Foods PLC ↑ |
| C 44-61% | These companies are declaring improved welfare impacts for at least some farm animals in their operations | Greggs PLC ↑ . Groupe Danone SA . Migros-Genossenschafts-Bund . Waitrose |
| D 27-43% | and/or supply chains. | Co-op UK . Cranswick PLC ↓ . Danish Crown AmbA ↑ . J Sainsbury PLC . Marfrig Global Foods SA ↑ . Minerva Foods ↑ . Noble Foods |
| E 11-26% | These companies have yet to demonstrate that they are delivering improved welfare impacts for farm animals in their operations | Arla Foods Ltd ↑ . Barilla SpA . BRF SA . Coop Group (Switzerland)/Coop Genossenschaft ↑ . Groupe Lactalis . Hershey Co . Hilton Food Group ↑ . Les Mousquetaires . Maple Leaf Foods ↑ . Terrena Group ↑ . Tesco PLC ↓ . The Cheesecake Factory . Whitbread PLC ↑ . Wm Morrison Supermarkets PLC ↑ |
| F <11% | and/or supply chains. | (The) Kroger Company . 2 Sisters Food Group (Boparan Holdings Ltd) . Aeon Group . Agro Super . Ahold Delhaize . Albertsons . ALDI Einkauf SE & Co. oHG (ALDI Nord) . ALDI SOUTH Group . Alimentation Couche-Tard . Amazon/Whole Foods Market . Aramark Corporation . Avolta AG (previously Autogrill) . Beijing Dabeinong Technology Group Co., Ltd. . Bellis Topco Ltd./Asda . Bimbo . BJ's Wholesale Club Holdings . Bloomin' Brands Inc . C&S Wholesale . Campbell Soup Company . Camst — La Ristorazione Italiana Soc. Coop. ARL . Cargill . Carrefour SA . Casino Guichard-Perrachon SA . Cencosud . Charoen Pokphand Foods . Chick-fil-A . China Resources Vanguard . China Yurun Group Limited . Chipotle Mexican Grill . CKE Restaurants . Coles Group . Colruyt . Compass Group PLC . Conad Consorzio Nazionale . ConAgra . Cooke Seafood Inc . Coop Italia . Cooperativa Central Aurora Alimentos . Coopérative U Enseigne ↓ . Cooperl Arc Atlantique . Costco Wholesale Corporation . Cracker Barrel . Cremonini SpA . Dairy Farmers of America . Darden Restaurants PLC . Dico's/Ting Hsin International Group . Dino Polska SA . Domino's Pizza Inc . E.Leclerc . EDEKA Group . Elio Group . Elo Group . Empire Company/Sobey's . Ferrero Group . Gategroup Holding AG . General Mills Inc . Gruppo Veronesi . H E Butt Company . Habib's . Hormel Foods Corporation . ICA Gruppen AB . IKEA (Inter IKEA Group) . Industrias Bachoco . JAB Holding Company . JBS SA . JD Wetherspoon PLC . Jeronimo Martins . Kerry Group . Kraft Heinz Company . LDC Groupe . Lianhua Supermarket Holdings Co . Loblaw Companies Limited . Mars Inc . Maruha Nichiro . McDonald's Corporation . Meiji Holdings . Mercadona SA . METRO AG . Metro Inc . Mitchells & Butlers PLC . Mondelēz International . Mowi ASA . Müller UTM . Nestlé SA . New Hope Liuhe Co Ltd . Nippon Ham . OSI Group . Papa John's Pizza . Perdue Farms . Plukon Food Group . Publix Super Markets Inc . Restaurant Brands International . REWE Group . Roark Capital (Inspire Brands, Subway et al.) . Royal FrieslandCampina ↓ . Saputo Inc . Schwarz Gruppe . Seaboard Corp . Seven & i Holdings . Sodexo . Spar Holding AG . SSP Group . Starbucks Corporation . Sysco Corporation . Target Corporation . Tönnies Group . Tyson Foods Inc . UNFI . Unilever NV ↓ . US Foods . Vion Food Group . Walmart Inc . Wayne-Sanderson Farms . Wendy's Company (The) . Wens Foodstuff Group . WH Group Ltd . Woolworths Limited ↓ . Yili Group . Yonghui Superstores Co Ltd . Yum China Holdings . Yum! Brands Inc . Zhongpin Inc (Huayu Holdings) |

Case study examples

Q36 What proportion of sows (for fresh/frozen pork products and ingredients) in the company's global supply chain is free from gestation crates /sow stalls?

In 2023 over 96% of the total pork processed from our global supply chain was sourced from farms where sows are not confined at all during the gestation period. This is a 6% increase from 2020 which highlights the work we are doing to promote non-confinement [...] Cranswick closely work with all our global suppliers and we are committed to ending confinement through all species across all geographies. 100% of our suppliers that do not use gestation crates only confine the sow for a maximum of 4 hours during the insemination period.

Cranswick

Q41 What proportion of dairy cows (for fresh/frozen milk and milk products and ingredients) in the company's global supply chain is free from disbudding/dehorning?

At least 32.6% of all dairy cattle are free from routine surgical interventions (disbudding and dehorning). For the dairy cattle providing milk, cream, and dairy products this is 33.6%.

Greggs PLC

Q43 What proportion of beef cattle (for fresh/frozen beef products and ingredients) in the company's global supply chain is group housed as calves, throughout rearing?

Most beef products that we purchase are in the form of beef fat and beef stock. All our beef products are sourced from the UK & EU. Beef gelatine is now purchased 100% from the EU. 19% of beef is from the UK and 81% from the EU. 82% of beef cattle are group housed throughout rearing.

Premier Foods PLC

Q47 What proportion of farmed salmon (for fresh/frozen salmon products and ingredients) in the company’s global supply chain is stun-killed using percussion or electrocution or is pre-slaughter stunned using effective percussion or electrocution followed up by a kill method before recovery of consciousness?

Detailed commitments and progress on species... Farmed fish (Salmon, seabass, seabream and Trout) [in] 2023: 91% of farmed fishes were pre-stunned electrically (excluded trout).

Groupe Danone

Q48 What proportion of animals (excluding fin fish) in the company’s global supply chain is transported within specified maximum journey times? (Less than 4 hours for poultry and rabbits, and less than 8 hours for other species.)

In 2023, it was found that at least 88% of the animals involved in our value chain were transported within the specified maximum travel times: 4 hours for poultry and 8 hours for other species. It should be stressed that Marfrig does not carry out maritime transport, all our operations being performed by land routes.

Marfrig Global Foods SA

Reducing Reliance on Animal Sourced Foods

Society's dependence on intensive animal agriculture is not only detrimental for animal welfare, but is a major driver of the global climate, nature and health crises. A transition to higher welfare production for all animals used for food requires a reduction in the numbers of livestock produced if animals are to be farmed sustainably and within planetary boundaries.

A large, bold, blue '85%' is centered on the page. It is preceded by a horizontal blue line.

The highest scores achieved by two companies - Hilton Food Group and Waitrose - on the Reducing Reliance on Animal Sourced Foods pillar.

The highest score achieved in this pillar in 2024 is 85% and 11 companies scored more than 50% (comprising four Retailers and Wholesalers, four Producers and Manufacturers, and three Restaurants and Bars). Of these, five companies were domiciled in the UK, four were domiciled in Europe (excluding the UK), and one company each was domiciled in Latin America and North America. Indeed, UK companies lead the way on this pillar with an average score of 28%, whereas the Asia Pacific region scored the lowest (0.4%). This trend continues in the sub-sector analysis, with UK restaurants and bars scoring highest in the section with an average score of 36%.

This shows that some companies recognise the need to address and report on this issue. Moreover, the high scores from some companies in this pillar indicate that the criteria are achievable across all sub-sectors.

The Animal Sourced Foods pillar enables investors and other stakeholders to better assess whether and how companies are approaching this issue.

The average score across the Reducing Reliance on Animal Sourced Foods pillar is 11%, reflecting the immaturity of this issue in company reporting. However, it is encouraging the average score has increased from 9% in 2023.

Policy Commitments

Out of the 150 companies in the Benchmark, 43 companies (29%, compared with 25% in 2023) acknowledge the need to reduce reliance on animal sourced foods as a business issue. However, only 16 companies (11%, compared with 13% in 2023) have published formal policies on the need to reduce reliance on animal sourced foods, either as part of their broader sustainability policies or their animal welfare policies.

Governance and Management

The 2024 benchmark indicates that many companies are yet to formalise their internal governance and management processes around their commitments to reducing reliance on animal-sourced foods. Just 11 companies (7%, vs. 6% in 2023) reported on their day-to-day management and 12 companies (8%, vs. 6% in 2023) reported on senior management oversight of company commitments to reducing reliance on animal-sourced foods. Twenty-five companies (17% in 2024 and 2023) gave at least one example of communicating to customers on reducing reliance on animal-sourced foods through education and/or awareness-raising activities. Sixteen companies (11%) reported multiple examples of communicating to customers (19 companies and 13% in 2023). Most of these communications are focused on communicating to consumers on alternative proteins and plant-based products.

Targets

Approximately half of the companies that have recognised reducing reliance on animal sourced foods as a relevant business issue have set targets to address this issue. Twenty-two companies out of 150 (15% compared to 14% in 2023) have set targets to reduce reliance on animal-sourced foods in 2023. Two of these companies have published universal targets to reduce reliance on animal-sourced foods across all geographies and business divisions. Here there is a strong regional difference with 13 (59%) of these companies being domiciled in Europe (excluding UK) and seven (32%) domiciled in the UK. However, two companies — one domiciled in Latin America and one in North America — have also published time-bound targets for reducing reliance on animal sourced foods.

Performance reporting

Whilst there are relatively few companies setting targets for reducing reliance on animal-sourced foods, it is encouraging that a majority of companies with targets are also reporting on progress against them. Sixteen companies of the 22 companies with targets (73% of the companies with targets) report progress towards their targets for reducing reliance on animal-sourced foods, notably, all progress reporting against targets is partial in scope, being limited by geography, products or species.

BBFAW

Accelerating Impact



In 2022, the BBFAW underwent substantial revisions to align with rising stakeholder expectations of food companies and the urgent need to accelerate the delivery of welfare benefits for farm animals across global operations and supply chains. While improving animal welfare requires focused management attention, strong governance, and collaboration between companies and their suppliers, customers and consumers, companies must also balance managing these commitments alongside other sustainability priorities, such as transitioning to a low carbon economy, conserving natural resources, and addressing biodiversity loss. Consequently, advancements in animal rearing, transportation, and slaughter practices must be considered alongside broader issues affecting human and planetary health.

The 2024 BBFAW assessment reinforces that animal welfare remains a key business priority for a majority of food companies. It also highlights progress by companies in formalising their management and reporting of animal welfare. Encouragingly, indicators suggest that companies remain engaged with the benchmark and are committed to incrementally improving their performance over time. For instance, 62 companies (41%) reviewed their 2024 preliminary assessments, compared to 48 companies (32%) in 2023. Further, many companies continue to request meetings with the BBFAW secretariat and with the Food Business Team at Compassion in World Farming to understand how they might improve the welfare of farm animal in their operations and supply, and subsequently

their scoring in the benchmark. The 2024 benchmark highlights three principal challenges for companies.

The first, and most straightforward to address, is ensuring accurate reporting of their farm animal welfare commitments and performance and ensure annual updates.

The second challenge is the time required for companies to understand and respond to the revised criteria. It typically takes two or three benchmark cycles for companies to familiarise themselves with the requirements and adjust their management processes and public reporting accordingly.

The third challenge involves demonstrating the tangible impact of their farm animal welfare policies and commitments. While the baseline study shows that two-thirds of companies report at least some performance data, further improvements are needed. Companies are encouraged to expand the scope of their reporting to cover a broader range of species, geographies, and products.

The revised BBFAW framework provides companies with clear guidance on structuring their management processes and reporting. It also helps them align with the expectations of key stakeholders, including investors, customers and consumers.

Company engagement with the BBFAW

The 2024 company assessment reports offer tailored recommendations to help companies strengthen their management approaches and impact reporting. Additionally, the annual BBFAW report provides valuable insights into how companies perform relative to their industry peers, helping senior management assess overall progress and build a stronger internal case for investment and action.

Beyond the annual company assessments and reports, companies are encouraged to engage with the programme for deeper insight on their performance. The Food Business Team at Compassion in World Farming offers support and advice to companies looking to enhance their farm animal welfare performance and benchmark rankings. Further, the BBFAW Secretariat works with food businesses to improve their understanding and alignment with the BBFAW methodology and assessment criteria.

Given the substantial changes to the BBFAW criteria and scoring, it is particularly important for companies to understand the nuances of the benchmark and how their publicly available information will be assessed against the revised standards.

Investor engagement in the BBFAW

Having established the first ever Global Investor Statement on Farm Animal Welfare and the BBFAW Global Investor Collaboration on Farm Animal Welfare in 2015, these programmes are now supported by 31 institutional investors with over £1.9 trillion in assets under management. In July 2024, investors in the BBFAW Investor Collaboration wrote tailored letters to the CEOs of all 150 companies covered by the BBFAW to signal their support of the revised BBFAW and to encourage companies to update their reporting ahead of the 2024 Benchmark assessments in October and November the same year.



of companies (62 companies) reviewed their 2024 preliminary assessments

The results of our ongoing engagements with investors suggest that they regard the issue of farm animal welfare as being potentially material to long-term investment value creation in the food sector and is a relevant consideration when forming views on the strategic positioning of companies in the food sector. Investors therefore seek assurances that the companies in which they are invested have fully considered the risks and opportunities associated with farm animal welfare, and that companies have effective policies and processes for dealing with the challenges. Investors also understand that food companies have an important role to play in raising farm animal welfare standards within their own operations and in their supply chains. Consequently, investors are increasingly likely to engage with companies to encourage them to better manage the issue of farm animal welfare.

Investor engagement is widely cited by companies — particularly in their responses to the annual letters sent by investors to CEOs — as a key driver for them to take action on farm animal welfare.

The 2024 Benchmark highlights four key actions for investors:

- 1 Review companies' tier rankings to assess how companies are managing the risks and opportunities associated with farm animal welfare and how they perform in the benchmark relative to their industry or sub-sector peers. Alongside companies' tier rankings, investors should also consider companies' impact ratings to understand the extent to which companies are reporting tangible welfare benefits for animals in their operations and supply chains.
- 2 The BBFAW secretariat can support investors with their company engagements through providing confidential access to company summary reports which provide a year-on-year analysis of a company's performance in the BBFAW, outline its strengths and weaknesses against the benchmark criteria, and provide key recommendations to strengthen a company's performance in the benchmark.
- 3 Participate in the annual investor letters to companies to encourage companies to use the BBFAW as a practical tool to help them manage their farm animal welfare issues and as a framework to guide their reporting.
- 4 Investors who have not yet signed the BBFAW Global Investor Statement or who have not yet joined the BBFAW Investor Collaboration, can contact the secretariat for more information. Membership of the Collaboration is free-of-charge and provides investors with technical briefings, webinars and a monthly newsletter to keep them informed on welfare-specific topics in the food sector. The Collaboration can also provide support to investors with their company engagements.

BBFAW

Appendix



Company Coverage

The Benchmark scope

In total, 150 of the world's largest food companies were included in the 2024 Benchmark. These companies were broadly spread across the three food industry sub-sectors. The universe of companies is global although it continues to be weighted towards North American and European companies.

