

BBFAW

Business Benchmark on
Farm Animal Welfare

The Business Benchmark on Farm Animal Welfare Methodology Report 2025

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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, managed by Chronos Sustainability, conducts independent assessments of companies covered by the BBFAW and engages with companies on their preliminary assessments. The BBFAW Secretariat also 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.bbfa.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 the Supermarket Survey, 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



Animal Welfare.
Worldwide.

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' campaigns and projects focus on farm animals, companion animals and wild animals kept in inappropriate conditions or in disaster and conflict zones. To reduce the number of farm animals and therefore animal suffering, a transformation of the agricultural system is needed. 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 to improve welfare. FOUR PAWS is committed to improving the living conditions of billions of farm animals 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. 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 campaigns to hold the food and textile industries to account. FOUR PAWS highlights the benefits of the reduction of the number of farmed animals and transition to high welfare production systems for public health and the environment.

With offices in Australia, Austria, Belgium, Bulgaria, Cambodia, France, Germany, Kosovo, the Netherlands, Switzerland, South Africa, Thailand, Ukraine, the UK, the USA and Vietnam as well as 13 wild animal sanctuaries and cooperation projects across the globe, 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:
www.four-paws.org/campaigns-topics/topics/farm-animals

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About the Business Benchmark on Farm Animal Welfare



About the Business Benchmark on Farm Animal Welfare

The 2025 Business Benchmark on Farm Animal Welfare (BBFAW) Report,¹ published in May 2026, provides an independent assessment of how 149 of the world's largest food companies are managing and reporting on farm animal welfare.

This Methodology Report, which accompanies the 2025 BBFAW Report¹, provides an overview of the structure of the Benchmark, the assessment approach, the assessment criteria and the companies covered by the Benchmark. It also describes the changes to the methodology since the BBFAW 2024 company assessments.

Why benchmark food companies?

Farm animal welfare is an important issue for companies across the food sector, including retailers and wholesalers, producers and manufacturers, and restaurants and bars. Focus on the topic is driven by a range of factors, including regulation, consumer concern, pressure from animal welfare organisations, investor interest, and the brand and market opportunities for companies that adopt higher farm animal welfare standards.

Further, evolving consumer attitudes to animal-sourced foods, coupled with the need to create a more sustainable food system, places an expectation on companies to play an active part in the transition towards a food system with reduced reliance on animal sourced foods. Corporate action is essential to create a sustainable food system that supports the basic principles of food nutrition, planetary health, human well-being, and animal health and welfare.

Programme objectives

BBFAW is designed to help drive the transition towards higher standards of farm animal welfare and reduced reliance on animal sourced foods in the world's leading food businesses. Its aims are:

- To provide investors with the information they need to understand the business implications of farm animal welfare for the companies in which they are invested.
- To provide investors, governments, academics, NGOs, consumers and other stakeholders with an independent, impartial and reliable assessment of individual company efforts to adopt higher farm animal welfare policies and practices.
- To provide guidance to companies interested in improving their management and reporting on farm animal welfare issues.

The key tool for the delivery of these objectives is an annual benchmark of food companies' approach to farm animal welfare ('the Benchmark'). The Benchmark enables investors, companies, NGOs and other stakeholders to understand and track corporate policies and performance on farm animal welfare.

BBFAW also has an extensive programme of engagement with investors and companies. This engagement encourages investors to pay more attention to farm animal welfare in their investment processes and in their company dialogue, and encourages companies to improve their practices, performance and reporting on farm animal welfare.



Governance

The programme is supported by Compassion in World Farming and FOUR PAWS, who provide technical expertise, guidance, funding and practical resources.

The BBFAW Steering Committee, comprising senior members from each of the supporting partners, oversees the BBFAW programme's strategic development and budget.

The programme is managed by an independent Secretariat, provided by Chronos Sustainability Ltd. In this role, Chronos Sustainability is responsible for providing the Executive Director and the other resources necessary to deliver the annual Benchmark, to conduct the company research and evaluations, and to engage with investors, companies and other stakeholders.

The development of the Benchmark is overseen by a Technical Working Group (TWG) comprising the BBFAW Secretariat and representatives of each of the founding partners. The members of the TWG for the 2025 benchmarking process were:

- **Nicky Amos, Executive Director, BBFAW**
- **Dr Nathan Rhys Williams MRCVS, Head of Food and Health, Chronos Sustainability**
- **Catalina Eggers, Programme Manager, Chronos Sustainability**
- **Basia Romanowicz, Senior Programme Manager, Chronos Sustainability**
- **Dr Tracey Jones, Director of Food Business, Compassion in World Farming**
- **Louise Valducci, Head of Food Business (EU Programme), Compassion in World Farming**
- **Amélie Legrand, Global Head of Research (Food Business), Compassion in World Farming**
- **Laurence Dungworth, Animal Welfare Issues Senior Specialist - Animals Farmed in Inappropriate Conditions, FOUR PAWS**
- **Katharina Heidbuechel, Animal Welfare Issues Specialist, FOUR PAWS**
- **Katharina Wachter, Project Coordinator Nutrition, FOUR PAWS**



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The Structure of the Benchmark



The Structure of the Benchmark

Farm Animal Welfare Policy Commitments

The 2025 Benchmark assessed 149 companies² across 51 distinct criteria.

The Benchmark covers five areas as follows:

1

Farm Animal Welfare Policy Commitments

Description of the company's policies on farm animal welfare, including specific commitments on critical animal welfare issues (e.g. ending the use of close confinement, providing effective environmental enrichment, using humane methods of pre-slaughter stunning, ending the culling of day-old male chicks in egg supply chains).

2

Farm Animal Welfare Governance and Management

Board and senior management oversight of farm animal welfare strategy, internal processes, describing and reporting on welfare outcome measures, the adoption of assurance standards and communication to customers on higher animal welfare.

3

Farm Animal Welfare Targets

Time-bound targets for species-specific animal welfare improvements, covering laying hens, broiler chickens, pigs and dairy cows.

4

Farm Animal Welfare Performance Impact

Species-specific performance reporting on laying hens, broiler chickens, pigs, dairy cattle, beef cattle and salmon, plus performance reporting on maximum transport times and pre-slaughter stunning across all species.

5

Reducing Reliance on Animal-Sourced Foods

Acknowledgement of the need to reduce reliance on animal-sourced foods, presence of an overarching policy, board/senior management and operational responsibility, customer communications, time-bound targets and associated progress reporting.

Weightings

The Benchmark criteria cover five core pillars with points allocated to each pillar. In total, the Benchmark comprises 51 questions.