Table A1

Companies by sub-sector

| Sub-sector (ICB Classification) | Number of Companies |
|-------------------------------------|---------------------|
| Food Retailers & Wholesalers (5337) | 55 |
| Food Producers (3570) | 63 |
| Restaurants & Bars (5757) | 32 |
| Total | 150 |

Table A2

Companies by country of listing or incorporation

| Country of Listing or Incorporation | Number of Companies |
|-------------------------------------|---------------------|
| USA | 44 |
| UK | 18 |
| France | 13 |
| China | 12 |
| Germany | 8 |
| Canada | 7 |
| Italy | 7 |
| Brazil | 6 |
| Netherlands | 6 |
| Japan | 5 |
| Switzerland | 5 |
| Sweden | 3 |
| Australia | 2 |
| Chile | 2 |
| Denmark | 2 |
| Mexico | 2 |
| Norway | 1 |
| Belgium | 1 |
| Ireland | 1 |
| New Zealand | 1 |
| Portugal | 1 |
| Spain | 1 |
| Thailand | 1 |
| Luxembourg | 1 |

2024 Benchmark Questions and Scoring

| | Farm Animal Welfare Policy Commitment | |
|-------------------|--------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|-----|
| Question 1. | Does the company acknowledge farm animal welfare as a business issue? | |
| Rationale | Acknowledging farm animal welfare as a relevant business issue is an important first step towards implementing a comprehensive approach to farm animal welfare management. It is good practice for food companies to identify whether and why farm animal welfare is a relevant issue for the business. Recognising animals as sentient beings provides a strong foundation for animal welfare policies. | |
| Scoring | No evidence that farm animal welfare is regarded as a relevant business issue. | 0 |
| | The company identifies farm animal welfare as a relevant business issue. | 2.5 |
| | The company identifies farm animal welfare as a relevant business issue and recognises farm animals as sentient beings. | 5 |
| | (Max Score 5) | |
| Explanatory Notes | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • This question is looking for an acknowledgement by the parent company that farm animal welfare is a relevant business issue and that farm animals are sentient beings. • Companies that publish policies that address farm animal welfare, even if they do not explain why this is relevant to the business, are awarded points. • Companies that acknowledge farm animal welfare as a relevant business issue and/or set out the reasons why it might be a business issue (e.g. because of public or customer concerns, security and sustainability of supply, cost, etc.) are awarded points. • Maximum points are awarded to companies that also recognise farm animals as sentient beings. This may be through recognition of the 'Five Freedoms of Animal Welfare' in combination with recognition of the need to promote positive welfare states, recognition of the 'Five Domains of Animal Welfare', or explicit recognition of animal sentience. • The score does not take account of the importance assigned by companies to farm animal welfare (e.g. relative to other corporate responsibility issues). | |

| Farm Animal Welfare Policy Commitments | | |
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| Question 2. | Does the company publish an overarching farm animal welfare policy (or equivalent)? | |
| Rationale | It is good practice for companies to formalise their approach to animal welfare in a policy (or equivalent document such as a statement of guiding principles, a code of practice or a sourcing charter). While the existence of a policy may not provide a guarantee of implementation, the absence of a policy is a clear sign that farm animal welfare is not firmly on the business agenda. | |
| Scoring | No evidence of a formal policy statement (or equivalent) on farm animal welfare. | 0 |
| | The company has a broad commitment to farm animal welfare within a policy statement (or equivalent). | 2.5 |
| | The company has a broad commitment to farm animal welfare within a policy statement (or equivalent) and a description of the processes in place to ensure that the policy is effectively implemented. | 5 |
| | (Max Score 5) | |
| Explanatory Notes | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> The assessment does not differentiate between companies that publish stand-alone farm animal welfare policies and companies that incorporate farm animal welfare into wider responsible sourcing or sustainability policies or codes of practice. Companies that publish a clear statement of commitment to farm animal welfare that provides a starting point for the company's accountability to its stakeholders are awarded a score of 2.5 points. Policies issued by company subsidiaries are not considered as overarching policies, and companies with such policies but no overarching (i.e. at the parent company level) policy are therefore not awarded points for this question. These policies are considered when deciding whether to award points for Questions 1, 4-12, 24-28 and 30-50. Policies focused on specific farm animal welfare issues (e.g. antibiotics where farm animal welfare is mentioned in passing) are not considered as overarching policies. Companies with such policies but no overarching policy on farm animal welfare are therefore not awarded points for this question. These policies are considered when deciding whether to award points for Questions 1, 4-12, 24-28 and 30-50. Companies that supplement these commitments or principles with details of how these are to be implemented are awarded a score of 5 points. To score maximum points, company farm animal welfare policies need to include most/all of the following: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> — A clear statement of the reasons why farm animal welfare is important to the business (including both the business case and the ethical case for action) — A clear position regarding expected standards of farm animal welfare — A description of the processes in place to ensure that the policy is effectively implemented (e.g. senior management oversight, commitments to continuous improvement, performance monitoring, corrective action if the policy is not being effectively implemented) — A commitment to continuous improvement and public reporting on performance. | |

| | Farm Animal Welfare Policy Commitments | |
|-------------|----------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|-----|
| Question 3. | Does the farm animal welfare policy provide a clear explanation of scope? | |
| Rationale | Understanding the scope of a policy is important to understand the breadth of a company's commitment to action on farm animal welfare. | |
| Scoring | 3a. Geographic scope | |
| | Geographic scope is not specified. | 0 |
| | Scope is limited to certain specified geographies. | 1.5 |
| | Scope is universal across all geographies. | 3 |
| | 3b. Species scope | |
| | Species scope is not specified. | 0 |
| | Scope is limited to certain specified species. | 1.5 |
| | Scope is universal across all relevant species. | 3 |
| | 3c. Product scope | |
| | Product scope is not specified. | 0 |
| | Scope is limited to certain specified products (such as own-brand products). | 1.5 |
| | Scope is universal across own brand and other brand products. | 3 |
| | (Max Score 9) | |

| | |
|-------------------|--------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|
| Explanatory Notes | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • This question is only scored if points have been awarded for Question 2, i.e. when the company has a published farm animal welfare policy. • The sub-questions on geography, species and products are scored separately (i.e. companies could score up to 3 points in each of the three sub-questions, and the scores for each sub-question do not influence the scores awarded for the other sub-questions). • The question acknowledges that policies can vary from market to market, across species and across product ranges. Companies are given credit if they clearly specify the limits to the application of their farm animal welfare policies. • To qualify for partial points on product scope, policies need to apply to a significant proportion of a company's supply chain, such as a substantial business division (e.g. a restaurant brand or manufacturing division) or own-brand products (in the case of retailers and wholesalers). Policies which apply to limited product ranges are not awarded points. • In some cases, companies use terms such as 'all animals' or 'all products'. For the purposes of this assessment, we take this to mean that the policy has universal application (with respect to animals and products respectively) and companies receive 3 points for these sub-questions. When unclear, we ask companies to clarify the scope in order to keep receiving these points in future Benchmarks. • For companies involved in or using the products from finfish aquaculture, we do not assume that the corporate farm animal welfare policy also applies to finfish (i.e. the policy has universal application) unless the company states otherwise, or has a separate policy that applies to finfish. If it is unclear whether finfish are included, only partial points are awarded for the species-part of the question. • We define finfish aquaculture as the breeding, rearing and harvesting of aquatic vertebrates (i.e. cold blooded animals with a bony or cartilaginous skeleton and a segmented spinal column) in all types of water environment enclosures, including ponds, rivers, lakes and the ocean. • We do not consider policies for finfish that focus on conservation or sustainable fishing, unless there is an explicit reference to animal welfare within these. |
|-------------------|--------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|

| | Farm Animal Welfare Policy Commitments | |
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| Question 4. | Does the company have a clear commitment to ending the use of close confinement for all species? | |
| Rationale | Many of the most significant farm animal welfare concerns result from close confinement practices (e.g. cages (battery, enriched/colony and combination/limited access systems) for laying hens; cages for rabbits and other poultry; gestation/sow stalls and farrowing crates for sows; concentrated animal feeding operations (CAFOs or feedlots) for beef cattle; permanent housing for dairy cows and beef cattle; single penning, tethering, veal crates for young ruminants; and, for finfish, recirculating aquaculture systems and close confinement of solitary finfish species, e.g. turbot) or from high stocking densities. It is good practice for companies to commit to no close confinement of farm animals and to avoid high stocking densities. | |
| Scoring | Not addressed. | 0 |
| | Limited to certain species, products or geographies. | 2.5 |
| | Universal across all relevant species, products and geographies. | 5 |
| | (Max Score 5) | |
| Explanatory Notes | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • This question may be scored even if points have not been awarded for Question 2. Points may be awarded for policies issued by company subsidiaries. • Companies that simply mention they avoid close confinement but do not state the specific confinement to be avoided receive zero points. • Simply stating compliance with legislation is not treated as a proxy for having a clear position on the issues in question. The reasons are (a) legislation, even in the EU, does not cover all relevant issues, (b) a commitment to compliance with legislation does not provide guarantees on performance in countries where such legislation is absent. Companies that state that they comply with legislation but do not have a formal policy are, therefore, awarded zero points. • Similarly, simply stating compliance with a farm assurance standard that specifies any of these issues is not treated as a proxy for having a clearly stated position, unless the commitment to the issue in question is made explicit (e.g. compliance with the standard is presented as a way of delivering on its commitment). • The question acknowledges that policies can vary from market to market and across product ranges. Companies are given credit if they clearly specify the limits to the application of their policies. • To qualify for partial points on product scope, policies need to apply to a significant proportion of a company's supply chain, such as a substantial business division (e.g. a restaurant brand or manufacturing division) or own-brand products (in the case of retailers and wholesalers). Policies which apply to limited product ranges are not awarded points. • In some cases, companies use terms such as 'all animals' or 'all products'. For the purposes of this assessment, we take this to mean that the policy has universal application (with respect to animals and products respectively) and companies receive 5 points. When unclear, we ask companies to clarify the scope in order to keep receiving these points in future Benchmarks. | |

| | |
|-----------------------------|-------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|
| Explanatory Notes Continued | <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Regarding gestation/sow stalls, this question is looking for commitments that do not allow any time in stalls, except for a maximum of 4 hours for management purposes. Companies are expected to state the maximum time permitted within their policies and reporting.• Regarding CAFOs and feedlots, these are defined as systems in which beef cattle are kept at high stocking densities, indoors on fully slatted or solid floors, or outdoors, and there is no opportunity for grazing, instead, feed is brought to the animals.• For companies involved in or using the products from finfish aquaculture, we do not assume that the corporate farm animal welfare policy also applies to finfish (i.e. the policy has universal application) unless the company states otherwise, or has a separate policy that applies to finfish. If it is unclear whether finfish are included, only partial points are awarded. |
|-----------------------------|-------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|

| Farm Animal Welfare Policy Commitments | | |
|----------------------------------------|----------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|-----|
| Question 5. | Does the company have a clear commitment to the provision of effective, species-specific enrichment for all species? | |
| Rationale | <p>Companies are expected to provide animals with stimulating and complex environments that enable species-specific behaviours. Effective environmental modifications allow for the performance of strongly motivated species-specific behaviours and lead to the expression of a more complex behavioural repertoire. Examples include (but are not limited to) brushes for cattle; manipulable materials such as straw for pigs; pecking and dustbathing substrates, and perches for chickens; bathing water for ducks; outdoor range enhancement, such as artificial or natural shelter; for fish, physical enrichment such as (artificial) plants, floor substrates and structures, as well as sensory enrichment, such as cover or lighting, or occupational enrichment such as currents or water flow to induce swimming exercise. Animals with outdoor access should not be excluded from enrichment (provided outdoors or indoors). The BBFAW does not score outdoor access per se as enrichment. See the BBFAW briefing paper on environmental enrichment for further guidance on suitable forms of enrichment per species.</p> | |
| Scoring | Not addressed. | 0 |
| | Limited to certain species, products or geographies. | 2.5 |
| | Universal across all relevant species, products and geographies. | 5 |
| | (Max Score 5) | |
| Explanatory Notes | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • This question may be scored even if points have not been awarded for Question 2. Points may be awarded for policies issued by company subsidiaries. • Companies that simply mention they provide environmental enrichment but do not state the specific environmental enrichment to be provided, receive zero points. • 'Enriched' cages are not awarded points. • Simply stating compliance with legislation is not treated as a proxy for having a clear position on the issues in question. The reasons are (a) legislation, even in the EU, does not cover all relevant issues, (b) a commitment to compliance with legislation does not provide guarantees on performance in countries where such legislation is absent. Companies that state that they comply with legislation but do not have a formal policy are, therefore, awarded zero points. • Similarly, simply stating compliance with a farm assurance standard that specifies any of these issues is not treated as a proxy for having a clearly stated position, unless the commitment to the issue in question is made explicit (e.g. compliance with the standard is presented as a way of delivering on its commitment). • The question acknowledges that policies can vary from market to market and across product ranges. Companies are given credit if they clearly specify the limits to the application of their policies. • To qualify for partial points on product scope, policies need to apply to a significant proportion of a company's supply chain, such as a substantial business division (e.g. a restaurant brand or manufacturing division) or own-brand products (in the case of retailers and wholesalers). Policies which apply to limited product ranges are not awarded points. • In some cases, companies use terms such as 'all animals' or 'all products'. For the purposes of this assessment, we take this to mean that the policy has universal application (with respect to animals and products respectively) and companies receive 5 points. When unclear, we ask companies to clarify the scope in order to keep receiving these points in future Benchmarks. • For companies involved in or using the products from finfish aquaculture, we do not assume that the corporate farm animal welfare policy also applies to finfish (i.e. the policy has universal application) unless the company states otherwise, or has a separate policy that applies to finfish. If it is unclear whether finfish are included, only partial points are awarded. | |

| | Farm Animal Welfare Policy Commitments | |
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| Question 6. | Does the company have a clear commitment to ending the use of routine mutilations for all species? | |
| Rationale | Many farm animals are subjected to procedures that alter their bodies, often with no anaesthesia, causing pain and distress. Examples include beak trimming/ tipping and any type of flight restraint in poultry, branding with hot irons, as well as disbudding/dehorning of ruminants and tail docking and castration in ruminants and pigs (surgical, rubber rings or clamping), tooth resection in pigs, and fin clipping in finfish aquaculture. | |
| Scoring | Not addressed. | 0 |
| | Limited to certain species, products or geographies. | 2.5 |
| | Universal across all relevant species, products and geographies. | 5 |
| | (Max Score 5) | |
| Explanatory Notes | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • This question may be scored even if points have not been awarded for Question 2. Points may be awarded for policies issued by company subsidiaries. • Companies that simply mention they have a commitment to ending routine mutilations but do not state the specific mutilations they are looking to end the use of receive zero points. • Simply stating compliance with legislation is not treated as a proxy for having a clear position on the issues in question. The reasons are (a) legislation, even in the EU, does not cover all relevant issues, (b) mutilations are still commonly performed under derogations (c) a commitment to compliance with legislation does not provide guarantees on performance in countries where such legislation is absent. Companies that state that they comply with legislation but do not have a formal policy are, therefore, awarded zero points. • Similarly, simply stating compliance with a farm assurance standard that specifies any of these issues is not treated as a proxy for having a clearly stated position, unless the commitment to the issue in question is made explicit (e.g. compliance with the standard is presented as a way of delivering on its commitment). • The question acknowledges that policies can vary from market to market and across product ranges. Companies are given credit if they clearly specify the limits to the application of their policies. • To qualify for partial points on product scope, policies need to apply to a significant proportion of a company's supply chain, such as a substantial business division (e.g. a restaurant brand or manufacturing division) or own-brand products (in the case of retailers and wholesalers). Policies which apply to limited product ranges are not awarded points. • In some cases, companies use terms such as 'all animals' or 'all products'. For the purposes of this assessment, we take this to mean that the policy has universal application (with respect to animals and products respectively) and companies receive 5 points. When unclear, we ask companies to clarify the scope in order to keep receiving these points in future Benchmarks. • For companies involved in or using the products from finfish aquaculture, we do not assume that the corporate farm animal welfare policy also applies to finfish (i.e. the policy has universal application) unless the company states otherwise, or has a separate policy that applies to finfish. If it is unclear whether finfish are included, only partial points are awarded. | |

| | Farm Animal Welfare Policy Commitments | |
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| Question 7. | Does the company have a clear commitment to ending the prophylactic and routine metaphylactic use of antibiotics for all species? | |
| Rationale | <p>Prophylaxis is the treatment of animals without clinical sign of disease. Metaphylaxis is the treatment of a group of animals when some within the group are showing clinical signs of disease.</p> <p>The over-use of antibiotics in humans and in animals is directly linked to the increase in antibiotic resistance. The use of antibiotics on-farm (typically through feed or water) is frequently prophylactic or metaphylactic; effectively 'propping up' intensive farming systems where animals are kept in confined and stressful conditions and where their immune systems are compromised and disease outbreaks can spread rapidly. Companies are expected to commit to reducing the levels of antibiotics they administer routinely and to develop animal production systems that are not reliant on the routine use of antibiotics for disease prevention. Points are not awarded for supply chains marketed as antibiotic-free due to the incentive this creates to withhold antibiotics from animals in need of treatment.</p> <p>For farmed fish, this question is looking for a clear commitment to ending the prophylactic use of antibiotics only.</p> | |
| Scoring | Not addressed. | 0 |
| | Limited to certain species, products or geographies. | 2.5 |
| | Universal across all relevant species, products and geographies. | 5 |
| | (Max Score 5) | |
| Explanatory Notes | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • This question may be scored even if points have not been awarded for Question 2. Points may be awarded for policies issued by company subsidiaries. • Simply stating compliance with legislation is not treated as a proxy for having a clear position on the issues in question. The reasons are (a) legislation, even in the EU, does not cover all relevant issues, (b) a commitment to compliance with legislation does not provide guarantees on performance in countries where such legislation is absent. Companies that state that they comply with legislation but do not have a formal policy are, therefore, awarded zero points. • Similarly, simply stating compliance with a farm assurance standard that specifies any of these issues is not treated as a proxy for having a clearly stated position, unless the commitment to the issue in question is made explicit (e.g. compliance with the standard is presented as a way of delivering on its commitment). • The question acknowledges that policies can vary from market to market and across product ranges. Companies are given credit if they clearly specify the limits to the application of their policies. • To qualify for partial points on product scope, policies need to apply to a significant proportion of a company's supply chain, such as a substantial business division (e.g. a restaurant brand or manufacturing division) or own-brand products (in the case of retailers and wholesalers). Policies which apply to limited product ranges are not awarded points. • Partial points may be awarded for commitments focused on prophylactic use in the absence of a commitment on routine metaphylactic use. • In some cases, companies use terms such as 'all animals' or 'all products'. For the purposes of this assessment, we take this to mean that the policy has universal application (with respect to animals and products respectively) and companies receive 5 points. When unclear, we ask companies to clarify the scope in order to keep receiving these points in future Benchmarks. • For companies involved in or using the products from finfish aquaculture, we do not assume that the corporate farm animal welfare policy also applies to finfish (i.e. the policy has universal application) unless the company states otherwise, or has a separate policy that applies to finfish. If it is unclear whether finfish are included, only partial points are awarded. | |