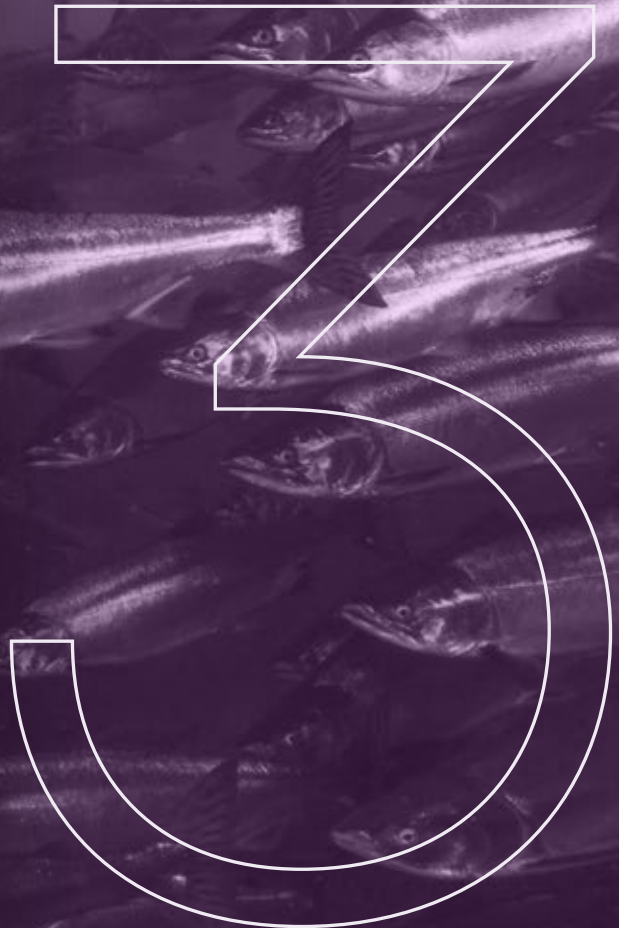
Table 1
The Pillar weighting of the 2025 Benchmark

Pillar	2025 Weighting
Farm Animal Welfare Policy Commitments	15%
Farm Animal Welfare Governance and Management	14%
Farm Animal Welfare Targets	7%
Farm Animal Welfare Performance Impact	55%
Reducing Reliance on Animal-Sourced Foods	9%



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The Assessment Approach



The Assessment Approach

Focus on the corporate entity

The focus of the evaluation was the corporate entity (i.e. the parent company) rather than subsidiaries. This reflects the aim of the Benchmark to assess how each group entity manages farm animal welfare issues. However, the Benchmark did give credit for processes (e.g. policy commitments on farm animal welfare) of subsidiaries by awarding partial points.

Reliance on published information and current information (within the last 2 years)

Each company was assessed on the information that was publicly available at the time of its assessment (company assessments were conducted in October and November 2025). Further, the companies were assessed on current information published within the last two years. The information reviewed for each company included formal reports (e.g. annual reports, corporate responsibility reports), the company's corporate and consumer websites, and documents such as press releases and frequently asked questions. We also conducted reviews of the websites of company subsidiaries and brands, and, where relevant, postings on social media (but only if signposted from company's corporate websites). We did not assess information in the public domain that was not published by the company.

Company assessments were based entirely on information published at the time of the assessments. The reasons for relying on published information are to:

- Encourage better disclosure, which is a core objective of the BBFAW.
- Ensure that companies are assessed in a consistent manner (i.e. via an unbiased, objective evaluation of published information).
- Avoid any suggestion that companies working with BBFAW Partner organisations are advantaged by the assessment methodology.



Focus on farm animal welfare and reducing reliance on animal sourced foods specifically, not general corporate responsibility and sustainability reporting

The focus of the Benchmark was on farm animal welfare and reducing reliance on animal sourced foods rather than on corporate responsibility or sustainability. We, therefore, did not give credit for general corporate responsibility or sustainability disclosures unless the company explicitly linked these to farm animal welfare/reducing reliance on animal sourced foods and/or it was clear that farm animal welfare or reducing reliance on animal sourced foods was an integral part of the company's CSR/sustainability management system.

Quality assurance and company review processes

The BBFAW ensures consistency and fairness in the assessment process through quality control. This process was overseen by Dr Nathan Rhys Williams and the assessment team leader, Catalina Eggers. It ensures the factual accuracy of the assessments, the correct and consistent application of the criteria and ensures that biases were not being introduced into the assessments.

The quality control process included the following aspects:

- Annual training of all assessors on the BBFAW methodology and research process and on annual changes in its methodology.
- Training of new assessors involved completion of two company assessments followed by individual review of the results.
- All initial company assessments were reviewed by an experienced member of the assessment team and any inconsistencies were corrected.
- BBFAW Secretariat checks were carried out to ensure updated criteria were applied across all company assessments. They also ensured that assessments were not penalising or favouring specific business models (for example, complex versus simple supply chains, principal business operations within Europe versus operations mainly outside of Europe, and multiple brands versus fewer brands).
- Initial company assessments were reviewed by members of the BBFAW Partner organisations to further check the factual accuracy and to ensure consistency of the assessment methodology.



Companies were granted access to their preliminary company assessment reports with interim findings and scores in January 2026. This provided an opportunity for companies to respond with written comments, highlight overlooked evidence and/or request further dialogue on the assessment approach and scoring. Sixty-eight of the 149 companies reviewed their preliminary assessments.

Company scores were revised only in situations where there had been misinterpretations or inconsistencies in the assessment process, either because of incorrect scores being awarded or because information that was in the public domain at the time of the assessment had been overlooked or misinterpreted.

The final confidential company reports, showing individual scores and comments for each question, as well as overall company scores and comparable sector scores, were made available to the companies in March 2026.

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The 2025 Assessment Criteria



The 2025 Assessment Criteria

The 2025 assessment criteria are presented in full in the Appendix. Each question is supported by a rationale, the scoring framework and explanatory notes on how the assessment was conducted.

Notes on the scoring framework:

- For a few questions the scoring was binary, but for the majority, the scoring was granular, allowing for criteria that are partially met to be acknowledged (for example, where evidence is limited to a particular geography, species or product).
- Certain questions affected the scoring of subsequent questions. For example, Question 3 was scored only if points had been awarded for Question 2, and Questions 14, 15, 22, 23, 29 and 51 were scored only if points had been awarded for Question 13.
- Questions 10, 11, 12, 24-28 and 30-47 were species-specific, and were only asked and incorporated into scores if the species was relevant to the company.



Changes to the 2025 Criteria

No significant changes were made to the BBFAW 2025 Benchmark criteria. One new question was introduced in 2024 and the points awarded from this question were included in companies' overall scores for the first time in 2025. Minor changes were made to seven other questions, with these planned changes highlighted in the BBFAW 2025 Assessment Criteria Document.³ The changes are described below.

A thorough review of the Benchmark criteria was conducted in 2022 and was followed by a pilot assessment of the 150 companies (BBFAW 2022 Benchmark Pilot), the results of which were shared with the companies but not made publicly available. The BBFAW 2025 Benchmark therefore represents the third year of published results using the revised Benchmark criteria.

Q4 Does the company have a clear commitment to ending the use of close confinement for all species?

A clarification was added to the explanatory notes to make it clear that statements on ending the use of cages for broiler chickens are not awarded points, unless the company makes clear that chicken is sourced from a region where these systems are in use (e.g., Asia).



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

In 2024, a new question was introduced assessing companies' commitments to ending the use of breeds with low welfare potential, covering broiler chickens, pigs and beef cattle. This question was applicable to 142 companies with these species in their supply chains. As per the usual protocol when introducing new questions to the criteria, this question was assessed in the 2024 Benchmark, but the scores were included in companies' overall scores for the first time in the 2025 Benchmark.

Specific requirements for the species covered by this question were:

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.



Q18b Does the company describe how it implements its farm animal welfare policy (or equivalent) through its supply chain via monitoring and auditing?

The following clarification was added to the explanatory notes for this question: “On auditing, companies are expected to explain how they monitor or audit their farm animal welfare policy requirements through their supply chain. Simply stating compliance with a farm assurance standard or evidence of the use of third-party assurance schemes that include welfare requirements is not sufficient in itself to be awarded points for this question. Whilst third-party assurance schemes may feature as part of a company’s approach to monitoring and auditing its supply chain, in order to receive points for this question, companies are required to clearly state this is the case or evidence it through, e.g., stating which of the company’s animal welfare requirements are assessed by the assurance schemes.”

Q27 Does the company publish a clear target for ending the use of farrowing crates for sows, or provide evidence this has already been achieved?

And

Q37 What proportion of sows (for fresh/frozen pork products and ingredients) in the company’s global supply chain is free from farrowing crates?

These two questions were amended to encourage companies to provide greater transparency on the duration of confinement that sows in their supply chains are subjected to at farrowing. The following description was added to the explanatory notes of these two questions: “In order to continue to receive points from the 2026 assessments onwards, companies will be required to provide make clear whether sows are subject to any close confinement in the alternative farrowing systems used. Specifically, we are looking for companies to make clear whether temporary crating is used and, if so, specify the duration of such confinement. Companies not reporting clearly on temporary crating practices will be provided a warning in the 2025 assessments that they will need to amend their reporting in order to continue to receive points in the 2026 assessment.”

Q31 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 and tipping?

The intention of this question is to assess companies' reporting on the proportion of laying hens free from both beak trimming and tipping, given that a single animal cannot be subject to both procedures. The question wording and explanatory notes were amended to state that, in order to receive maximum points, companies must report on the proportion of laying hens free from both practices. Companies reporting on the proportion of animals free from beak trimming or tipping were awarded partial points.

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 and dehorning?

And

Q44 What proportion of beef cattle (for fresh/frozen beef products and ingredients) in the company's global supply chain is free from disbudding and dehorning?

The question wording and explanatory notes were amended to state that, in order to receive maximum points, companies must report on the proportion of dairy cows (Q41) and the proportion of beef cattle (Q42) free from both disbudding and dehorning

Clarifications to the Criteria

In this section we highlight aspects of the 2025 criteria to clarify how scoring decisions were made with a view to align assessments across assessors and to enhance transparency, or to highlight questions that were raised by companies in the company feedback process.

Q29 Has the company set time-bound targets for reducing reliance on animal-sourced foods?

And

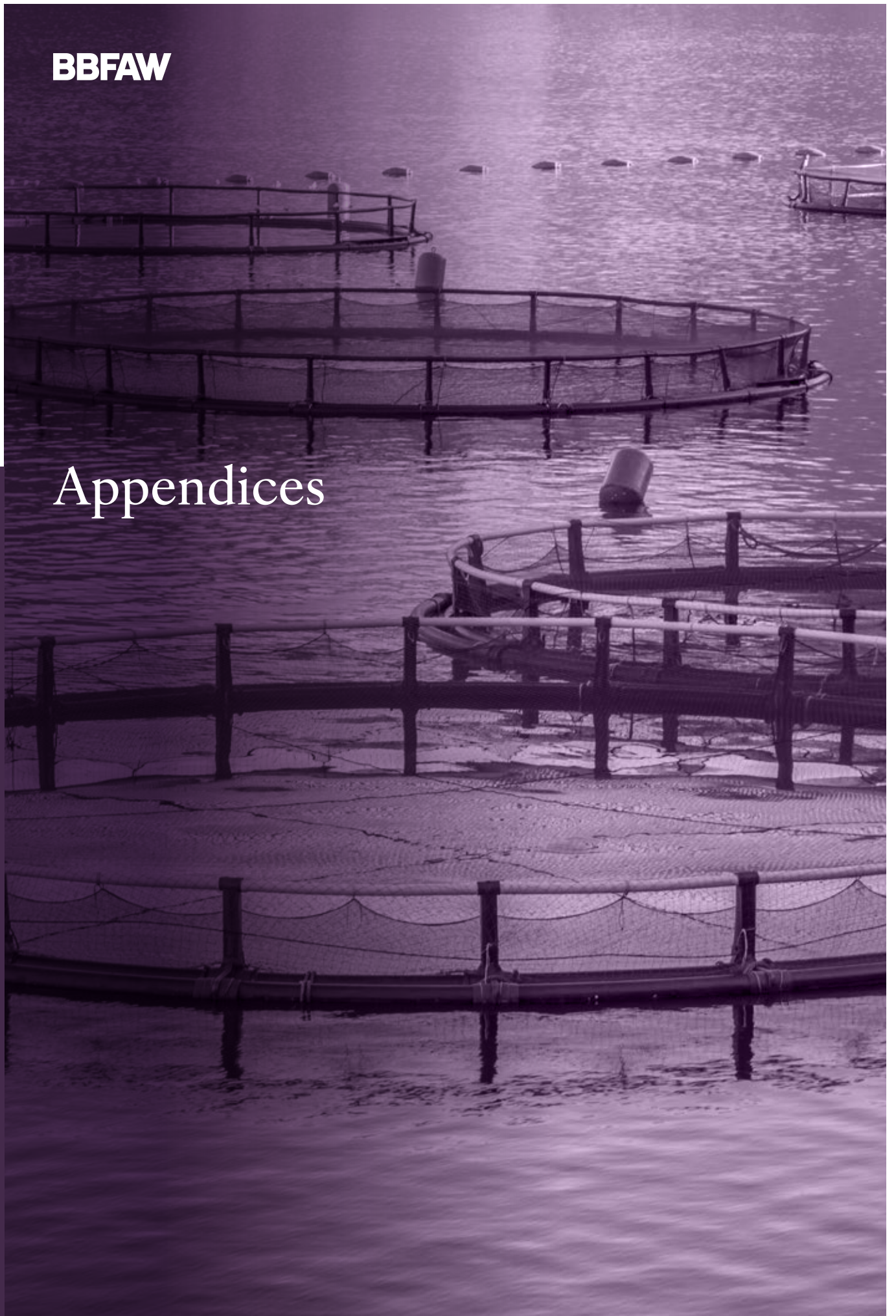
Q51 Does the company report on progress towards its targets for reducing reliance on animal-sourced foods?