| | Farm Animal Welfare Policy Commitments | |
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| Question 8. | Does the company have a clear commitment to ending long-distance live transport for all species? | |
| Rationale | When being transported, animals can experience hunger, thirst, discomfort, pain, frustration, fear and distress, as well as physical welfare problems including injury, disease, and, in the worst cases, death. For these reasons, transport of live animals should be minimised wherever possible and journeys should be kept as short as possible; less than 4 hours for poultry and rabbits, and less than 8 hours for other species. Unweaned animals, heavily pregnant animals and animals unfit for transport should not be transported. Transport of animals exceeding these limits, including loading and unloading, has been shown to decrease welfare significantly. In the case of farmed fish, handling practices and water quality conditions, particularly oxygenation, can have a significant impact on welfare. | |
| Scoring | Not addressed. | 0 |
| | Limited to certain species, products or geographies. | 2.5 |
| | Universal across all relevant species, products and geographies. | 5 |
| | (Max Score 5) | |
| Explanatory Notes | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • This question may be scored even if points have not been awarded for Question 2. Points may be awarded for policies issued by company subsidiaries. • The question covers animals transported on land and by sea, and companies are expected to include sea transport in their policies and reporting on transport times. We encourage companies to clearly state whether sea transport is included in their policies, or clearly state that they do not transport animals by sea. • Simply stating compliance with legislation is not treated as a proxy for having a clear position on the issues in question. The reasons are (a) legislation, even in the EU, does not cover all relevant issues, (b) a commitment to compliance with legislation does not provide guarantees on performance in countries where such legislation is absent. Companies that state that they comply with legislation but do not have a formal policy are, therefore, awarded zero points. • Similarly, simply stating compliance with a farm assurance standard that specifies any of these issues is not treated as a proxy for having a clearly stated position, unless the commitment to the issue in question is made explicit (e.g. compliance with the standard is presented as a way of delivering on its commitment). • The question acknowledges that policies can vary from market to market and across product ranges. Companies are given credit if they clearly specify the limits to the application of their policies. • To qualify for partial points on product scope, policies need to apply to a significant proportion of a company's supply chain, such as a substantial business division (e.g. a restaurant brand or manufacturing division) or own-brand products (in the case of retailers and wholesalers). Policies which apply to limited product ranges are not awarded points. • In some cases, companies use terms such as 'all animals' or 'all products'. For the purposes of this assessment, we take this to mean that the policy has universal application (with respect to animals and products respectively) and companies receive 5 points. When unclear, we ask companies to clarify the scope in order to keep receiving these points in future Benchmarks. • For companies involved in or using the products from finfish aquaculture, we do not assume that the corporate farm animal welfare policy also applies to finfish (i.e. the policy has universal application) unless the company states otherwise, or has a separate policy that applies to finfish. If it is unclear whether finfish are included, only partial points are awarded. | |

| | Farm Animal Welfare Policy Commitments | |
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| Question 9. | Does the company have a clear commitment to the use of humane methods of pre-slaughter stunning for all species? | |
| Rationale | It is essential to render an animal unconscious before it is slaughtered in order for it to be insensible to pain, discomfort and stress, until death occurs. For poultry, controlled atmospheric stunning using inert gas or multi-phase systems, or effective electrical stunning without live inversion, should be used. For pigs, this question is looking for commitments to end the use of high concentration CO ₂ gas systems. For salmon and trout, this question is looking for commitments to use percussive or electrical methods. For other fish this question is looking for commitments to end the use of ice slurry. | |
| Scoring | Not addressed. | 0 |
| | Limited to certain species, products or geographies. | 2.5 |
| | Universal across all relevant species, products and geographies. | 5 |
| | (Max Score 5) | |
| Explanatory Notes | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • This question may be scored even if points have not been awarded for Question 2. Points may be awarded for policies issued by company subsidiaries. • Simply stating compliance with legislation is not treated as a proxy for having a clear position on the issues in question. The reasons are (a) legislation, even in the EU, does not cover all relevant issues, (b) a commitment to compliance with legislation does not provide guarantees on performance in countries where such legislation is absent. Companies that state that they comply with legislation but do not have a formal policy are, therefore, awarded zero points. • Similarly, simply stating compliance with a farm assurance standard that specifies any of these issues is not treated as a proxy for having a clearly stated position, unless the commitment to the issue in question is made explicit (e.g. compliance with the standard is presented as a way of delivering on its commitment). • The question acknowledges that policies can vary from market to market and across product ranges. Companies are given credit if they clearly specify the limits to the application of their policies. • To qualify for partial points on product scope, policies need to apply to a significant proportion of a company's supply chain, such as a substantial business division (e.g. a restaurant brand or manufacturing division) or own-brand products (in the case of retailers and wholesalers). Policies which apply to limited product ranges are not awarded points. • In some cases, companies use terms such as 'all animals' or 'all products'. For the purposes of this assessment, we take this to mean that the policy has universal application (with respect to animals and products respectively) and companies receive 5 points. When unclear, we ask companies to clarify the scope in order to keep receiving these points in future Benchmarks. • For companies involved in or using the products from finfish aquaculture, we do not assume that the corporate farm animal welfare policy also applies to finfish (i.e. the policy has universal application) unless the company states otherwise, or has a separate policy that applies to finfish. If it is unclear whether finfish are included, only partial points are awarded | |

| | Farm Animal Welfare Policy Commitments | |
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| | Laying Hens, Pigs and Beef Cattle | |
| Question 10. | Does the company have a clear commitment to ending the use of breeds with low welfare potential? | |
| Rationale | <p>The welfare of farmed animals is not only influenced by management practices and the inputs provided to them, but also by their genetics. For example, some breeds selected for high growth rate and lean meat deposition can suffer a range of physiological and metabolic health issues, as well as poor immunity and lethargy and poor behavioural expression. Double-muscled breeds of beef cattle are associated with higher rates of dystocia (difficulty calving). The choice of breed or strain of animals used in livestock production can therefore have a significant impact on animal welfare.</p> <p>Specific requirements for the species covered by this question are as follows:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • broiler chickens: end use of breeds that do not meet the Better Chicken Commitment/European Chicken Commitment requirements for improved welfare outcomes; • or end use of breeds without a slower growth potential, defined as <40g/d averaged over the growth cycle according to the breeding company specification • pigs: end use of sows with an average >16 piglets liveborn per litter • beef cattle: end use of double-muscled breeds (e.g. Belgian Blue and Piedmontese) in pure-bred and cross-bred form. | |
| Scoring | Not addressed. | 0 |
| | Limited to certain species, products or geographies. | 2.5 |
| | Universal across all relevant species, products and geographies. | 5 |
| | (Max Score 5) | |

| | Farm Animal Welfare Policy Commitments | |
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| | Ducks or Geese | |
| Question 11. | Does the company have a clear commitment not to produce or sell foie gras or meat from birds reared for foie gras? | |
| Rationale | Welfare issues associated with the production of foie gras include over-feeding, force-feeding (gavage) and the close confinement of ducks and geese within cages. | |
| Scoring | Not addressed. | 0 |
| | Universal across all relevant species, products and geographies. | 5 |
| | (Max Score 5) | |
| Explanatory Notes | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • This question may be scored even if points have not been awarded for Question 2. Points may be awarded for policies issued by company subsidiaries. • This question is only assessed for those companies that have ducks or geese in their supply chains. • Companies that only mention they do not produce or sell foie gras products do not qualify for points. Companies are required to also include meat from birds reared for foie gras within their commitments. • Simply stating compliance with legislation is not treated as a proxy for having a clear position on the issues in question. The reasons are (a) legislation, even in the EU, does not cover all relevant issues, (b) a commitment to compliance with legislation does not provide guarantees on performance in countries where such legislation is absent. Companies that state that they comply with legislation but do not have a formal policy are, therefore, awarded zero points. • Similarly, simply stating compliance with a farm assurance standard that specifies any of these issues is not treated as a proxy for having a clearly stated position, unless the commitment to the issue in question is made explicit (e.g. compliance with the standard is presented as a way of delivering on its commitment). • Partial policies, which are limited to certain species, products or geographies, are not awarded points. • In some cases, companies use terms such as 'all animals' or 'all products'. For the purposes of this assessment, we take this to mean that the policy has universal application (with respect to animals and products respectively) and companies receive 5 points. When unclear, we ask companies to clarify the scope in order to keep receiving these points in future Benchmarks. | |

| | Farm Animal Welfare Policy Commitments | |
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| | Laying Hens, Pigs, Dairy Cattle, Beef Cattle, Ducks or Geese | |
| Question 12. | Does the company have a clear commitment to ending the use of other inhumane practices? | |
| Rationale | Practices covered by this question include the culling of day-old male chicks in egg supply chains; cow-calf separation in dairy and beef supply chains; fully slatted flooring for pigs, dairy and beef cattle, ducks; and live plucking or live harvesting for geese. | |
| Scoring | Not addressed. | 0 |
| | Limited to certain species, products or geographies. | 2.5 |
| | Universal across all relevant species, products and geographies. | 5 |
| | (Max Score 5) | |
| Explanatory Notes | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • This question may be scored even if points have not been awarded for Question 2. Points may be awarded for policies issued by company subsidiaries. • This question is only assessed for those companies that have laying hens, pigs, dairy cattle, beef cattle, ducks or geese in their supply chains. • Acceptable alternative practices to the culling of day-old male chicks include the use of in-ovo sexing methods and the use of dual-purpose breeds. • Simply stating compliance with legislation is not treated as a proxy for having a clear position on the issues in question. The reasons are (a) legislation, even in the EU, does not cover all relevant issues, (b) a commitment to compliance with legislation does not provide guarantees on performance in countries where such legislation is absent. Companies that state that they comply with legislation but do not have a formal policy are, therefore, awarded zero points. • Similarly, simply stating compliance with a farm assurance standard that specifies any of these issues is not treated as a proxy for having a clearly stated position, unless the commitment to the issue in question is made explicit (e.g. compliance with the standard is presented as a way of delivering on its commitment). • The question acknowledges that policies can vary from market to market and across product ranges. Companies are given credit if they clearly specify the limits to the application of their policies. • To qualify for partial points on product scope, policies need to apply to a significant proportion of a company's supply chain, such as a substantial business division (e.g. a restaurant brand or manufacturing division) or own-brand products (in the case of retailers and wholesalers). Policies which apply to limited product ranges are not awarded points. • In some cases, companies use terms such as 'all animals' or 'all products'. For the purposes of this assessment, we take this to mean that the policy has universal application (with respect to animals and products respectively) and companies receive 5 points. When unclear, we ask companies to clarify the scope in order to keep receiving these points in future Benchmarks. | |

| Animal-Sourced Foods Policy Commitments | | |
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| Question 13. | Does the company acknowledge the need to reduce reliance on animal-sourced foods as a business issue? | |
| Rationale | Reducing reliance on animal-sourced foods, is key to ensuring that all animals farmed for food are able to be produced in high welfare systems capable of delivering a good quality of life, and that the food system contributes to planetary and human health. It is good practice for food companies to identify whether and why this is a relevant issue for the business. | |
| Scoring | No evidence that reducing reliance on animal-sourced foods is regarded as a relevant business issue. | 0 |
| | The company identifies reducing reliance on animal-sourced foods as a relevant business issue. | 5 |
| | (Max Score 5) | |
| Explanatory Notes | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • This question is looking for an acknowledgement by the parent company that reducing reliance on animal-sourced foods is a relevant business issue. • Companies that publish policies that address reducing reliance on animal-sourced foods, even if they do not explain why this is relevant to the business, are awarded points. • Companies that acknowledge reducing reliance on animal-sourced foods as a relevant business issue and/or set out the reasons why it may be a business issue (e.g. because of public or customer concerns, security and sustainability of supply, cost, etc.) are awarded points. • Companies that only provide evidence related to protein diversification, without any acknowledgement of the need to reduce reliance on animal-sourced foods, are not awarded points. • The score does not take account of the importance assigned by companies to reducing reliance on animal-sourced foods (e.g. relative to other corporate responsibility issues). | |

| | Animal-Sourced Foods Policy Commitments | |
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| Question 14. | Does the company publish an overarching policy (or equivalent) on reducing reliance on animal-sourced foods? | |
| Rationale | It is good practice for companies to formalise their approach to reducing reliance on animal-sourced foods in a policy (or equivalent document such as a statement of guiding principles, a code of practice or a sourcing charter). Reducing reliance on animal-sourced foods may be achieved in multiple ways, including direct action on reduction (e.g., waste reduction, better utilisation, changes to business focus) or through protein diversification (e.g., new product development, reformulation). While the existence of a policy may not provide a guarantee of implementation, the absence of a policy is a clear sign that reducing reliance on animal-sourced foods is not firmly on the business agenda. | |
| Scoring | No evidence of a formal policy statement (or equivalent) on reducing reliance on animal-sourced foods. | 0 |
| | The company has a broad commitment to reducing reliance on animal-sourced foods within a policy statement (or equivalent). | 5 |
| | The company has a broad commitment to reducing reliance on animal-sourced foods within a policy statement (or equivalent) and a description of the processes in place to ensure that the policy is effectively implemented. | 10 |
| | (Max Score 10) | |
| Explanatory Notes | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • This question is only scored if points have been awarded for Question 12, i.e., if the parent company recognises that reducing reliance on animal-sourced foods is a relevant business issue. • The assessment does not differentiate between companies that publish stand-alone policies on reducing reliance on animal-sourced foods and companies that incorporate reducing reliance on animal-sourced foods into wider responsible sourcing or sustainability policies or codes of practice. • Companies that publish a clear statement of commitment to reducing reliance on animal-sourced foods that provides a starting point for the company's accountability to its stakeholders are awarded points. • Policies issued by company subsidiaries are not considered as overarching policies, and companies with such policies but no overarching (i.e. at the parent company level) policy are therefore not awarded points for this question. These policies are considered when deciding whether to award points for Questions 22 and 28. • Companies that supplement these commitments or principles with details of how these are to be implemented are awarded a score of 10 points. To score maximum points, company policies need to include most/all of the following: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> — A clear statement of the reasons why reducing reliance on animal-sourced foods is important to the business (including both the business case and the ethical case for action). — A description of how reducing reliance on animal-sourced foods is to be achieved, such as through protein diversification, product reformulation or communication to consumers — A description of the processes in place to ensure that the policy is effectively implemented (e.g. senior management oversight, commitments to continuous improvement, performance monitoring, corrective action if the policy is not being effectively implemented) — A commitment to continuous improvement and public reporting on performance. | |

| | Animal-Sourced Foods Policy Commitments | |
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| Question 15. | Does the policy on reducing reliance on animal-sourced foods provide a clear explanation of scope? | |
| Rationale | Understanding the scope of a policy is important to understand the breadth of a company's commitment to action on reducing reliance on animal-sourced foods. | |
| Scoring | 15a. Geographic scope | |
| | Geographic scope is not specified. | 0 |
| | Scope is limited to certain specified geographies. | 2.5 |
| | Scope is universal across all geographies. | 5 |
| | 15b. Business division scope | |
| | Business division scope is not specified. | 0 |
| | Scope is limited to certain specified business divisions. | 2.5 |
| | Scope is universal across all business divisions. | 5 |
| | (Max Score 10) | |
| Explanatory Notes | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • This question is only scored if points have been awarded for Question 13, i.e. when the company has a published policy on reducing reliance on animal-sourced foods. • The sub-questions on geography and products are scored separately (i.e. companies could score up to 5 points in each of the two sub-questions, and the scores for each sub-question do not influence the scores awarded for the other sub-question). • The question acknowledges that policies can vary from market to market and across business divisions. Companies are given credit if they clearly specify the limits to the application of their policies. | |