This question is looking for evidence of explicit, time-bound targets for reducing reliance on animal-sourced foods within a reasonable timeframe. The explanatory notes state that “Targets explicitly focused on efforts to decrease volumes or proportions of animal sourced foods will be eligible for maximum points” while “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.”

Companies have been awarded partial points for setting targets for increasing sales/volumes of plant-based products. While such targets do not automatically result in a reduction in animal-sourced products, we acknowledge that setting volume/sales targets can be a realistic starting point for companies and should be recognised as a meaningful indication of progress. We therefore intend to amend the explanatory notes to make clear the criteria award points for targets for increasing volumes or sales of plant-based foods, and, for companies awarded points on this basis, to add a statement to the assessment encouraging companies to clarify whether these targets will result in a reduction in animal-sourced products.

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Appendices



2025 Company List

	Company	ICB classification	Ownership	Country of origin / incorporation	Laying Hens	Broiler Chickens	Pigs	Dairy cows	Beef Cattle	Farmed Salmon	Ducks or Geese
1	(The) Kroger Company	5337: Food Retailers and Wholesalers	Public	USA	•	•	•	•	•	•	•
2	2 Sisters Food Group (Boparan Holdings Ltd)	3570: Food Producer	Private	UK	•	•	•	•	•	•	
3	Aeon Group	5337: Food Retailers and Wholesalers	Public	Japan	•	•	•	•	•	•	•
4	Agro Super	3570: Food Producer	Public	Chile	•	•	•	•	•	•	
5	Ahold Delhaize	5337: Food Retailers and Wholesalers	Public	Netherlands	•	•	•	•	•	•	•
6	Albertsons	5337: Food Retailers and Wholesalers	Private	USA	•	•	•	•	•	•	•
7	ALDI Einkauf SE & Co. oHG (ALDI Nord)	5337: Food Retailers and Wholesalers	Private	Germany	•	•	•	•	•	•	•
8	ALDI Süd/ALDI Einkauf SE & Co. OHG	5337: Food Retailers and Wholesalers	Private	Germany	•	•	•	•	•	•	•
9	Alimentation Couche-Tard	5337: Food Retailers and Wholesalers	Public	Canada	•	•	•	•	•	•	•
10	Amazon/Whole Foods Market	5337: Food Retailers and Wholesalers	Public	USA	•	•	•	•	•	•	•
11	Aramark Corporation	5757: Restaurants and Bars	Public	USA	•	•	•	•	•	•	•
12	Arla Foods Ltd	3570: Food Producer	Cooperative	Denmark				•			
13	Asda (Bellis Topco Ltd.)	5337: Food Retailers and Wholesalers	Private	United Kingdom	•	•	•	•	•	•	•
14	Avolta AG	5757: Restaurants and Bars	Public	Switzerland	•	•	•	•	•	•	•
15	Barilla SpA	3570: Food Producer	Private	Italy	•	•	•	•	•		
16	Beijing Dabeinong Technology Group Co., Ltd.	3570: Food Producer	Private	China			•	•			
17	Bimbo	3570: Food Producer	Public	Mexico	•			•			
18	BJ's Wholesale Club Holdings	5337: Food Retailers and Wholesalers	Public	USA	•	•	•	•	•	•	•
19	Bloomin' Brands Inc	5757: Restaurants and Bars	Public	USA	•	•	•	•	•	•	
20	C&S Wholesale	5337: Food Retailers and Wholesalers	Private	USA	•	•	•	•	•	•	•
21	Campbell Soup Company	3570: Food Producer	Public	USA	•	•	•	•	•		
22	Camst — La Ristorazione Italiana Soc. Coop. ARL	5757: Restaurants and Bars	Cooperative	Italy	•	•	•	•	•	•	
23	Cargill	3570: Food Producer	Private	USA	•	•	•	•	•	•	
24	Carrefour SA	5337: Food Retailers and Wholesalers	Public	France	•	•	•	•	•	•	•
25	Casino Guichard-Perrachon SA	5337: Food Retailers and Wholesalers	Public	France	•	•	•	•	•	•	•
26	Cencosud	5337: Food Retailers and Wholesalers	Public	Chile	•	•	•	•	•	•	•
27	Charoen Pokphand Foods	3570: Food Producer	Private	Thailand	•	•	•	•	•	•	•
28	Chick-fil-A	5757: Restaurants and Bars	Private	USA	•	•	•	•	•		
29	China Resources Vanguard	5337: Food Retailers and Wholesalers	Public	China	•	•	•	•	•	•	•
30	China Yurun Group Limited	3570: Food Producer	Private	China		•	•		•		•
31	Chipotle Mexican Grill	5757: Restaurants and Bars	Public	USA	•	•	•	•	•		
32	CKE Restaurants	5757: Restaurants and Bars	Private	USA	•	•	•	•	•		
33	Coles Group	5337: Food Retailers and Wholesalers	Public	Australia	•	•	•	•	•	•	•
34	Colruyt	5337: Food Retailers and Wholesalers	Private	Belgium	•	•	•	•	•	•	•
35	Compass Group PLC	5757: Restaurants and Bars	Public	UK	•	•	•	•	•	•	•
36	Conad Consorzio Nazionale	5337: Food Retailers and Wholesalers	Cooperative	Italy	•	•	•	•	•	•	•
37	ConAgra	3570: Food Producer	Public	USA	•	•	•	•	•	•	
38	Cooke Seafood Inc	3570: Food Producer	Private	USA			•			•	
39	Coop Group (Switzerland)/Coop Genossenschaft	5337: Food Retailers and Wholesalers	Cooperative	Switzerland	•	•	•	•	•	•	•
40	Coop Italia	5337: Food Retailers and Wholesalers	Cooperative	Italy	•	•	•	•	•	•	•