| | Farm Animal Welfare Governance and Management | |
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| Question 16. | Has the company assigned day-to-day and board or senior management responsibility for farm animal welfare? | |
| Rationale | When looking at the management of farm animal welfare, both oversight and implementation responsibilities are important. Oversight is necessary to ensure that senior management is aware of the business implications of farm animal welfare and is prepared to intervene when needed (e.g., if there are tensions between the organisation's farm animal welfare policy and other business objectives). However, it is often the case that those charged with oversight know relatively little about the specific details of how to effectively manage farm animal welfare. It is, therefore, important that there are individual(s) responsible for ensuring that the farm animal welfare policy is implemented and effectively managed. | |
| Scoring | 16a. Management responsibility | |
| | No clearly defined management responsibility. | 0 |
| | The company has published details of the management position with responsibility for farm animal welfare on a day-to-day basis. | 5 |
| | 16b. Board or senior management responsibility | |
| | No clearly defined board or senior management responsibility. | 0 |
| | The company has published details of how the board or senior management oversees the implementation of the company's farm animal welfare policy. | 5 |
| | (Max Score 10) | |
| Explanatory Notes | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The two sub-questions are scored separately (i.e. companies could score 5 points for publishing details of who is responsible for farm animal welfare on a day-to-day basis and 5 points for publishing details of senior management responsibility for overseeing the farm animal welfare policy). • For the purposes of scoring on day-to-day responsibility, the question is not looking for named individuals, but evidence of roles with responsibility for farm animal welfare (e.g. a statement that this is the responsibility of a dedicated technical or sourcing manager, or a statement that responsibility is divided among a number of functions, with information on the various roles and responsibilities). • For the management oversight sub-question, we recognise that companies may assign responsibility to a named senior person or that farm animal welfare may form part of the remit of a wider sustainability, CSR or sourcing committee. Therefore, 5 points are awarded if the company provides a clear account of board or senior management oversight. • For the purposes of scoring, the emphasis is on the management of farm animal welfare. General information on the management or oversight of CSR or sustainability is only credited if it is clear that this includes farm animal welfare. | |

| | Farm Animal Welfare Governance and Management | |
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| Question 17. | Does the company describe its internal processes for ensuring that its farm animal welfare policies are effectively implemented? | |
| Rationale | The effective implementation of a policy relies on employees who are competent to oversee the implementation of the policy, and on controls that allow the company to respond quickly and effectively in the event of non-compliance with the policy. | |
| Scoring | 17a. Employee training | |
| | No information provided on employee training in farm animal welfare. | 0 |
| | The company provides specific training to employees in farm animal welfare. | 5 |
| | 17b. Actions taken in the event of non-compliance | |
| | The company provides no information on the actions to be taken in the event of non-compliance with the farm animal welfare policy. | 0 |
| | The company describes the actions it takes in the event of non-compliance with its farm animal welfare policy. | 5 |
| | (Max Score 10) | |
| Explanatory Notes | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The sub-questions (on training and on internal controls) are scored independently (i.e. the scores for each sub-question do not influence the scores for the other sub-question). • On training, companies are only awarded 5 points if the training provided is aimed at employees and if it explicitly addressed farm animal welfare-related issues. • The training question does not address the quality of the training provided, the manner in which skills or competencies are assessed, the number of employees receiving training or the number of hours of training provided. • On internal controls, companies are only awarded 5 points if they explicitly discussed the actions that they take in relation to employee and/or supplier non-compliance with their farm animal welfare policy, e.g. when audit failures are identified. Descriptions of internal controls in relation to CSR or product quality-related policies are scored zero for this sub-question unless it is clear that these policies and processes also cover farm animal welfare. | |

| Farm Animal Welfare Governance and Management | | |
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| Question 18. | Does the company describe how it implements its farm animal welfare policy (or equivalent) through its supply chain? | |
| Rationale | Many of the business risks and opportunities associated with farm animal welfare relate to companies' supply chains. Companies have the ability to influence their suppliers' performance both formally (e.g. through contracts, auditing processes) and informally (e.g. through capacity building and education). | |
| Scoring | No description of processes for implementing farm animal welfare policy through supply chain. | 0 |
| | 18a. Does the company describe how it implements its farm animal welfare policy (or equivalent) through its supply chain via supplier contracts? | |
| | No information on how farm animal welfare is included in supplier contracts. | 0 |
| | The company incorporates farm animal welfare into contractual obligations for suppliers, but this is limited by geography and/or certain products or species. | 1.5 |
| | The company incorporates farm animal welfare into contractual obligations for suppliers across all species, products and geographies. | 3 |
| | 18b. Does the company describe how it implements its farm animal welfare policy (or equivalent) through its supply chain via monitoring and auditing? | |
| | No information provided on how supplier compliance with contract conditions is monitored. | 0 |
| | The company specifies farm animal welfare as part of supplier auditing programme. | 3 |
| | 18c. Does the company describe how it implements its farm animal welfare policy (or equivalent) through its supply chain via education and support? | |
| | No information provided on the specific support and/or education provided to suppliers. | 0 |
| | The company provides specific support and/or education provided to suppliers on farm animal welfare policy/issues. | 3 |
| | (Max Score 9) | |
| Explanatory Notes | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> The sub-questions (on contracts, auditing and supplier education) are scored independently (i.e. the scores for each sub-question do not influence the scores for the other sub-questions). On contracts, companies are awarded partial points if they indicated that they included farm animal welfare in contracts but do not indicate whether this applied to all relevant contracts or if they indicated that farm animal welfare is not included in all contracts. On auditing, companies are only awarded 3 points if it is clear that their auditing processes explicitly covered farm animal welfare. Many of the companies reviewed reported that they audited their suppliers against safety and/or quality standards but, unless it is clear that these audit processes covered farm animal welfare, companies scored zero for this sub-question. On supplier support and/or education, 3 points are awarded to companies that publish case studies or examples and/or provide a more comprehensive description of their approach. The award of 3 points is not dependent on the number or proportion of suppliers receiving this support and/or education. A number of companies described their support to suppliers on a range of supply chain issues. However, unless it is clear that this support also covered farm animal welfare, companies scored zero for this sub-question. | |

| | Farm Animal Welfare Governance and Management |
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| Question 19. | Does the company describe and report on its use of welfare outcome measures (i.e. measures linked to the physical, emotional and/or behavioural wellbeing of animals)? |
| Rationale | <p>In addition to having clear policy commitments and management practices, companies are expected to maintain strict measurement criteria for animals in their supply chain. This question is looking specifically at welfare outcome measures (WOMs) relating to the physical, emotional and/or behavioural wellbeing of animals. WOMs may be quantitative, or qualitative. They should focus on the most important species-specific measures, of physical wellbeing, mental wellbeing and behaviour. There is an increasing focus on positive outcome measures (e.g. active and play behaviour), as well as qualitative Behavioural Assessment (such as animals being content, happy, or fearful, agitated). For retailers and wholesalers and restaurants and bars, this question applies to all own-brand products.</p> <p>WOMs might include for example:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • For all species: mortality and cull rates, disease incidence. • For laying hens: end of lay feather coverage, feather cleanliness, keel bone fractures, bone breakages at slaughter. • For dairy cows: lameness, mastitis, body condition, involuntary culling rate, longevity, ease of calving, lesions, swellings, cleanliness, stomach ulcers, acidosis. • For sows: Longevity, lameness, body condition, shoulder and vulva lesions, ear and flank biting. • For pigs: lameness, cleanliness, tail bites, fight marks, bursitis and other lesions. • For broiler chickens: gait score, leg culls, footpad dermatitis, hock burn, breast blisters, feather cleanliness, muscle myopathies. • For beef: body condition, lameness, lesions, swellings, cleanliness, stomach ulcers, acidosis. • For rabbits: foot lesions, fur coverage, eye condition. • For fish: fin and body damage, sea lice and other ectoparasite infestations, skeletal deformities, condition factor, mortality and behaviour. • For mental wellbeing: reaction to humans or novelty, fear, comfort; qualitative behavioural analysis. • For behaviour: time spent lying/resting, ruminating or being active — foraging, perching, dustbathing, bathing (ducks), socialising, swimming (fish). • For transportation: injuries, slips and falls, fatigue, road traffic incidents, mortality (dead-on-arrival/DOA). • For slaughter: effectiveness of stunning. |

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| | 19a. Does the company describe how it uses welfare outcome measures to inform continuous improvement in its operations or supply chain? | |
| | No information provided on how the company uses welfare outcome measures to inform continuous improvement in its operations or supply chain. | 0 |
| | The company describes how welfare outcome measures are used to inform continuous improvement in its operations or supply chain. | 2 |
| | 19b. Does the company report on welfare outcome measures (i.e. measures linked to the physical, emotional and/or behavioural wellbeing of animals)? | |
| | No reporting on welfare outcome measures. | 0 |
| | The company partially reports on welfare outcome measures but this reporting is limited to certain geographies, species or products. | 1 |
| | The company reports fully on one welfare outcome measure for each relevant species, covering all geographies and products. | 3 |
| | The company fully reports on multiple welfare outcome measure for each relevant species, covering all geographies and products. | 5 |
| | (Max Score 7) | |
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| Explanatory Notes | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • For the sub-question on how welfare outcome measures are used to inform continuous improvement in a company's operations or supply chain, points are awarded to companies that provide a clear description of their approach to using welfare outcome measures. This may include description of how welfare outcome measure data are used to help drive continuous improvement, or as indicators for corrective action. • The sub-question on reporting is looking for explicit, quantitative reporting on welfare outcome measures such as: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> — Mortality rates (as an indicator of potential pain, suffering and suboptimal performance), for fish: mortality or survival rates. — Bone breakages (as an indicator of pain, suffering, suboptimal performance, and poor house design). — Lameness (as an indicator of potential pain, behavioural restriction and suboptimal environmental and housing conditions). — Body marks/injuries (as an indicator of aggressive fight damage, especially during mixing or competition at feeding, or from sexual behaviours). — Body condition (as an indicator of good feed management, or competition at feeding). — Cleanliness (as an indicator of good environmental control, thermal comfort). — Positive flock or herd behaviour (as an indicator of a varied stimulating environment, good management and suitable breed for production system). — Negative flock or herd behaviour, such as injurious feather pecking in poultry or tail biting in pigs (as a signpost of a barren non-stimulating environment, poor environmental control, low space allowance, feed and health problems). | |

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| Explanatory Notes Continued | <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Scores are not awarded for reporting on input-based measures (i.e. measures relating to the type of production system, e.g. caged, barn, free-range, as well as to the practices for transport and slaughter).• Scores are awarded for some health indicators (e.g. somatic cell count and mastitis for dairy cows), as these are often related to high levels of production thereby affecting welfare. Points are not awarded for production measures (e.g. egg output).• Similarly, scores are not awarded for companies that report on the proportion of animals managed according to particular farm animal welfare standards but do not report on the welfare outcomes resulting from the implementation of these standards.• Points are only awarded if the company is explicit about the proportion of animals affected. Companies that report on the total number of animals affected but do not put this number into context of the total number of animals used or processed are not awarded points. |
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| Farm Animal Welfare Governance and Management | | |
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| Question 20. | Does the company assure its welfare scheme to a prescribed standard? | |
| Rationale | Farm assurance schemes provide frameworks and auditing for managing farm animals, including their health and welfare, provenance and the legal compliance of the systems used. They can also play an important role in promoting higher welfare standards. Where species-specific legislation exists, schemes should ensure that minimum legislative standards are met and preferably schemes should lift the standards above the minimum. Where there is no species-specific legislation, assurance standards are increasingly important for protecting welfare. For retailers and wholesalers and restaurants and bars, this question applies to all own-brand products. | |
| Scoring | No assurance standard specified. | 0 |
| | A substantial proportion of products audited to either basic or higher farm assurance (or equivalent company) standard. | 1 |
| | All products audited to basic farm assurance (or equivalent company) standard across all species, products and geographies. | 2 |
| | All products audited to a combination of a basic farm assurance (or equivalent company) standard and a higher welfare assurance (or company equivalent standard), across all species, products and geographies. | 4 |
| | All products audited to higher welfare (or company equivalent) assurance standard, across all species, products and geographies. | 10 |
| | (Max Score 10) | |
| Explanatory Notes | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> For the purposes of this question, we assess farm assurance schemes as either providing a basic or higher standard of animal welfare. Higher welfare schemes include indoor and outdoor (free range, organic) production systems. Basic farm assurance standards typically do not go beyond legislative requirements for welfare and so contribute relatively little to enhanced welfare. In general, these involve yearly inspections by an independent body. Examples of standards which provide basic farm assurance (typically within a wider quality context) include: Assured British Meat Scheme; Aquaculture Standards Council (ASC); Best Aquaculture Practice (BAP); Certification de Conformité de Produits; Global Standards; FMI Animal Welfare Standards; GLOBALG.A.P.; North American Meat Institute; Red Tractor Farm Assurance Scheme (standard production), VPF (Viande de Porc Française). Farming systems that provide for behavioural freedom without compromising health can be described as having higher welfare potential. Whilst it is essential to set high standards through input requirements, it is also important to monitor welfare outcomes (such as mortality, disease, lameness, injuries and the occurrence of normal and abnormal behaviours) to assess the overall performance of the system. Examples of higher welfare schemes include: Animal Welfare Approved; AEBEA levels A, B, C (France), Better Animal Welfare (Denmark); Beter Leven; Certified Humane; European Organic Certification; Global Animal Partnership (GAP 5-Step); KRAV; Neuland; Soil Association Organic; RSPCA Assured; Red Tractor Enhanced Welfare and Free-range; Label Rouge (for poultry, but not pigs). Companies may have developed their own higher welfare standards that they audit their suppliers against. Where this is the case, we need a clear description of how the company standard compares to the relevant basic or higher welfare assurance standards outlined above in order for points to be awarded. If companies audit against other voluntary schemes that claim to incorporate animal welfare components but without specifying them, they will typically not receive any point, unless they provide a clear description of the farm animal welfare requirements of such standards. | |

| Farm Animal Welfare Governance and Management | | |
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| Question 21. | Does the company communicate to customers on higher farm animal welfare through education and/or awareness-raising activities? | |
| Rationale | Companies have an important role to play in raising awareness of farm animal welfare among their customers and clients. This, in turn, should contribute to increases in demand for higher welfare products. | |
| Scoring | No evidence of communicating to customers on higher farm animal welfare. | 0 |
| | At least one example of communicating to customers on higher farm animal welfare. | 5 |
| | Multiple examples of communicating to customers on higher farm animal welfare. | 10 |
| | (Max Score 10) | |
| Explanatory Notes | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> The activities that could be considered in this question are defined broadly. Examples included: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> — The provision of farm animal welfare information on the company's website. Note: This is not just about providing information in the corporate responsibility section of the website but making these issues an integral part of customer communications and engagement. — On-pack or on-shelf labelling — provided this is evidenced on the company's website, in its published reports or on social media platforms. — Information leaflets or information packs. — Media promotions. — Supporting third party campaigns or programmes e.g. the RSPCA Farm Animal Week. — Customer farm visits, seminars or roundtables. — Social media campaigns. Initiatives aimed at showing how products are sourced or produced but without an explicit focus on the welfare of farm animals are not scored in the assessment. Companies that produce multiple consumer-facing videos on farm animal welfare are awarded five points, unless it is clear that these are linked to separate consumer engagement programmes or themes. Companies are only awarded maximum points where there is clear evidence of multiple platforms or channels used to communicate to consumers. Social media channels are not separately reviewed, so companies have to link to these channels from their webpages in order to receive points (e.g. for YouTube videos). | |

| | Animal-Sourced Foods Policy Commitments | |
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| Question 22. | Has the company assigned day-to-day and board or senior management responsibility for reducing reliance on animal-sourced foods? | |
| Rationale | When looking at the management of reducing reliance on animal-sourced foods, which may be achieved through protein diversification, both oversight and implementation responsibilities are important. Oversight is necessary to ensure that senior management is aware of the business implications of reducing reliance on animal-sourced foods and is prepared to intervene when needed (e.g. if there are tensions between the organisation's policy on reducing reliance on animal-sourced foods and other business objectives). However, it is often the case that those charged with oversight know relatively little about the specific details of how to effectively manage reducing reliance on animal-sourced foods. It is, therefore, important that there are individual(s) responsible for ensuring that the policy on reducing reliance on animal-sourced foods is implemented and effectively managed. | |
| Scoring | 22a. Day-to-day management responsibility | |
| | No clearly defined day-to-day management responsibility. | 0 |
| | The company has published details of the management position with responsibility for reducing reliance on animal-sourced foods on a day-to-day basis. | 5 |
| | 22b. Board or senior management responsibility | |
| | No clearly defined board or senior management responsibility | 0 |
| | The company has published details of how the board or senior management oversees the implementation of the company's policy on reducing reliance on animal-sourced foods. | 5 |
| | (Max Score 10) | |
| Explanatory Notes | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • This question is only scored if points have been awarded for Question 12, i.e., if the parent company recognises that reducing reliance on animal-sourced foods is a relevant business issue. • This question recognises reducing reliance on animal-sourced foods may be achieved in multiple ways, including direct action on reduction (e.g., waste reduction, better utilisation, changes to business focus) or through protein diversification (e.g., new product development, reformulation). • The two sub-questions are scored separately (i.e. companies could score 5 points for publishing details of who is responsible for reducing reliance on animal-sourced foods on a day-to-day basis and 5 points for publishing details of senior management responsibility for overseeing the policy on reducing reliance on animal-sourced foods). • For the purposes of scoring on day-to-day responsibility, the question is not looking for named individuals, but evidence of roles with responsibility for reducing reliance on animal-sourced foods (e.g. a statement that this is the responsibility of a dedicated technical or sourcing manager, or a statement that responsibility is divided among a number of functions, with information on the various roles and responsibilities). • For the management oversight sub-question, we recognise that companies may assign responsibility to a named senior person or that reducing reliance on animal-sourced foods may form part of the remit of a wider sustainability, CSR or sourcing committee. Therefore, 5 points are awarded if the company provides a clear account of board or senior management oversight. • For the purposes of scoring, the emphasis is on the management of reducing reliance on animal-sourced foods. General information on the management or oversight of CSR or sustainability is only credited if it is clear that this includes reducing reliance on animal-sourced foods. | |

| Animal-Sourced Foods Governance and Management | | |
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| Question 23. | Does the company communicate to customers on reducing reliance on animal-sourced foods through education and/or awareness-raising activities? | |
| Rationale | Companies have an important role to play in raising awareness of reducing reliance on animal-sourced foods among their customers and clients. This, in turn, should contribute to shifts in dietary consumption away from animal-sourced foods. | |
| Scoring | No evidence of communicating to customers on reducing reliance on animal-sourced foods. | 0 |
| | At least one example of communicating to customers on reducing reliance on animal-sourced foods. | 5 |
| | Multiple examples of communicating to customers on reducing reliance on animal-sourced foods. | 10 |
| | (Max Score 10) | |
| Explanatory Notes | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • This question is only scored if points have been awarded for Question 12, i.e., if the parent company recognises that reducing reliance on animal-sourced foods is a relevant business issue. • This question recognises reducing reliance on animal-sourced foods may be achieved in multiple ways, including direct action on reduction (e.g., waste reduction, better utilisation, changes to business focus) or through protein diversification (e.g., new product development, reformulation). • The activities that could be considered in this question are defined broadly. Examples included: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> — The provision of information on reducing reliance on animal-sourced foods or protein diversification on the company's website. Note: This is not just about providing information in the corporate responsibility section of the website but making these issues an integral part of customer communications and engagement. — On-pack or on-shelf labelling — provided this is evidenced on the company's website, in its published reports or on social media platforms. — Information leaflets or information packs. — Media promotions. — Supporting third party campaigns or programmes. — Customer farm visits, seminars or roundtables. — Social media campaigns. • Companies that produce multiple consumer-facing videos on reducing reliance on animal-sourced foods are awarded five points, unless it is clear that these are linked to separate consumer engagement programmes or themes. • Companies are only awarded maximum points where there is clear evidence of multiple platforms or channels used to communicate to consumers. • Social media channels are not separately reviewed, so companies have to link to these channels from their webpages in order to receive points (e.g. for YouTube videos). | |

| | Farm Animal Welfare Targets | |
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| | Laying Hens | |
| Question 24. | Does the company publish a clear target for ending the use of cages (battery and enriched/colony) for laying hens, or provide evidence that this has already been achieved? | |
| Rationale | Targets are the point where policy commitments are translated into substantive action, and where resources and responsibilities are allocated for the delivery of the targets. | |
| Scoring | No stated position. | 0 |
| | The company has published a partial time-bound target, or evidence of achievement, and the scope (in terms of geography or products) is clearly defined. | 5 |
| | The company has published a universal time-bound target, or evidence of achievement, across all relevant own-brand and other brand products and geographies. | 10 |
| | (Max Score 10) | |
| Explanatory Notes | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • This question is only assessed for those companies that produce, use or sell eggs or egg-based products. • This question is looking for a clear target for ending the use of cages (battery and enriched/colony) for laying hens within a reasonable timeframe, or evidence that this has already been achieved. It is anticipated that this question will expand in scope to also cover combination and limited access systems in future assessments. • Simply stating compliance with legislation is not treated as a proxy for having a clear position on the avoidance of cages. The reasons are (a) legislation, even in the EU, does not cover all close confinement practices, (b) a commitment to compliance with legislation does not provide guarantees on performance in countries where such legislation is absent. Companies that state that they comply with legislation but do not have a formal policy on cages are, therefore, awarded zero points. • Similarly, simply stating compliance with a farm assurance standard that prohibits cages is not treated as a proxy for having a clearly stated position, unless the commitment to avoidance is made explicit (e.g. compliance with the standard is presented as a way of delivering on its commitment to the avoidance of cages). • To qualify for partial points on product scope, policies need to apply to a significant proportion of a company's supply chain, such as a substantial business division (e.g. a restaurant brand or manufacturing division) or own-brand products (in the case of retailers and wholesalers). Policies which apply to limited product ranges are not awarded points. | |

| | Farm Animal Welfare Targets | |
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| | Broiler Chickens | |
| Question 25. | Does the company publish a clear target for achieving the requirements of the Better Chicken Commitment/European Chicken Commitment for broiler chickens as a minimum, or provide evidence that this has already been achieved? | |
| Rationale | Targets are the point where policy commitments are translated into substantive action, and where resources and responsibilities are allocated for the delivery of the targets. | |
| Scoring | No stated position. | 0 |
| | The company has published a partial time-bound target, or evidence of achievement, and the scope (in terms of geography or products) is clearly defined. | 5 |
| | The company has published a universal time-bound target, or evidence of achievement, across all relevant own-brand and other brand products and geographies. | 10 |
| | (Max Score 10) | |
| Explanatory Notes | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • This question is only assessed for those companies that produce, use or sell chicken or chicken-based products. • This question is looking for a clear target for achieving the requirements of the Better Chicken Commitment or European Chicken Commitment for broiler chickens or evidence that this has already been achieved (see www.betterchickencommitment.com/policy/ and www.welfarecommitments.com/europeletter/). • To qualify for points, companies need to explicitly state their commitment to the Better Chicken Commitment or the European Chicken Commitment. • Simply stating compliance with legislation is not treated as a proxy for having a clear position on the requirements of the Better Chicken Commitment/European Chicken Commitment. The reasons are (a) legislation, even in the EU, does not cover all relevant practices, (b) a commitment to compliance with legislation does not provide guarantees on performance in countries where such legislation is absent. Companies that state that they comply with legislation but do not have a formal policy on the relevant practices are, therefore, awarded zero points. • Similarly, simply stating compliance with a farm assurance standard is not treated as a proxy for having a clearly stated position, unless the commitment to the requirements of the Better Chicken Commitment/European Chicken Commitment is made explicit (e.g. compliance with the standard is presented as a way of delivering on its commitment to the relevant practices). • To qualify for partial points on product scope, policies need to apply to a significant proportion of a company's supply chain, such as a substantial business division (e.g. a restaurant brand or manufacturing division) or own-brand products (in the case of retailers and wholesalers). Policies which apply to limited product ranges are not awarded points. | |

| | Farm Animal Welfare Targets | |
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| | Pigs | |
| Question 26. | Does the company publish a clear target for ending the use of gestation/sow stalls for sows, throughout pregnancy and during the observation period, or provide evidence that this has already been achieved? | |
| Rationale | Targets are the point where policy commitments are translated into substantive action, and where resources and responsibilities are allocated for the delivery of the targets. | |
| Scoring | No stated position. | 0 |
| | The company has published a partial time-bound target, or evidence of achievement, and the scope (in terms of geography or products) is clearly defined. | 2.5 |
| | The company has published a universal time-bound target, or evidence of achievement, across all relevant own-brand and other brand products and geographies. | 5 |
| | (Max Score 5) | |
| Explanatory Notes | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • This question is only assessed for those companies that produce, use or sell pork or pork-based products. • This question is looking for a clear target for ending the use of gestation/sow stalls for sows, throughout pregnancy and during the observation period (the period between weaning and pregnancy confirmation), within a reasonable timeframe, or evidence that this has already been achieved. • This question is looking for targets that do not allow any time in stalls, except for a maximum of 4 hours for management purposes. Companies are expected to state the maximum time permitted within their policies and reporting. • Simply stating compliance with legislation is not treated as a proxy for having a clear position on the avoidance of gestation/sow stalls. The reasons are (a) legislation, even in the EU, does not cover all close confinement practices, (b) a commitment to compliance with legislation does not provide guarantees on performance in countries where such legislation is absent. Companies that state that they comply with legislation but do not have a formal policy on gestation/sow stalls are, therefore, awarded zero points. • Similarly, simply stating compliance with a farm assurance standard that prohibits gestation/sow stalls is not treated as a proxy for having a clearly stated position, unless the commitment to avoidance is made explicit (e.g. compliance with the standard is presented as a way of delivering on its commitment to the avoidance of gestation/sow stalls). • To qualify for partial points on product scope, policies need to apply to a significant proportion of a company's supply chain, such as a substantial business division (e.g. a restaurant brand or manufacturing division) or own-brand products (in the case of retailers and wholesalers). Policies which apply to limited product ranges are not awarded points. | |

| | Farm Animal Welfare Targets | |
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| | Pigs | |
| Question 27. | Does the company publish a clear target for ending the use of farrowing crates for sows, or provide evidence this has already been achieved? | |
| Rationale | Targets are the point where policy commitments are translated into substantive action, and where resources and responsibilities are allocated for the delivery of the targets. | |
| Scoring | No stated position. | 0 |
| | The company has published a partial time-bound target, or evidence of achievement, and the scope (in terms of geography or products) is clearly defined. | 2.5 |
| | The company has published a universal time-bound target, or evidence of achievement, across all relevant own-brand and other brand products and geographies. | 5 |
| | (Max Score 5) | |
| Explanatory Notes | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • This question is only assessed for those companies that produce, use or sell pork or pork-based products. • This question is looking for a clear target for ending the use of farrowing crates for sows within a reasonable timeframe, or evidence that this has already been achieved. • Simply stating compliance with legislation is not treated as a proxy for having a clear position on the avoidance of farrowing crates. The reasons are (a) legislation, even in the EU, does not cover all close confinement practices, (b) a commitment to compliance with legislation does not provide guarantees on performance in countries where such legislation is absent. Companies that state that they comply with legislation but do not have a formal policy on farrowing crates are, therefore, awarded zero points. • Similarly, simply stating compliance with a farm assurance standard that prohibits farrowing crates is not treated as a proxy for having a clearly stated position, unless the commitment to avoidance is made explicit (e.g. compliance with the standard is presented as a way of delivering on its commitment to the avoidance of farrowing crates). • To qualify for partial points on product scope, policies need to apply to a significant proportion of a company's supply chain, such as a substantial business division (e.g. a restaurant brand or manufacturing division) or own-brand products (in the case of retailers and wholesalers). Policies which apply to limited product ranges are not awarded points. | |

| | Farm Animal Welfare Targets | |
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| | Dairy Cows | |
| Question 28. | Does the company publish a clear target for ending the use of tethering for dairy cows, or provide evidence this has already been achieved? | |
| Rationale | Targets are the point where policy commitments are translated into substantive action, and where resources and responsibilities are allocated for the delivery of the targets. | |
| Scoring | No stated position. | 0 |
| | The company has published a partial time-bound target, or evidence of achievement, and the scope (in terms of geography or products) is clearly defined. | 5 |
| | The company has published a universal time-bound target, or evidence of achievement, across all relevant own-brand and other brand products and geographies. | 10 |
| | (Max Score 10) | |
| Explanatory Notes | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • This question is only assessed for those companies that produce, use or sell dairy or dairy-based products. • This question is looking for a clear target for ending the use of tethering for dairy cows within a reasonable timeframe, or evidence that this has already been achieved. • Simply stating compliance with legislation is not treated as a proxy for having a clear position on the avoidance of tethering. The reasons are (a) legislation, even in the EU, does not cover all close confinement practices, (b) a commitment to compliance with legislation does not provide guarantees on performance in countries where such legislation is absent. Companies that state that they comply with legislation but do not have a formal policy on tethering are, therefore, awarded zero points. • Similarly, simply stating compliance with a farm assurance standard that prohibits tethering is not treated as a proxy for having a clearly stated position, unless the commitment to avoidance is made explicit (e.g. compliance with the standard is presented as a way of delivering on its commitment to the avoidance of tethering). • To qualify for partial points on product scope, policies need to apply to a significant proportion of a company's supply chain, such as a substantial business division (e.g. a restaurant brand or manufacturing division) or own-brand products (in the case of retailers and wholesalers). Policies which apply to limited product ranges are not awarded points. | |

| | Animal-Sourced Foods Targets | |
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| Question 29. | Has the company set time-bound targets for reducing reliance on animal-sourced foods? | |
| Rationale | Targets are the point where policy commitments are translated into substantive action, and where resources and responsibilities are allocated for the delivery of the targets. | |
| Scoring | No published time-bound targets. | 0 |
| | The company has published a partial time-bound target and the scope (in terms of geography or business division) is clearly defined. | 5 |
| | The company has published a universal time-bound target, across all geographies and business divisions. | 10 |
| | (Max Score 10) | |
| Explanatory Notes | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • This question is only scored if points have been awarded for Question 12, i.e., if the parent company recognises that reducing reliance on animal-sourced foods is a relevant business issue. • This question is looking for evidence of explicit, time-bound targets for reducing reliance on animal-sourced foods within a reasonable timeframe. • This question recognises reducing reliance on animal-sourced foods may be achieved in multiple ways, including direct action on reduction (e.g., waste reduction, better utilisation, changes to business focus) or through protein diversification (e.g., new product development, reformulation). • Targets explicitly focused on efforts to decrease volumes or proportions of animal sourced foods will be eligible for maximum points (10 points), whereas targets which imply reductions in animal sourced foods (e.g. focused on increasing the proportion of alternative proteins menu items) will be eligible for partial points (5 points). | |

| | Farm Animal Welfare Performance Impact | |
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| | Laying Hens | |
| Question 30. | What proportion of laying hens (for shell eggs and fresh/frozen products and ingredients) in the company's global supply chain is cage-free? | |
| Rationale | Companies should report on the proportion of laying hens that is cage-free. For retailers and wholesalers and restaurants and bars, this question applies to all own-brand products. | |
| Scoring | 0% of laying hens is cage-free, or no reported information. | 0 |
| | 1 — 20% of laying hens is cage-free. | 1 |
| | 21 — 40% of laying hens is cage-free. | 2 |
| | 41 — 60% of laying hens is cage-free. | 3 |
| | 61 — 80% of laying hens is cage-free. | 5 |
| | 81 — 98% of laying hens is cage-free. | 7 |
| | 99 — 100% of laying hens is cage-free. | 10 |
| | (Max Score 10) | |
| Explanatory Notes | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • This question is only assessed for those companies that produce, use or sell eggs or egg-based products. • This question is looking specifically for reporting on the proportion of laying hens in the company's global supply chain that is cage-free, including battery and enriched/colony cages. It is anticipated that this question will expand in scope to also cover combination and limited access systems in future assessments. • Points are only awarded if the company is explicit about the proportion of laying hens affected. Companies that report on the total number of laying hens affected but do not put this number into context of the total number of animals used or processed globally (i.e. the scope of reported figures is unclear), are awarded minimal points. • Companies that report on the proportion of laying hens that is cage-free but limit their reporting to specified products and/or geographies are either awarded the equivalent of 1 or 2 points, depending on whether the scope of this partial reporting is substantial or not. • Scores are not awarded for companies that report on the proportion of laying hens managed according to particular higher welfare or organic standards but do not explicitly report on the proportion of laying hens that is cage-free in line with these standards. • Companies that make general statements about "Our laying hens" or "All laying hens" being cage-free are not awarded points unless there is explicit reporting on the proportion of laying hens that is cage-free (e.g. with statements such as: 'xx% of our laying hens ...'). • We expect companies to report impact figures in an easy-to-understand format and with a clear description of the proportion of the supply chain that this data represented (i.e., it should not be necessary for the assessor to have to calculate the data in order to arrive at a percentage of the global supply chain). | |