Company	ICB classification	Ownership	Country of origin / incorporation	Laying Hens	Broiler Chickens	Pigs	Dairy cows	Beef Cattle	Farmed Salmon	Ducks or Geese
41	Co-op UK	5337: Food Retailers and Wholesalers	Cooperative	UK	•	•	•	•	•	•
42	Cooperativa Central Aurora Alimentos	3570: Food Producer	Cooperative	Brazil	•	•	•	•		•
43	Coopérative U Enseigne	5337: Food Retailers and Wholesalers	Cooperative	France	•	•	•	•	•	•
44	Cooperl Arc Atlantique	3570: Food Producer	Public	France	•	•	•	•		
45	Costco Wholesale Corporation	5337: Food Retailers and Wholesalers	Public	USA	•	•	•	•	•	•
46	Cracker Barrel	5757: Restaurants and Bars	Public	USA	•	•	•	•		
47	Cranswick PLC	3570: Food Producer	Public	UK	•	•	•	•		•
48	Cremonini SpA	5757: Restaurants and Bars	Private	Italy	•	•	•	•	•	
49	Dairy Farmers of America	3570: Food Producer	Cooperative	USA	•		•			
50	Danish Crown AmbA	3570: Food Producer	Joint Stock	Denmark	•	•	•	•	•	•
51	Darden Restaurants PLC	5757: Restaurants and Bars	Public	USA	•	•	•	•	•	•
52	Dico's/Ting Hsin International Group	5757: Restaurants and Bars	Public	China	•	•	•	•		
53	Dino Polska SA	5337: Food Retailers and Wholesalers	Public	Poland	•	•	•	•	•	•
54	Domino's Pizza Inc	5757: Restaurants and Bars	Public	USA	•	•	•	•	•	
55	E.Leclerc	5337: Food Retailers and Wholesalers	Cooperative	France	•	•	•	•	•	•
56	EDEKA Group	5337: Food Retailers and Wholesalers	Private	Germany	•	•	•	•	•	•
57	Elior Group	5757: Restaurants and Bars	Public	France	•	•	•	•	•	•
58	Elo Group	5337: Food Retailers and Wholesalers	Private	France	•	•	•	•	•	•
59	Empire Company/Sobey's	5337: Food Retailers and Wholesalers	Public	Canada	•	•	•	•	•	•
60	Ferrero Group	3570: Food Producer	Joint Stock	Italy	•		•			
61	Fonterra	3570: Food Producer	Cooperative	New Zealand			•			
62	Gategroup Holding AG	5757: Restaurants and Bars	Public	Switzerland	•	•	•	•	•	•
63	General Mills Inc	3570: Food Producer	Public	USA	•	•	•	•	•	•
64	Greggs PLC	5757: Restaurants and Bars	Public	UK	•	•	•	•		
65	Groupe Danone SA	3570: Food Producer	Public	France	•	•	•	•	•	•
66	Groupe Lactalis	3570: Food Producer	Private	France	•		•			
67	Gruppo Veronesi	3570: Food Producer	Private	Italy	•	•	•	•		
68	H E Butt Company	5337: Food Retailers and Wholesalers	Private	USA	•	•	•	•	•	•
69	Habib's	5757: Restaurants and Bars	Private	Brazil	•	•	•	•		
70	Hershey Co	3570: Food Producer	Public	USA	•		•			
71	Hilton Food Group	3570: Food Producer	Public	UK	•	•	•	•	•	•
72	Hormel Foods Corporation	3570: Food Producer	Public	USA	•	•	•	•	•	
73	ICA Gruppen AB	5337: Food Retailers and Wholesalers	Public	Sweden	•	•	•	•	•	•
74	IKEA (Inter IKEA Group)	5337: Food Retailers and Wholesalers	Private	Sweden	•	•	•	•	•	•
75	Industrias Bachoco	3570: Food Producer	Public	Mexico	•	•	•	•		
76	J Sainsbury PLC	5337: Food Retailers and Wholesalers	Public	UK	•	•	•	•	•	•
77	JAB Holding Company	5757: Restaurants and Bars	Private	Luxembourg	•	•	•	•	•	•
78	JBS SA	3570: Food Producer	Public	Brazil	•	•	•	•	•	
79	JD Wetherspoon PLC	5757: Restaurants and Bars	Public	UK	•	•	•	•	•	
80	Jeronimo Martins	5337: Food Retailers and Wholesalers	Public	Portugal	•	•	•	•	•	•