| | Farm Animal Welfare Performance Impact | |
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| | Laying Hens | |
| Question 31. | What proportion of laying hens (for shell eggs and fresh/frozen products and ingredients) in the company's global supply chain is free from beak trimming or tipping? | |
| Rationale | Companies should report on the proportion of laying hens that is free from beak trimming or tipping. For retailers and wholesalers and restaurants and bars, this question applies to all own-brand products. | |
| Scoring | 0% of laying hens is free from beak trimming or tipping, or no reported information. | 0 |
| | 1 — 20% of laying hens is free from beak trimming or tipping. | 1 |
| | 21 — 40% of laying hens is free from beak trimming or tipping. | 2 |
| | 41 — 60% of laying hens is free from beak trimming or tipping. | 3 |
| | 61 — 80% of laying hens is free from beak trimming or tipping. | 5 |
| | 81 — 98% of laying hens is free from beak trimming or tipping. | 7 |
| | 99 — 100% of laying hens is free from beak trimming or tipping. | 10 |
| | (Max Score 10) | |
| Explanatory Notes | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • This question is only assessed for those companies that produce, use or sell eggs or egg-based products. • This question is looking specifically for reporting on the proportion of laying hens in the company's global supply chain that is free from beak trimming or tipping. • Points are only awarded if the company is explicit about the proportion of animals affected. Companies that report on the total number of animals affected but do not put this number into context of the total number of animals used or processed globally, (i.e. the scope of reported figures is unclear) are awarded minimal points. • Companies that report on the proportion of laying hens that is free from beak trimming or tipping but limited their reporting to specified products and/or geographies are either awarded the equivalent of 1 or 2 points, depending on whether the scope of this partial reporting is substantial or not. • Scores are not awarded for companies that report on the proportion of animals managed according to particular farm assurance standards but do not explicitly report on the proportion of laying hens that is free from beak trimming or tipping in line with these standards. • Companies that make general statements about "Our laying hens" or "All chickens" being free from beak trimming or tipping are not awarded points unless there is explicit reporting on the proportion of laying hens that is free from beak trimming or tipping (e.g. with statements such as: 'xx% of our animals...'). • We expect companies to report impact figures in an easy-to-understand format and with a description of the proportion of the supply chain represented, without relying on the assessor to make the calculations. | |

| | Farm Animal Welfare Performance Impact | |
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| | Laying Hens | |
| Question 32. | What proportion of laying hens (for shell eggs and fresh/frozen products and ingredients) in the company's global supply chain is from supply chains in which the day-old male chicks are not killed? | |
| Rationale | Companies should report on the proportion of laying hens that is from supply chains in which the day-old male chicks are not killed. For retailers and wholesalers and restaurants and bars, this question applies to all own-brand products. | |
| Scoring | 0% of laying hens from supply chains in which the day-old male chicks are not killed, or no reported information. | 0 |
| | 1 — 20% of laying hens from supply chains in which the day-old male chicks are not killed. | 1 |
| | 21 — 40% of laying hens from supply chains in which the day-old male chicks are not killed. | 2 |
| | 41 — 60% of laying hens from supply chains in which the day-old male chicks are not killed. | 3 |
| | 61 — 80% of laying hens from supply chains in which the day-old male chicks are not killed. | 5 |
| | 81 — 98% of laying hens from supply chains in which the day-old male chicks are not killed. | 7 |
| | 99 — 100% of laying hens from supply chains in which the day-old male chicks are not killed. | 10 |
| | (Max Score 10) | |
| Explanatory Notes | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • This question is only assessed for those companies that produce, use or sell eggs or egg-based products. • This question is looking specifically for reporting on the proportion of laying hens in the company's global supply chain that is from supply chains in which the day-old male chicks are not killed. • Points are only awarded if the company is explicit about the proportion of animals affected. Companies that report on the total number of animals affected but do not put this number into context of the total number of animals used or processed globally, (i.e. the scope of reported figures is unclear) are awarded minimal points. • Companies that report on the proportion of laying hens that is from supply chains in which the day-old male chicks are not killed but limited their reporting to specified products and/or geographies are either awarded the equivalent of 1 or 2 points, depending on whether the scope of this partial reporting is substantial or not. • Scores are not awarded for companies that report on the proportion of animals managed according to particular farm assurance standards but do not explicitly report on the proportion of laying hens that is from supply chains in which the day-old male chicks are not killed in line with these standards. • Companies that make general statements about "Our laying hens" or "All chickens" being from supply chains in which the day-old male chicks are not killed are not awarded points unless there is explicit reporting on the proportion of laying hens that is from supply chains in which the day-old male chicks are not killed (e.g. with statements such as: 'xx% of our animals...'). • We expect companies to report impact figures in an easy-to-understand format and with a description of the proportion of the supply chain represented, without relying on the assessor to make the calculations. | |

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| | Broiler Chickens | |
| Question 33. | What proportion of broiler chickens (for fresh/frozen chicken products and ingredients) in the company's global supply chain is reared at lower stocking densities (specifically, 30kg/m2 or 6lbs/sq ft or less)? | |
| Rationale | Companies should report on the proportion of broiler chickens that is reared at lower stocking densities (specifically, 30kg/m2 or 6lbs/sq ft or less). For retailers and wholesalers and restaurants and bars, this question applies to all own-brand products. | |
| Scoring | 0% of broiler chickens is reared at lower stocking densities, or no reported information. | 0 |
| | 1 — 20% of broiler chickens is reared at lower stocking densities. | 1 |
| | 21 — 40% of broiler chickens is reared at lower stocking densities. | 2 |
| | 41 — 60% of broiler chickens is reared at lower stocking densities. | 3 |
| | 61 — 80% of broiler chickens is reared at lower stocking densities. | 5 |
| | 81 — 98% of broiler chickens is reared at lower stocking densities. | 7 |
| | 99 — 100% of broiler chickens is reared at lower stocking densities. | 10 |
| | (Max Score 10) | |
| Explanatory Notes | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> This question is only assessed for those companies that produce, use or sell chicken or chicken-based products. This question is looking specifically for reporting on the proportion of broiler chickens in the company's global supply chain that is reared at lower stocking densities, specifically, 30kg/m2 or 6lbs/sq ft or less. Points are only awarded if the company is explicit about the proportion of broiler chickens affected. Companies that report on the total number of broiler chickens affected but do not put this number into context of the total number of broiler chickens used or processed globally, (i.e. the scope of reported figures is unclear) are awarded minimal points. Companies that report on the proportion of broiler chickens that is reared at lower stocking densities, but limited their reporting to specified products and/or geographies are either awarded the equivalent of 1 or 2 points, depending on whether the scope of this partial reporting is substantial or not. Scores are not awarded for companies that report on the proportion of broiler chickens managed according to particular farm assurance standards but do not explicitly report on the proportion of broiler chickens that is reared at lower stocking densities in line with these standards. Companies that make general statements about "Our broiler chickens" or "All broiler chickens" being reared at lower stocking densities are not awarded points unless there is explicit reporting on the proportion of broiler chickens that is free from close confinement (e.g. with statements such as: 'xx% of our broiler chickens ...'). We expect companies to report impact figures in an easy-to-understand format and with a description of the proportion of the supply chain represented, without relying on the assessor to make the calculations. | |

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| | Broiler Chickens | |
| Question 34. | What proportion of broiler chickens (for fresh/frozen chicken products and ingredients) in the company's global supply chain is from approved breeds with improved welfare outcomes or with a slower growth potential)? | |
| Rationale | Companies should report on the proportion of broiler chickens that is from breeds with improved welfare outcomes or with a slower growth potential. For retailers and wholesalers and restaurants and bars, this question applies to all own-brand products. | |
| Scoring | 0% of products is from breeds with improved welfare outcomes and with a slower growth potential, or no reported information. | 0 |
| | 1 — 20% of broiler chickens is from breeds with improved welfare outcomes and with a slower growth potential. | 1 |
| | 21 — 40% of broiler chickens is from breeds with improved welfare outcomes and with a slower growth potential. | 2 |
| | 41 — 60% of broiler chickens is from breeds with improved welfare outcomes and with a slower growth potential. | 3 |
| | 61 — 80% of broiler chickens is from breeds with improved welfare outcomes and with a slower growth potential. | 5 |
| | 81 — 98% of broiler chickens is from breeds with improved welfare outcomes and with a slower growth potential. | 7 |
| | 99 — 100% of broiler chickens is from breeds with improved welfare outcomes and with a slower growth potential. | 10 |
| | (Max Score 10) | |
| Explanatory Notes | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • This question is only assessed for those companies that produce, use or sell chicken or chicken-based products. • This question is looking specifically for reporting on the proportion of broiler chickens in the company's global supply chain that is from breeds that meet the Better Chicken Commitment/European Chicken Commitment requirements, with improved welfare outcomes according to the breeding company specification (see www.betterchickencommitment.com/policy/ and www.welfarecommitments.com/europeletter/); or breeds with a slower growth potential, defined as <40g/d averaged over the growth cycle. • Companies should state the breeds used or that the breeds are RSPCA or GAP-approved within their reporting. • Points are only awarded if the company is explicit about the proportion of broiler chickens affected. Companies that report on the total number of broiler chickens affected but do not put this number into context of the total number of broiler chickens used or processed globally, (i.e. the scope of reported figures is unclear) are awarded minimal points. • Companies that report on the proportion of broiler chickens that is from breeds with improved welfare outcomes or a slower growth potential but limited their reporting to specified products and/or geographies are either awarded the equivalent of 1 or 2 points, depending on whether the scope of this partial reporting is substantial or not. • Scores are not awarded for companies that report on the proportion of broiler chickens managed according to particular farm assurance standards but do not explicitly report on the breeds with improved welfare outcomes or with slower growth potential in line with these standards. | |

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| Explanatory Notes Continued | <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Companies that make general statements about "Our broiler chickens" or "All broiler chickens" being from breeds with improved welfare outcomes or a slower growth potential are not awarded points unless there is explicit reporting on the proportion of broiler chickens that is from breeds with improved welfare outcomes or slower growth potential (e.g. with statements such as: 'xx% of our broiler chickens ...').• Where companies report on their own breeds with improved welfare outcomes or slower growth potential, they needed to provide a clear description of how the company's breed standard(s) compare to other breeds with improved welfare outcomes or a slower growth potential.• We expect companies to report impact figures in an easy-to-understand format and with a description of the proportion of the supply chain represented by this data, without relying on the assessor to make the calculations. |
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| Question 35. | What proportion of broiler chickens (for fresh/frozen chicken products and ingredients) in the company's global supply chain is subject to controlled atmospheric stunning using inert gas or multi-phase systems, or effective electrical stunning without live inversion? | |
| Rationale | Companies should report on the proportion of broiler chickens that is subject to controlled atmospheric stunning using inert gas or multi-phase systems, or effective electrical stunning without live inversion. For retailers and wholesalers and restaurants and bars, this question applies to all own-brand products. | |
| Scoring | 0% of broiler chickens is subject to controlled atmospheric stunning using inert gas or multi-phase systems, or effective electrical stunning without live inversion, or no reported information. | 0 |
| | 1 — 20% of broiler chickens is subject to controlled atmospheric stunning using inert gas or multi-phase systems, or effective electrical stunning without live inversion. | 1 |
| | 21 — 40% of broiler chickens is subject to controlled atmospheric stunning using inert gas or multi-phase systems, or effective electrical stunning without live inversion. | 2 |
| | 41 — 60% of broiler chickens is subject to controlled atmospheric stunning using inert gas or multi-phase systems, or effective electrical stunning without live inversion. | 3 |
| | 61 — 80% of broiler chickens is subject to controlled atmospheric stunning using inert gas or multi-phase systems, or effective electrical stunning without live inversion. | 5 |
| | 81 — 98% of broiler chickens is subject to controlled atmospheric stunning using inert gas or multi-phase systems, or effective electrical stunning without live inversion. | 7 |
| | 99 — 100% of broiler chickens is subject to controlled atmospheric stunning using inert gas or multi-phase systems, or effective electrical stunning without live inversion | 10 |
| | (Max Score 10) | |
| Explanatory Notes | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • This question is only assessed for those companies that produce, use or sell chicken or chicken-based products. • This question is looking specifically for reporting on the proportion of broiler chickens in the company's global supply chain that is subject to controlled atmospheric stunning using inert gas or multi-phase systems, or effective electrical stunning without live inversion. • Points are only awarded if the company is explicit about the proportion of broiler chickens affected. Companies that reported on the total number of broiler chickens affected but do not put this number into context of the total number of broiler chickens used or processed globally, (i.e. the scope of reported figures is unclear) are awarded minimal points. • Companies that report on the proportion of broiler chickens that is subject to controlled atmospheric stunning using inert gas or multi-phase systems, or effective electrical stunning without live inversion but limited their reporting to specified products and/or geographies are either awarded the equivalent of 1 or 2 points, depending on whether the scope of this partial reporting is substantial or not. • Scores are not awarded for companies that reported on the proportion of broiler chickens managed according to particular farm assurance standards but do not explicitly report on the proportion of animals that is subject to controlled atmospheric stunning using inert gas or multi-phase systems, or effective electrical stunning without live inversion in line with these standards. | |

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| Explanatory Notes Continued | <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Companies that make general statements about “Our broiler chickens” or “All broiler chickens” being subject to controlled atmospheric stunning using inert gas or multi-phase systems, or effective electrical stunning without live inversion are not awarded points unless there is explicit reporting on the proportion of broiler chickens that is subject to controlled atmospheric stunning using inert gas or multi-phase systems, or effective electrical stunning without live inversion (e.g. with statements such as: ‘xx% of our broiler chickens ...’).• We expect companies to report impact figures in an easy-to-understand format and with a description of the proportion of the supply chain represented by the data, without relying on the assessor to make the calculations. |
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| | Pigs | |
| Question 36. | What proportion of sows (for fresh/frozen pork products and ingredients) in the company's global supply chain is free from gestation crates /sow stalls? | |
| Rationale | Companies should report on the proportion of sows that is free from gestation crates /sow stalls throughout pregnancy including the observation period. For retailers and wholesalers and restaurants and bars, this question applies to all own-brand products. | |
| Scoring | 0% of sows is free from gestation crates/sow stalls, or no reported information. | 0 |
| | 1 — 20% of sows is free from gestation crates/sow stalls. | 1 |
| | 21 — 40% of sows is free from gestation crates/sow stalls. | 2 |
| | 41 — 60% of sows is free from gestation crates/sow stalls. | 3 |
| | 61 — 80% of sows is free from gestation crates/sow stalls. | 5 |
| | 81 — 98% of sows is free from gestation crates/sow stalls. | 7 |
| | 99 — 100% of sows is free from gestation crates/sow stalls. | 10 |
| | (Max Score 10) | |
| Explanatory Notes | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • This question is only assessed for those companies that produce, use or sell pork or pork-based products. • This question is looking specifically for reporting on the proportion of sows in the company's global supply chain that is free from gestation crates/sow stalls throughout pregnancy and during the observation period (i.e are group housed from weaning to pre-farrowing). • This question is looking for commitments that do not allow any time in stalls, except for a maximum of 4 hours for management purposes. Companies are expected to state the maximum time permitted within their policies and reporting. • Points are only awarded if the company is explicit about the proportion of sows affected. Companies that report on the total number of sows affected but do not put this number into context of the total number of sows used or processed globally, (i.e. the scope of reported figures is unclear) are awarded minimal points. • Companies that report on the proportion of sows that is free from gestation crates/ sow stalls but limited their reporting to specified products and/or geographies are either awarded the equivalent of 1 or 2 points, depending on whether the scope of this partial reporting is substantial or not. • Scores are not awarded for companies that report on the proportion of sows managed according to particular higher welfare or organic standards but do not explicitly report on the proportion of sows that is free from gestation/sow stalls in line with these standards. • Companies that make general statements about "Our sows" or "All sows" being free from gestation crates/sow stalls are not awarded points unless there is explicit reporting on the proportion of sows that is free from gestation crates/sow stalls (e.g. with statements such as: 'xx% of our sows...'). • We expect companies to report impact figures in an easy-to-understand format and description of the proportion of the supply chain represented, without having to do any calculations. | |