	Company	ICB classification	Ownership	Country of origin / incorporation	Laying Hens	Broiler Chickens	Pigs	Dairy cows	Beef Cattle	Farmed Salmon	Ducks or Geese
81	Kerry Group	3570: Food Producer	Public	Ireland	•	•	•	•	•		•
82	Kraft Heinz Company	3570: Food Producer	Public	USA	•	•	•	•	•	•	
83	LDC Groupe	3570: Food Producer	Private	France	•	•	•	•	•	•	•
84	Les Mousquetaires	5337: Food Retailers and Wholesalers	Private	France	•	•	•	•	•	•	•
85	Lianhua Supermarket Holdings Co	5337: Food Retailers and Wholesalers	Public	China	•	•	•	•	•	•	•
86	Loblaw Companies Limited	5337: Food Retailers and Wholesalers	Public	Canada	•	•	•	•	•	•	•
87	Maple Leaf Foods	3570: Food Producer	Public	Canada	•	•	•	•	•		
88	Marks & Spencer PLC	5337: Food Retailers and Wholesalers	Public	UK	•	•	•	•	•	•	•
89	Mars Inc	3570: Food Producer	Private	USA	•	•	•	•	•		
90	MBRF	3570: Food Producer	Public	Brazil	•	•	•	•	•		
91	McDonald's Corporation	5757: Restaurants and Bars	Public	USA	•	•	•	•	•	•	
92	Meiji Holdings	3570: Food Producer	Public	Japan	•	•	•	•	•		
93	Mercadona SA	5337: Food Retailers and Wholesalers	Private	Spain	•	•	•	•	•	•	•
94	METRO AG	5337: Food Retailers and Wholesalers	Public	Germany	•	•	•	•	•	•	•
95	Metro Inc	5337: Food Retailers and Wholesalers	Public	Canada	•	•	•	•	•	•	•
96	Migros-Genossenschafts-Bund	5337: Food Retailers and Wholesalers	Cooperative	Switzerland	•	•	•	•	•	•	•
97	Minerva Foods	3570: Food Producer	Public	Brazil	•	•	•	•	•	•	
98	Mitchells & Butlers PLC	5757: Restaurants and Bars	Public	UK	•	•	•	•	•	•	•
99	Mondelēz International	3570: Food Producer	Public	USA	•			•			
100	Mowi ASA	3570: Food Producer	Public	Norway	•		•	•		•	
101	Nestlé SA	3570: Food Producer	Public	Switzerland	•	•	•	•	•	•	
102	New Hope Liuhe Co Ltd	3570: Food Producer	Public	China	•	•	•	•	•		•
103	Nippon Ham	3570: Food Producer	Public	Japan	•	•	•	•	•	•	
104	Noble Foods	3570: Food Producer	Private	UK	•						
105	OSI Group	3570: Food Producer	Private	USA	•	•	•	•	•	•	
106	Papa John's Pizza	5757: Restaurants and Bars	Public	USA	•	•	•	•	•	•	
107	Perdue Farms	3570: Food Producer	Private	USA	•	•	•	•	•	•	
108	Plukon Food Group	3570: Food Producer	Private	Netherlands	•	•	•	•	•	•	
109	Premier Foods PLC	3570: Food Producer	Public	UK	•	•	•	•	•		
110	Premium Food Group	3570: Food Producer	Private	Germany	•	•	•	•	•		
111	Publix Super Markets Inc	5337: Food Retailers and Wholesalers	Private	USA	•	•	•	•	•	•	•
112	Restaurant Brands International	5757: Restaurants and Bars	Public	Canada	•	•	•	•	•	•	•
113	REWE Group	5337: Food Retailers and Wholesalers	Cooperative	Germany	•	•	•	•	•	•	•
114	Roark Capital (Inspire Brands, Subway et al.)	5757: Restaurants and Bars	Private	USA	•	•	•	•	•	•	•
115	Royal FrieslandCampina	3570: Food Producer	Cooperative	Netherlands	•			•			
116	Saputo Inc	3570: Food Producer	Public	Canada	•	•	•	•	•		
117	Schwarz Gruppe	5337: Food Retailers and Wholesalers	Private	Germany	•	•	•	•	•	•	•
118	Seaboard Corp	3570: Food Producer	Public	USA			•				
119	Seven & i Holdings	5337: Food Retailers and Wholesalers	Public	Japan	•	•	•	•	•	•	•
120	Sodexo	5757: Restaurants and Bars	Public	France	•	•	•	•	•	•	•

Company	ICB classification	Ownership	Country of origin / incorporation	Laying Hens	Broiler Chickens	Pigs	Dairy cows	Beef Cattle	Farmed Salmon	Ducks or Geese
121 Spar Holding AG	5337: Food Retailers and Wholesalers	Private	Switzerland	•	•	•	•	•	•	•
122 SSP Group	5757: Restaurants and Bars	Public	UK	•	•	•	•	•	•	•
123 Starbucks Corporation	5757: Restaurants and Bars	Public	USA	•	•	•	•	•		
124 Sysco Corporation	5337: Food Retailers and Wholesalers	Public	USA	•	•	•	•	•	•	•
125 Target Corporation	5337: Food Retailers and Wholesalers	Public	USA	•	•	•	•	•		•
126 Terrena Group	3570: Food Producer	Cooperative	France	•	•	•	•	•		•
127 Tesco PLC	5337: Food Retailers and Wholesalers	Public	UK	•	•	•	•	•	•	•
128 The Cheesecake Factory	5757: Restaurants and Bars	Public	USA	•	•	•	•	•	•	•
129 Tyson Foods Inc	3570: Food Producer	Public	USA	•	•	•	•	•		•
130 Umios (previously Maruha Nichiro)	3570: Food Producer	Public	Japan	•	•	•	•	•	•	
131 UNFI	5337: Food Retailers and Wholesalers	Public	USA	•	•	•	•	•	•	•
132 Unilever NV	3570: Food Producer	Public	Netherlands	•	•	•	•	•		
133 Unternehmensgruppe Theo Müller	3570: Food Producer	Private	Germany	•	•	•	•	•	•	•
134 US Foods	3570: Food Producer	Private	USA	•	•	•	•	•	•	
135 Vion Food	3570: Food Producer	Public	Netherlands	•	•	•	•	•		
136 Waitrose	5337: Food Retailers and Wholesalers	Partnership	UK	•	•	•	•	•	•	•
137 Walmart Inc	5337: Food Retailers and Wholesalers	Public	USA	•	•	•	•	•	•	•
138 Wayne-Sanderson Farms	3570: Food Producer	Public	USA		•		•			
139 Wendy's Company (The)	5757: Restaurants and Bars	Private	USA	•	•	•	•	•		
140 Wens Foodstuff Group	3570: Food Producer	Private	China	•	•	•	•	•	•	•
141 WH Group Ltd	3570: Food Producer	Public	China	•	•	•	•	•		•
142 Whitbread PLC	5757: Restaurants and Bars	Public	UK	•	•	•	•	•	•	•
143 Wm Morrison Supermarkets PLC	5337: Food Retailers and Wholesalers	Public	UK	•	•	•	•	•	•	•
144 Woolworths Limited	5337: Food Retailers and Wholesalers	Public	Australia	•	•	•	•	•	•	•
145 Yili Group	3570: Food Producer	Public	China				•			
146 Yonghui Superstores Co Ltd	5337: Food Retailers and Wholesalers	Public	China	•	•	•	•	•	•	•
147 Yum China Holdings	5757: Restaurants and Bars	Public	China	•	•	•	•	•	•	•
148 Yum! Brands Inc	5757: Restaurants and Bars	Public	USA	•	•	•	•	•		
149 Zhongpin Inc (Huayu Holdings)	3570: Food Producer	Private	China		•	•		•		

2025 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		
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

- 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		
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. • Statements on ending the use of cages for broiler chickens are not suitable for points, unless the company makes clear that chicken is sourced from a region where these systems are in use (e.g., Asia). • 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

- 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.
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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	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.	
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		
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		
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		
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		
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 percussion 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		
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; <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <u>or</u> 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
	Universal across all relevant species, products and 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. 	

Explanatory Notes
Continued

- Partial points may be awarded for commitments limited to certain species covered by this question.
- 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		
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		
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. 	

Reducing Reliance on Animal-Sourced Foods Policy Commitments		
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). 	

Reducing Reliance on Animal-Sourced Foods Policy Commitments		
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. 	