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| | Pigs | |
| Question 37. | What proportion of sows (for fresh/frozen pork products and ingredients) in the company's global supply chain is free from farrowing crates? | |
| Rationale | Companies should report on the proportion of sows that is free from farrowing crates. For retailers and wholesalers and restaurants and bars, this question applies to all own-brand products. | |
| Scoring | 0% of sows is free from farrowing crates, or no reported information. | 0 |
| | 1 — 20% of sows is free from farrowing crates. | 1 |
| | 21 — 40% of sows is free from farrowing crates. | 2 |
| | 41 — 60% of sows is free from farrowing crates. | 3 |
| | 61 — 80% of sows is free from farrowing crates. | 5 |
| | 81 — 98% of sows is free from farrowing crates. | 7 |
| | 99 — 100% of sows is free from farrowing crates. | 10 |
| | (Max Score 10) | |
| Explanatory Notes | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • This question is only assessed for those companies that produce, use or sell pork or pork-based products. • This question is looking specifically for reporting on the proportion of sows in the company's global supply chain that is free from farrowing crates. • Points are only awarded if the company is explicit about the proportion of sows affected. Companies that report on the total number of sows affected but do not put this number into context of the total number of sows used or processed globally, (i.e. the scope of reported figures is unclear) are awarded minimal points. • Companies that report on the proportion of sows that is free from farrowing crates but limited their reporting to specified products and/or geographies are either awarded the equivalent of 1 or 2 points, depending on whether the scope of this partial reporting is substantial or not. • Scores are not awarded for companies that report on the proportion of sows managed according to particular higher welfare or organic standards but do not explicitly report on the proportion of sows that is free from farrowing crates in line with these standards. • Companies that make general statements about "Our sows" or "All sows" being free from farrowing crates are not awarded points unless there is explicit reporting on the proportion of sows that is free from farrowing crates (e.g. with statements such as: 'xx% of our sows...'). • We expect companies to report impact figures in an easy-to-understand format and description of the proportion of the supply chain represented, without having to do any calculations. | |

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| | Pigs | |
| Question 38. | What proportion of pigs (for fresh/frozen pork products and ingredients) in the company's global supply chain is free from tail docking? | |
| Rationale | Companies should report on the proportion of pigs that is free from tail docking. For retailers and wholesalers and restaurants and bars, this question applies to all own-brand products. | |
| Scoring | 0% of pigs is free from tail docking, or no reported information. | 0 |
| | 1 — 20% of pigs is free from tail docking. | 1 |
| | 21 — 40% of pigs is free from tail docking. | 2 |
| | 41 — 60% of pigs is free from tail docking. | 3 |
| | 61 — 80% of pigs is free from tail docking. | 5 |
| | 81 — 98% of pigs is free from tail docking. | 7 |
| | 99 — 100% of pigs is free from tail docking. | 10 |
| | (Max Score 10) | |
| Explanatory Notes | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • This question is only assessed for those companies that produce, use or sell pork or pork-based products. • This question is looking specifically for reporting on the proportion of pigs in the company's global supply chain that is free from tail docking. • Points are only awarded if the company is explicit about the proportion of pigs affected. Companies that reported on the total number of pigs affected but do not put this number into context of the total number of pigs used or processed globally, (i.e. the scope of reported figures is unclear) are awarded minimal points. • Companies that report on the proportion of pigs that are free from tail docking but limited their reporting to specified products and/or geographies are either awarded the equivalent of 1 or 2 points, depending on whether the scope of this partial reporting is substantial or not. • Scores are not awarded for companies that report on the proportion of pigs managed according to particular farm assurance standards but do not explicitly report on the proportion of pigs that are free from tail docking in line with these standards. • Companies that make general statements about "Our pigs" or "All pigs" being free from tail docking are not awarded points unless there is explicit reporting on the proportion of pigs that are free from tail docking (e.g. with statements such as: 'xx% of our pigs...'). • We expect companies to report impact figures in an easy-to-understand format and with a description of the proportion of the supply chain this data represented, without relying on the assessor to make the calculations. | |

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| | Dairy Cows | |
| Question 39. | What proportion of dairy cattle (for fresh/frozen milk and milk products and ingredients) in the company's global supply chain is free from tethering? | |
| Rationale | Companies should report on the proportion of dairy cattle that is free from tethering. For retailers and wholesalers and restaurants and bars, this question applies to all own-brand products. | |
| Scoring | 0% of dairy cows is free from tethering, or no reported information. | 0 |
| | 1 — 20% of dairy cows is free from tethering. | 1 |
| | 21 — 40% of dairy cows is free from tethering. | 2 |
| | 41 — 60% of dairy cows is free from tethering. | 3 |
| | 61 — 80% of dairy cows is free from tethering. | 5 |
| | 81 — 98% of dairy cows is free from tethering. | 7 |
| | 99 — 100% of dairy cows is free from tethering. | 10 |
| | (Max Score 10) | |
| Explanatory Notes | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • This question is only assessed for those companies that produce, use or sell dairy or dairy-based products. • This question is looking specifically for reporting on the proportion of dairy cows in the company's global supply chain that is free from tethering. • Points are only awarded if the company is explicit about the proportion of dairy cows affected. Companies that report on the total number of dairy cows affected but do not put this number into context of the total number of dairy cows used or processed globally, (i.e. the scope of reported figures is unclear) are awarded minimal points. • Companies that report on the proportion of dairy cows that is free from tethering but limited their reporting to specified products and/or geographies are either awarded the equivalent of 1 or 2 points, depending on whether the scope of this partial reporting is substantial or not. • Scores are not awarded for companies that report on the proportion of dairy cows managed according to particular farm assurance standards but do not explicitly report on the proportion of dairy cows that is free from tethering in line with these standards. • Companies that make general statements about "Our dairy cows" or "All dairy cows" being free from tethering are not awarded points unless there is explicit reporting on the proportion of dairy cows that is free from tethering (e.g. with statements such as: 'xx% of our dairy cows...'). • We expect companies to report impact figures in an easy-to-understand format and description of the proportion of the supply chain represented, without having to do any calculations. | |

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| | Dairy Cows | |
| Question 40. | What proportion of dairy cattle (for fresh/frozen milk and milk products and ingredients) in the company's global supply chain is provided with pasture access? | |
| Rationale | Companies should report on the proportion of dairy cattle that is provided with pasture access (at least 6 hours per day for 120 days per year). For retailers and wholesalers and restaurants and bars, this question applies to all own-brand products. | |
| Scoring | 0% of dairy cows is provided with pasture access, or no reported information. | 0 |
| | 1 — 20% of dairy cows is provided with pasture access. | 1 |
| | 21 — 40% of dairy cows is provided with pasture access. | 2 |
| | 41 — 60% of dairy cows is provided with pasture access. | 3 |
| | 61 — 80% of dairy cows is provided with pasture access. | 5 |
| | 81 — 98% of dairy cows is provided with pasture access. | 7 |
| | 99 — 100% of dairy cows is provided with pasture access. | 10 |
| | (Max Score 10) | |
| Explanatory Notes | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • This question is only assessed for those companies that produce, use or sell dairy or dairy-based products. • This question is looking specifically for reporting on the proportion of dairy cows in the company's global supply chain that is provided with pasture access for at least 6 hours per day for 120 days per year. • Points are only awarded if the company is explicit about the proportion of dairy cows affected. Companies that report on the total number of dairy cows affected but do not put this number into context of the total number of dairy cows used or processed globally, (i.e. the scope of reported figures is unclear) are awarded minimal points. • Companies that report on the proportion of dairy cows that is provided with pasture access but limited their reporting to specified products and/or geographies are either awarded the equivalent of 1 or 2 points, depending on whether the scope of this partial reporting is substantial or not. • Scores are not awarded for companies that report on the proportion of dairy cows managed according to particular farm assurance standards but do not explicitly report on the proportion of dairy cows that is provided with pasture access in line with these standards. • Companies that make general statements about "Our dairy cows" or "All dairy cows" being provided with pasture access are not awarded points unless there is explicit reporting on the proportion of dairy cows that is provided with pasture access (e.g. with statements such as: 'xx% of our dairy cows...'). • We expect companies to report impact figures in an easy-to-understand format and description of the proportion of the supply chain represented, without having to do any calculations. | |

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| | Dairy Cows | |
| Question 41. | What proportion of dairy cows (for fresh/frozen milk and milk products and ingredients) in the company's global supply chain is free from disbudding/dehorning? | |
| Rationale | Companies should report on the proportion of dairy cattle that is free from disbudding/dehorning. For retailers and wholesalers and restaurants and bars, this question applies to all own-brand products. | |
| Scoring | 0% of dairy cows is free from disbudding/dehorning, or no reported information. | 0 |
| | 1 — 20% of dairy cows is free from disbudding/dehorning. | 1 |
| | 21 — 40% of dairy cows is free from disbudding/dehorning. | 2 |
| | 41 — 60% of dairy cows is free from disbudding/dehorning. | 3 |
| | 61 — 80% of dairy cows is free from disbudding/dehorning. | 5 |
| | 81 — 98% of dairy cows is free from disbudding/dehorning. | 7 |
| | 99 — 100% of dairy cows is free from disbudding/dehorning. | 10 |
| | (Max Score 10) | |
| Explanatory Notes | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • This question is only assessed for those companies that produce, use or sell dairy or dairy-based products. • This question is looking specifically for reporting on the proportion of dairy cows in the company's global supply chain that is free from disbudding/dehorning. Reporting related to the proportion of polled breed animals in the company's global supply chain will also be taken into account. • Points are only awarded if the company is explicit about the proportion of dairy cows affected. Companies that reported on the total number of dairy cows affected but do not put this number into context of the total number of dairy cows used or processed globally, (i.e. the scope of reported figures is unclear) are awarded minimal points. • Companies that report on the proportion of dairy cows that is free from disbudding/dehorning but limited their reporting to specified products and/or geographies are either awarded the equivalent of 1 or 2 points, depending on whether the scope of this partial reporting is substantial or not. • Scores are not awarded for companies that report on the proportion of dairy cows managed according to particular farm assurance standards but do not explicitly report on the proportion of dairy cows that is free from disbudding/dehorning in line with these standards. • Companies that make general statements about "Our dairy cows" or "All dairy cows" being free from disbudding/dehorning are not awarded points unless there is explicit reporting on the proportion of dairy cows that is free from disbudding/dehorning (e.g. with statements such as: 'xx% of our dairy cows ...'). • We expect companies to report impact figures in an easy-to-understand format and with a description of the proportion of the supply chain represented by the data, without relying on the assessor to make the calculations. | |

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| | Beef Cattle | |
| Question 42. | What proportion of beef cattle (for fresh/frozen beef products and ingredients) in the company's global supply chain is free from confinement in CAFOs or feedlots? | |
| Rationale | Companies should report on the proportion of beef cattle that is free from confinement in CAFOs or feedlots. For retailers and wholesalers and restaurants and bars, this question applies to all own-brand products. | |
| Scoring | 0% of beef cattle is free from confinement in CAFOs or feedlots, or no reported information. | 0 |
| | 1 — 20% of beef cattle is free from confinement in CAFOs or feedlots. | 1 |
| | 21 — 40% of beef cattle is free from confinement in CAFOs or feedlots. | 2 |
| | 41 — 60% of beef cattle is free from confinement in CAFOs or feedlots. | 3 |
| | 61 — 80% of beef cattle is free from confinement in CAFOs or feedlots. | 5 |
| | 81 — 98% of beef cattle is free from confinement in CAFOs or feedlots. | 7 |
| | 99 — 100% of beef cattle is free from confinement in CAFOs or feedlots. | 10 |
| | (Max Score 10) | |
| Explanatory Notes | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • This question is only assessed for those companies that produce, use or sell beef or beef-based products. • This question is looking specifically for reporting on the proportion of beef cattle in the company's global supply chain that is free from confinement in CAFOs or feedlots. CAFOs and feedlots are defined as systems in which beef cattle are kept at high stocking densities, indoors on fully slatted or solid floors, or outdoors, and there is no opportunity for grazing, instead, feed is brought to the animals. • This question is looking for reporting to cover all beef cattle in the company's supply chain, including veal calves and calves originating from dairy supply chains. • Points are only awarded if the company explicitly mentions CAFOs or feedlots and is explicit about the proportion of beef cattle affected. Companies that report on the total number of beef cattle affected but do not put this number into context of the total number of beef cattle used or processed globally, (i.e. the scope of reported figures is unclear) are awarded minimal points. • Companies that report on the proportion of beef cattle that is free from confinement in CAFOs or feedlots but limited their reporting to specified products and/or geographies are either awarded the equivalent of 1 or 2 points, depending on whether the scope of this partial reporting is substantial or not. • Scores are not awarded for companies that report on the proportion of beef cattle managed according to particular farm assurance standards but do not explicitly report on the proportion of beef cattle that is free from confinement in CAFOs or feedlots in line with these standards. • Companies that make general statements about "Our beef cattle" or "All beef cattle" being free from confinement in CAFOs or feedlots are not awarded points unless there is explicit reporting on the proportion of beef cattle that is free from confinement in CAFOs or feedlots (e.g. with statements such as: 'xx% of our beef cattle ...'). • We expect companies to report impact figures in an easy-to-understand format and description of the proportion of the supply chain represented, without having to do any calculations. | |

| | Farm Animal Welfare Performance Impact | |
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| | Beef Cattle | |
| Question 43. | What proportion of beef cattle (for fresh/frozen beef products and ingredients) in the company's global supply chain is group housed as calves, throughout rearing? | |
| Rationale | Companies should report on the proportion of beef cattle that is group housed throughout rearing. Calves should be reared in groups (minimum pairs) from birth. For retailers and wholesalers and restaurants and bars, this question applies to all own-brand products. | |
| Scoring | 0% of beef cattle is group housed throughout rearing, or no reported information. | 0 |
| | 1 — 20% of beef cattle is group housed throughout rearing. | 1 |
| | 21 — 40% of beef cattle is group housed throughout rearing. | 2 |
| | 41 — 60% of beef cattle is group housed throughout rearing. | 3 |
| | 61 — 80% of beef cattle is group housed throughout rearing. | 5 |
| | 81 — 98% of beef cattle is group housed throughout rearing. | 7 |
| | 99 — 100% of beef cattle is group housed throughout rearing. | 10 |
| | (Max Score 10) | |
| Explanatory Notes | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • This question is only assessed for those companies that produce, use or sell beef or beef-based products. • This question is looking specifically for reporting on the proportion of beef cattle in the company's global supply chain that is group housed throughout rearing, from birth (minimum pairs). • This question is looking for reporting to cover all beef cattle in the company's supply chain, including veal calves and calves originating from dairy supply chains. • Animals that are diseased or injured may be kept in hospital pens as required to protect the animals' health and welfare. • Points are only awarded if the company is explicit about the proportion of beef cattle affected. Companies that reported on the total number of beef cattle affected but do not put this number into context of the total number of beef cattle used or processed globally, (i.e. the scope of reported figures is unclear) are awarded minimal points. • Companies that report on the proportion of beef cattle that is group housed throughout rearing but limited their reporting to specified products and/or geographies are either awarded the equivalent of 1 or 2 points, depending on whether the scope of this partial reporting is substantial or not. • Scores are not awarded for companies that report on the proportion of beef cattle managed according to particular farm assurance standards but do not explicitly report on the proportion of beef cattle that is group housed throughout rearing in line with these standards. • Companies that make general statements about "Our beef cattle" or "All beef cattle" being group housed throughout rearing are not awarded points unless there is explicit reporting on the proportion of beef cattle that is group housed throughout rearing (e.g. with statements such as: 'xx% of our beef cattle ...'). • We expect companies to report impact figures in an easy-to-understand format and with a description of the proportion of the supply chain represented by the data, without relying on the assessor to make the calculations. | |

| | Farm Animal Welfare Performance Impact | |
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| | Beef Cattle | |
| Question 44. | What proportion of beef cattle (for fresh/frozen beef products and ingredients) in the company's global supply chain is free from disbudding/dehorning? | |
| Rationale | Companies should report on the proportion of beef cattle that is free from disbudding/dehorning. For retailers and wholesalers and restaurants and bars, this question applies to all own-brand products. | |
| Scoring | 0% of beef cattle is free from disbudding/dehorning, or no reported information. | 0 |
| | 1 — 20% of beef cattle is free from disbudding/dehorning. | 1 |
| | 21 — 40% of beef cattle is free from disbudding/dehorning. | 2 |
| | 41 — 60% of beef cattle is free from disbudding/dehorning. | 3 |
| | 61 — 80% of beef cattle is free from disbudding/dehorning. | 5 |
| | 81 — 98% of beef cattle is free from disbudding/dehorning. | 7 |
| | 99 — 100% of beef cattle is free from disbudding/dehorning. | 10 |
| | (Max Score 10) | |
| Explanatory Notes | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • This question is only assessed for those companies that produce, use or sell beef or beef-based products. • This question is looking specifically for reporting on the proportion of beef cattle in the company's global supply chain that is free from disbudding/dehorning. Reporting related to the proportion of polled breed animals in the company's global supply chain will also be taken into account. • This question is looking for reporting to cover all beef cattle in the company's supply chain, including veal calves and calves originating from dairy supply chains. • Points are only awarded if the company is explicit about the proportion of beef cattle affected. Companies that reported on the total number of beef cattle affected but do not put this number into context of the total number of beef cattle used or processed globally, (i.e. the scope of reported figures is unclear) are awarded minimal points. • Companies that report on the proportion of beef cattle that is free from disbudding/dehorning but limited their reporting to specified products and/or geographies are either awarded the equivalent of 1 or 2 points, depending on whether the scope of this partial reporting is substantial or not. • Scores are not awarded for companies that report on the proportion of beef cattle managed according to particular farm assurance standards but do not explicitly report on the proportion of beef cattle that is free from disbudding/dehorning in line with these standards. • Companies that make general statements about "Our beef cattle" or "All beef cattle" being free from disbudding/dehorning are not awarded points unless there is explicit reporting on the proportion of beef cattle that is free from disbudding/dehorning (e.g. with statements such as: 'xx% of our beef cattle ...'). • We expect companies to report impact figures in an easy-to-understand format and with a description of the proportion of the supply chain represented by the data, without relying on the assessor to make the calculations. | |

| | Farm Animal Welfare Performance Impact | |
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| | Farmed Salmon | |
| Question 45. | What proportion of farmed salmon (for fresh/frozen salmon products and ingredients) in the company's global supply chain is reared at lower stocking densities (specifically, 10kg/m ³ or less)? | |
| Rationale | Companies should report on the proportion of farmed salmon that is reared at lower stocking densities. For retailers and wholesalers and restaurants and bars, this question applies to all own-brand products. | |
| Scoring | 0% of farmed salmon is reared at lower stocking densities, or no reported information. | 0 |
| | 1 — 20% of farmed salmon is reared at lower stocking densities. | 1 |
| | 21 — 40% of farmed salmon is reared at lower stocking densities. | 2 |
| | 41 — 60% of farmed salmon is reared at lower stocking densities. | 3 |
| | 61 — 80% of farmed salmon is reared at lower stocking densities. | 5 |
| | 81 — 98% of farmed salmon is reared at lower stocking densities. | 7 |
| | 99 — 100% of farmed salmon is reared at lower stocking densities. | 10 |
| | (Max Score 10) | |
| Explanatory Notes | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> This question is only assessed for those companies that produce, use or sell farmed salmon or farmed salmon-based products. This question is looking specifically for reporting on the proportion of farmed salmon in the company's global supply chain that is reared at lower stocking densities (specifically, 10kg/m³ or less). Scores are not awarded for companies that report average stocking densities for salmon. Points are only awarded if the company is explicit about the proportion of farmed salmon affected. Companies that report on the total number of farmed salmon affected but do not put this number into context of the total number of farmed salmon used or processed globally, (i.e. the scope of reported figures is unclear) are awarded minimal points. Companies that report on the proportion of farmed salmon that is reared at lower stocking densities but limited their reporting to specified products and/or geographies are either awarded the equivalent of 1 or 2 points, depending on whether the scope of this partial reporting is substantial or not. Scores are not awarded for companies that report on the proportion of farmed salmon managed according to particular farm assurance standards but do not explicitly report on the proportion of farmed salmon that is reared at lower stocking densities in line with these standards. Companies that make general statements about "Our farmed salmon" or "All farmed salmon" being reared at lower stocking densities are not awarded points unless there is explicit reporting on the proportion of farmed salmon that is reared at lower stocking densities (e.g. with statements such as: 'xx% of our farmed salmon ...'). We expect companies to report impact figures in an easy-to-understand format and description of the proportion of the supply chain represented, without having to do any calculations. | |

| | Farm Animal Welfare Performance Impact | |
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| | Farmed Salmon | |
| Question 46. | What proportion of farmed salmon (for fresh/frozen salmon products and ingredients) in the company's global supply chain is free from fasting lasting longer than 72 hours? | |
| Rationale | Companies should report on the proportion of farmed salmon that is free from fasting lasting longer than 72 hours. For retailers and wholesalers and restaurants and bars, this question applies to all own-brand products. | |
| Scoring | 0% of farmed salmon is free from fasting lasting longer than 72 hours, or no reported information. | 0 |
| | 1 — 20% of farmed salmon is free from fasting lasting longer than 72 hours. | 1 |
| | 21 — 40% of farmed salmon is free from fasting lasting longer than 72 hours. | 2 |
| | 41 — 60% of farmed salmon is free from fasting lasting longer than 72 hours. | 3 |
| | 61 — 80% of farmed salmon is free from fasting lasting longer than 72 hours. | 5 |
| | 81 — 98% of farmed salmon is free from fasting lasting longer than 72 hours. | 7 |
| | 99 — 100% of farmed salmon is free from fasting lasting longer than 72 hours. | 10 |
| | (Max Score 10) | |
| Explanatory Notes | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • This question is only assessed for those companies that produce, use or sell farmed salmon or products containing farmed salmon. • This question is looking specifically for reporting on the proportion of farmed salmon in the company's global supply chain that is free from fasting lasting longer than 72 hours. • Points are only awarded if the company is explicit about the proportion of farmed salmon affected. Companies that reported on the total number of farmed salmon affected but do not put this number into context of the total number of farmed salmon used or processed globally, (i.e. the scope of reported figures is unclear) are awarded minimal points. • Companies that report on the proportion of farmed salmon that is free from fasting lasting longer than 72 hours but limited their reporting to specified products and/or geographies are either awarded the equivalent of 1 or 2 points, depending on whether the scope of this partial reporting is substantial or not. • Scores are not awarded for companies that report on the proportion of farmed salmon managed according to particular farm assurance standards but do not explicitly report on the proportion of farmed salmon that is free from fasting lasting longer than 72 hours in line with these standards. • Companies that make general statements about "Our farmed salmon" or "All farmed salmon" being free from fasting lasting longer than 72 hours are not awarded points unless there is explicit reporting on the proportion of farmed salmon that is free from fasting lasting longer than 72 hours (e.g. with statements such as: 'xx% of our farmed salmon ...'). • We expect companies to report impact figures in an easy-to-understand format and with a description of the proportion of the supply chain represented by the data, without relying on the assessor to make the calculations. | |

| | Farm Animal Welfare Performance Impact | |
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| | Farmed Salmon | |
| Question 47. | What proportion of farmed salmon (for fresh/frozen salmon products and ingredients) in the company's global supply chain is stun-killed using percussion or electrocution or is pre-slaughter stunned using effective percussion or electrocution followed up by a kill method before recovery of consciousness? | |
| Rationale | Companies should report on the proportion of farmed salmon that is stun-killed using percussion or electrocution or is pre-slaughter stunned using effective percussion or electrocution followed up by a kill method before recovery of consciousness. For retailers and wholesalers and restaurants and bars, this question applies to all own-brand products. | |
| Scoring | 0% of farmed salmon is effectively stunned and killed, or no reported information. | 0 |
| | 1 — 20% of farmed salmon is effectively stunned and killed. | 1 |
| | 21 — 40% of farmed salmon is effectively stunned and killed. | 2 |
| | 41 — 60% of farmed salmon is effectively stunned and killed. | 3 |
| | 61 — 80% of farmed salmon is effectively stunned and killed. | 5 |
| | 81 — 98% of farmed salmon is effectively stunned and killed. | 7 |
| | 99 — 100% of farmed salmon is effectively stunned and killed. | 10 |
| | (Max Score 10) | |
| Explanatory Notes | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • This question is only assessed for those companies that produce, use or sell farmed salmon or products containing farmed salmon. • This question is looking specifically for reporting on the proportion of farmed salmon in the company's global supply chain that is stun-killed using percussion or electrocution or is pre-slaughter stunned using effective percussion or electrocution followed up by a kill method before recovery of consciousness. • Points are only awarded if the company is explicit about the proportion of farmed salmon affected. Companies that reported on the total number of farmed salmon affected but do not put this number into context of the total number of farmed salmon used or processed globally, (i.e. the scope of reported figures is unclear) are awarded minimal points. • Companies that report on the proportion of farmed salmon that is effectively stunned and killed but limited their reporting to specified products and/or geographies are either awarded the equivalent of 1 or 2 points, depending on whether the scope of this partial reporting is substantial or not. • Scores are not awarded for companies that report on the proportion of farmed salmon managed according to particular farm assurance standards but do not explicitly report on the proportion of farmed salmon that is effectively stunned and killed in line with these standards. • Companies that make general statements about "Our farmed salmon" or "All farmed salmon" being effectively stunned and killed are not awarded points unless there is explicit reporting on the proportion of farmed salmon that is effectively stunned and killed (e.g. with statements such as: 'xx% of our farmed salmon ...'). • We expect companies to report impact figures in an easy-to-understand format and with a description of the proportion of the supply chain represented by the data, without relying on the assessor to make the calculations. | |

| | Farm Animal Welfare Performance Impact | |
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| | All Species | |
| Question 48. | What proportion of animals (excluding fin fish) in the company's global supply chain is transported within specified maximum journey times? | |
| Rationale | Companies should report on the proportion of animals that is transported within specified maximum journey times. When being transported, animals can experience hunger, thirst, discomfort, pain, frustration, fear and distress, as well as physical welfare problems including injury, disease, and, in the worst cases, death. For these reasons, transport of live animals should be minimised wherever possible and journeys should be kept as short as possible; less than 4 hours for poultry and rabbits, and less than 8 hours for other species. Transport of animals exceeding these limits, including loading and unloading, has been shown to decrease welfare significantly. For all companies, this question applies to all products (own-brand and other). | |
| Scoring | 0% of animals is transported within specified maximum journey times, or no reported information. | 0 |
| | 1 — 20% of animals is transported within specified maximum journey times. | 1 |
| | 21 — 40% of animals is transported within specified maximum journey times. | 2 |
| | 41 — 60% of animals is transported within specified maximum journey times. | 3 |
| | 61 — 80% of animals is transported within specified maximum journey times. | 5 |
| | 81 — 98% of animals is transported within specified maximum journey times. | 7 |
| | 99 — 100% of animals is transported within specified maximum journey times. | 10 |
| | (Max Score 10) | |
| Explanatory Notes | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • This question is assessed for all companies. • This question is looking specifically for reporting on the proportion of animals in the company's global supply chain that are transported within specified maximum journey times. • Companies are expected to include transport by sea within their reporting on transport times. We encourage companies to clearly state whether sea transport is included in their reporting, or clearly state that they do not transport animals by sea. • Points are only awarded if the company is explicit about the proportion of animals affected. Companies that reported on the total number of animals affected but do not put this number into context of the total number of animals used or processed globally (i.e. the scope of reported figures is unclear) are awarded minimal points. Companies that report on the proportion of animals that is transported within specified maximum journey times but limited their reporting to specified products and/or geographies are either awarded the equivalent of 1 or 2 points, depending on whether the scope of this partial reporting is substantial or not. • Scores are not awarded for companies that report on the proportion of animals managed according to particular farm assurance standards but do not explicitly report on the proportion of animals that is transported within specified maximum journey times in line with these standards. • Companies that make general statements about "Our animals" or "All animals" are not awarded points unless there is explicit reporting on the proportion of animals that is transported within specified maximum journey times (e.g. with statements such as: 'xx% of our animals...'). • We expect companies to report impact figures in an easy-to-understand format and with a description of the proportion of the supply chain represented by the data, without relying on the assessor to make the calculations. | |

| | Farm Animal Welfare Performance Impact | |
|-------------------|-------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|----|
| | All Species | |
| Question 49. | What proportion of animals (including fin fish) in the company's global supply chain is pre-slaughter stunned? | |
| Rationale | Companies should report on the proportion of animals that is pre-slaughter stunned. It is essential to render an animal unconscious (through for example captive bolt and stun-to-kill methods including electrical stunning, gas stunning) before the animal is slaughtered in order for it to be insensible to pain, discomfort and stress, until death occurs. For all companies, this question applies to all products (own-brand and other). | |
| Scoring | 0% of products is from animals that have been pre-slaughter stunned, or no reported information. | 0 |
| | 1 — 20% of products is from animals that have been pre-slaughter stunned. | 1 |
| | 21 — 40% of products is from animals that have been pre-slaughter stunned. | 2 |
| | 41 — 60% of products is from animals that have been pre-slaughter stunned. | 3 |
| | 61 — 80% of products is from animals that have been pre-slaughter stunned. | 5 |
| | 81 — 98% of products is from animals that have been pre-slaughter stunned. | 7 |
| | 99 — 100% of products is from animals that have been pre-slaughter stunned. | 10 |
| | (Max Score 10) | |
| Explanatory Notes | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • This question is assessed for all companies. • This question is looking specifically for reporting on the proportion of animals in the company's global supply chain that had been pre-slaughter stunned. • Points are only awarded if the company is explicit about the proportion of animals affected. Companies that reported on the total number of animals affected but do not put this number into context of the total number of animals used or processed globally (i.e. the scope of reported figures is unclear) are awarded minimal points. • Companies that report on the proportion of animals that is pre-slaughter stunned but limited their reporting to specified products and/or geographies are either awarded the equivalent of 1 or 2 points, depending on whether the scope of this partial reporting is substantial or not. • Scores are not awarded for companies that reported on the proportion of animals managed according to particular farm assurance standards but do not explicitly report on the proportion of animals that is pre-slaughter stunned in line with these standards. • Companies that make general statements about "Our animals" or "All animals" being pre-slaughter stunned are not awarded points unless there is explicit reporting on the proportion of animals that have been pre-slaughter stunned (e.g. with statements such as: 'xx% of our animals...'). • We expect companies to report impact figures in an easy-to-understand format and with a description of the proportion of the supply chain represented by the data, without relying on the assessor to make the calculations. | |

| | Farm Animal Welfare Performance Impact | |
|-------------------|---------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|----|
| | All Species | |
| Question 50. | Does the company report on volumes of animal-sourced foods by type (meat, dairy, fish, eggs) and/or by method of production? | |
| Rationale | Companies are expected to publish volumes of animal-sourced foods by type and/or by method of production, increasing transparency of the extent to which the company is reliant on animal-sourced foods and supporting higher welfare production. Volumes may be reported as numbers of animals. | |
| Scoring | No reporting on volumes of animal-sourced foods by type (meat, dairy, fish, eggs) and/or by method of production. | 0 |
| | The company reports on volumes of animal-sourced foods by type (meat, dairy, fish, eggs) and/or by method of production, but this reporting is limited to certain geographies, species or products. | 5 |
| | The company reports fully on volumes of animal-sourced foods by type (meat, dairy, fish, eggs) and/or by method of production, covering all relevant geographies, species and products. | 10 |
| | (Max Score 10) | |
| Explanatory Notes | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • This question is looking specifically for reporting on the volumes of animal-sourced foods by type (meat, dairy, fish, eggs) and/or by method of production in the company's supply chain. • Reporting should reflect volumes, by weight, of product sold (for companies in the Retailers and Wholesalers, and Restaurants and Bars sub-sectors) or produced (for companies in the Producers and Manufacturers sub-sector). Alternatively, numbers of animals may be reported. Companies can report volumes in the context of overall volumes, i.e., to demonstrate a relative change in volume. Scores are not awarded for companies that report on proportions of animal sourced foods vs. other proteins. • Volumes of different forms of meat, dairy, fish or eggs may be reported separately or combined. For example, one combined volume of meat may be reported for pork, beef and poultry. However, this question is looking for volumes of each category (meat, dairy, fish and eggs) to be reported separately. • For maximum points, the question is looking for reporting that covers all relevant geographies, species and products, and encompasses all products containing meat, dairy, fish or eggs as ingredients. | |

| Animal-Sourced Foods Performance Reporting | | |
|--------------------------------------------|----------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|----|
| Question 51. | Does the company report on progress towards its targets for reducing reliance on animal-sourced foods? | |
| Rationale | In addition to having clear policy commitments and management practices, companies are expected to develop reporting criteria and publish details of progress made against targets set for reducing reliance on animal-sourced foods. | |
| Scoring | No reporting on progress towards targets for reducing reliance on animal-sourced foods. | 0 |
| | The company reports on progress towards targets for reducing reliance on animal-sourced foods, but this reporting is limited to certain geographies or business divisions. | 5 |
| | The company reports fully on progress towards targets for reducing reliance on animal-sourced foods, covering all relevant geographies and business divisions. | 10 |
| | (Max Score 10) | |
| Explanatory Notes | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • This question is only scored if Question 28 is met fully or partially. • This question recognises reducing reliance on animal-sourced foods may be achieved in multiple ways, including direct action on reduction (e.g., waste reduction, better utilisation, changes to business focus) or through protein diversification (e.g., new product development, reformulation). • Reporting on targets explicitly focused on efforts to decrease volumes or proportions of animal sourced foods will be eligible for maximum points (10 points), whereas reporting on targets which imply reductions in animal sourced foods (e.g. focused on increasing the proportion of alternative proteins menu items) will be eligible for partial points (5 points). • This question is looking specifically for explicit monitoring data, this can be quantitative (e.g., reporting on the proportion by which the company has reduced its sales of animal-sourced foods, or the proportion by which the company has increased its sales of alternative proteins). | |

Credits

Photography

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[Lightpoet](#)

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