Reducing Reliance on Animal-Sourced Foods Policy Commitments		
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		
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		
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		
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
Continued

- 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 companies report that they audit their suppliers against safety and/or quality standards but, unless it is clear that these audit processes cover farm animal welfare, companies score zero for this sub-question.
- On auditing, companies are expected to explain how they monitor or audit their farm animal welfare policy requirements through their supply chain. Simply stating compliance with a farm assurance standard or evidence of the use of third-party assurance schemes that include welfare requirements is not sufficient in itself to be awarded points for this question. Whilst third-party assurance schemes may feature as part of a company's approach to monitoring and auditing its supply chain, in order to receive points for this question, companies are required to clearly state this is the case or evidence it through, e.g., stating which of the company's animal welfare requirements are assessed by the assurance schemes.
- 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	
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.

	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)	
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). 	

Explanatory Notes
Continued

- 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		
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		
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). 	

Reducing Reliance on Animal-Sourced Foods Governance and Management		
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. 	

Reducing Reliance on Animal-Sourced Foods Governance and Management		
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									
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	<table border="1"> <tr> <td>No stated position.</td> <td>0</td> </tr> <tr> <td>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.</td> <td>5</td> </tr> <tr> <td>The company has published a universal time-bound target, or evidence of achievement, across all relevant own-brand and other brand products and geographies.</td> <td>10</td> </tr> <tr> <td style="text-align: right;">(Max Score 10)</td> <td></td> </tr> </table>	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)	
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		
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		
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		
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. • In order to continue to receive points from the 2026 assessments onwards, companies will be required to provide make clear whether sows are subject to any close confinement in the alternative farrowing systems used. Specifically, we are looking for companies to make clear whether temporary crating is used and, if so, specify the duration of such confinement. Companies not reporting clearly on temporary crating practices will be provided a warning in the 2025 assessments that they will need to amend their reporting in order to continue to receive points in the 2026 assessment. 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		
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. 	

Reducing Reliance on Animal-Sourced Foods Targets		
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																	
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	<table border="1"> <tbody> <tr> <td>0% of laying hens is cage-free, or no reported information.</td> <td>0</td> </tr> <tr> <td>1 — 20% of laying hens is cage-free.</td> <td>1</td> </tr> <tr> <td>21 — 40% of laying hens is cage-free.</td> <td>2</td> </tr> <tr> <td>41 — 60% of laying hens is cage-free.</td> <td>3</td> </tr> <tr> <td>61 — 80% of laying hens is cage-free.</td> <td>5</td> </tr> <tr> <td>81 — 98% of laying hens is cage-free.</td> <td>7</td> </tr> <tr> <td>99 — 100% of laying hens is cage-free.</td> <td>10</td> </tr> <tr> <td colspan="2" style="text-align: right;">(Max Score 10)</td> </tr> </tbody> </table>	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)	
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(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																	
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 and tipping?																
Rationale	Companies should report on the proportion of laying hens that is free from beak trimming and tipping. For retailers and wholesalers and restaurants and bars, this question applies to all own-brand products.																
Scoring	<table border="1"> <tbody> <tr> <td>0% of laying hens is free from beak trimming or tipping, or no reported information.</td> <td>0</td> </tr> <tr> <td>1 — 20% of laying hens is free from beak trimming and tipping.</td> <td>1</td> </tr> <tr> <td>21 — 40% of laying hens is free from beak trimming and tipping.</td> <td>2</td> </tr> <tr> <td>41 — 60% of laying hens is free from beak trimming and tipping.</td> <td>3</td> </tr> <tr> <td>61 — 80% of laying hens is free from beak trimming and tipping.</td> <td>5</td> </tr> <tr> <td>81 — 98% of laying hens is free from beak trimming and tipping.</td> <td>7</td> </tr> <tr> <td>99 — 100% of laying hens is free from beak trimming and tipping.</td> <td>10</td> </tr> <tr> <td colspan="2" style="text-align: right;">(Max Score 10)</td> </tr> </tbody> </table>	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 and tipping.	1	21 — 40% of laying hens is free from beak trimming and tipping.	2	41 — 60% of laying hens is free from beak trimming and tipping.	3	61 — 80% of laying hens is free from beak trimming and tipping.	5	81 — 98% of laying hens is free from beak trimming and tipping.	7	99 — 100% of laying hens is free from beak trimming and tipping.	10	(Max Score 10)	
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(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 both beak trimming and tipping. Partial points are awarded if companies report on the proportion of animals 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 and 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 and tipping in line with these standards. • Companies that make general statements about "Our laying hens" or "All chickens" being free from beak trimming and tipping are not awarded points unless there is explicit reporting on the proportion of laying hens that is free from beak trimming and 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																	
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.																
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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. 																

Farm Animal Welfare Performance Impact																	
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/m ² 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/m ² or 6lbs/sq ft or less). For retailers and wholesalers and restaurants and bars, this question applies to all own-brand products.																
Scoring	<table border="1"> <tbody> <tr> <td>0% of broiler chickens is reared at lower stocking densities, or no reported information.</td> <td>0</td> </tr> <tr> <td>1 — 20% of broiler chickens is reared at lower stocking densities.</td> <td>1</td> </tr> <tr> <td>21 — 40% of broiler chickens is reared at lower stocking densities.</td> <td>2</td> </tr> <tr> <td>41 — 60% of broiler chickens is reared at lower stocking densities.</td> <td>3</td> </tr> <tr> <td>61 — 80% of broiler chickens is reared at lower stocking densities.</td> <td>5</td> </tr> <tr> <td>81 — 98% of broiler chickens is reared at lower stocking densities.</td> <td>7</td> </tr> <tr> <td>99 — 100% of broiler chickens is reared at lower stocking densities.</td> <td>10</td> </tr> <tr> <td colspan="2" style="text-align: right;">(Max Score 10)</td> </tr> </tbody> </table>	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)	
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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. 																

Farm Animal Welfare Performance Impact																	
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	<table border="1"> <tr> <td>0% of products is from breeds with improved welfare outcomes and with a slower growth potential, or no reported information.</td> <td>0</td> </tr> <tr> <td>1 — 20% of broiler chickens is from breeds with improved welfare outcomes and with a slower growth potential.</td> <td>1</td> </tr> <tr> <td>21 — 40% of broiler chickens is from breeds with improved welfare outcomes and with a slower growth potential.</td> <td>2</td> </tr> <tr> <td>41 — 60% of broiler chickens is from breeds with improved welfare outcomes and with a slower growth potential.</td> <td>3</td> </tr> <tr> <td>61 — 80% of broiler chickens is from breeds with improved welfare outcomes and with a slower growth potential.</td> <td>5</td> </tr> <tr> <td>81 — 98% of broiler chickens is from breeds with improved welfare outcomes and with a slower growth potential.</td> <td>7</td> </tr> <tr> <td>99 — 100% of broiler chickens is from breeds with improved welfare outcomes and with a slower growth potential.</td> <td>10</td> </tr> <tr> <td colspan="2" style="text-align: right;">(Max Score 10)</td> </tr> </table>	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)	
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(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. 																

Explanatory Notes
Continued

- 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.

Farm Animal Welfare Performance Impact		
Broiler Chickens		
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. 	

Explanatory Notes
Continued

- 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.
- Companies that make general statements about “Our broiler chickens” or “All broiler chickens” being subject to controlled atmospheric stunning using inert gas or multiphase 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.

Farm Animal Welfare Performance Impact																	
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	<table border="1"> <tbody> <tr> <td>0% of sows is free from gestation crates/sow stalls, or no reported information.</td> <td>0</td> </tr> <tr> <td>1 — 20% of sows is free from gestation crates/sow stalls.</td> <td>1</td> </tr> <tr> <td>21 — 40% of sows is free from gestation crates/sow stalls.</td> <td>2</td> </tr> <tr> <td>41 — 60% of sows is free from gestation crates/sow stalls.</td> <td>3</td> </tr> <tr> <td>61 — 80% of sows is free from gestation crates/sow stalls.</td> <td>5</td> </tr> <tr> <td>81 — 98% of sows is free from gestation crates/sow stalls.</td> <td>7</td> </tr> <tr> <td>99 — 100% of sows is free from gestation crates/sow stalls.</td> <td>10</td> </tr> <tr> <td colspan="2" style="text-align: right;">(Max Score 10)</td> </tr> </tbody> </table>	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)	
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(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. 																

Farm Animal Welfare Performance Impact																	
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.																
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(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. • In order to continue to receive points from the 2026 assessments onwards, companies will be required to make clear whether sows are subject to any close confinement in the alternative farrowing systems used. Specifically, we are looking for companies to make clear whether temporary crating is used and, if so, specify the duration of such confinement. Companies not reporting clearly on temporary crating practices will be provided a warning in the 2025 assessments that they will need to amend their reporting in order to continue to receive points in the 2026 assessment. 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. 																

Farm Animal Welfare Performance Impact																	
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	<table border="1"> <tbody> <tr> <td>0% of pigs is free from tail docking, or no reported information.</td> <td>0</td> </tr> <tr> <td>1 — 20% of pigs is free from tail docking.</td> <td>1</td> </tr> <tr> <td>21 — 40% of pigs is free from tail docking.</td> <td>2</td> </tr> <tr> <td>41 — 60% of pigs is free from tail docking.</td> <td>3</td> </tr> <tr> <td>61 — 80% of pigs is free from tail docking.</td> <td>5</td> </tr> <tr> <td>81 — 98% of pigs is free from tail docking.</td> <td>7</td> </tr> <tr> <td>99 — 100% of pigs is free from tail docking.</td> <td>10</td> </tr> <tr> <td colspan="2" style="text-align: right;">(Max Score 10)</td> </tr> </tbody> </table>	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)	
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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. 																

Farm Animal Welfare Performance Impact																	
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	<table border="1"> <tbody> <tr> <td>0% of dairy cows is free from tethering, or no reported information.</td> <td>0</td> </tr> <tr> <td>1 – 20% of dairy cows is free from tethering.</td> <td>1</td> </tr> <tr> <td>21 – 40% of dairy cows is free from tethering.</td> <td>2</td> </tr> <tr> <td>41 – 60% of dairy cows is free from tethering.</td> <td>3</td> </tr> <tr> <td>61 – 80% of dairy cows is free from tethering.</td> <td>5</td> </tr> <tr> <td>81 – 98% of dairy cows is free from tethering.</td> <td>7</td> </tr> <tr> <td>99 – 100% of dairy cows is free from tethering.</td> <td>10</td> </tr> <tr> <td colspan="2" style="text-align: right;">(Max Score 10)</td> </tr> </tbody> </table>	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)	
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Farm Animal Welfare Performance Impact																	
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	<table border="1"> <tbody> <tr> <td>0% of dairy cows is provided with pasture access, or no reported information.</td> <td>0</td> </tr> <tr> <td>1 — 20% of dairy cows is provided with pasture access.</td> <td>1</td> </tr> <tr> <td>21 — 40% of dairy cows is provided with pasture access.</td> <td>2</td> </tr> <tr> <td>41 — 60% of dairy cows is provided with pasture access.</td> <td>3</td> </tr> <tr> <td>61 — 80% of dairy cows is provided with pasture access.</td> <td>5</td> </tr> <tr> <td>81 — 98% of dairy cows is provided with pasture access.</td> <td>7</td> </tr> <tr> <td>99 — 100% of dairy cows is provided with pasture access.</td> <td>10</td> </tr> <tr> <td colspan="2" style="text-align: right;">(Max Score 10)</td> </tr> </tbody> </table>	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)	
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Farm Animal Welfare Performance Impact																	
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 and dehorning?																
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Farm Animal Welfare Performance Impact																	
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?																
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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																	
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.																
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Farm Animal Welfare Performance Impact		
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 and dehorning?	
Rationale	Companies should report on the proportion of beef cattle that is free from disbudding and 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 and dehorning, or no reported information.	0
	1 — 20% of beef cattle is free from disbudding and dehorning.	1
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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 both disbudding and dehorning. Reporting related to the proportion of polled breed animals in the company's global supply chain will also be taken into account. Partial points are awarded if companies report on the proportion of animals free from disbudding or dehorning. • 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 and 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 and dehorning in line with these standards. • Companies that make general statements about "Our beef cattle" or "All beef cattle" being free from disbudding and dehorning are not awarded points unless there is explicit reporting on the proportion of beef cattle that is free from disbudding and 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																	
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	<table border="1"> <tbody> <tr> <td>0% of farmed salmon is reared at lower stocking densities, or no reported information.</td> <td>0</td> </tr> <tr> <td>1 — 20% of farmed salmon is reared at lower stocking densities.</td> <td>1</td> </tr> <tr> <td>21 — 40% of farmed salmon is reared at lower stocking densities.</td> <td>2</td> </tr> <tr> <td>41 — 60% of farmed salmon is reared at lower stocking densities.</td> <td>3</td> </tr> <tr> <td>61 — 80% of farmed salmon is reared at lower stocking densities.</td> <td>5</td> </tr> <tr> <td>81 — 98% of farmed salmon is reared at lower stocking densities.</td> <td>7</td> </tr> <tr> <td>99 — 100% of farmed salmon is reared at lower stocking densities.</td> <td>10</td> </tr> <tr> <td colspan="2" style="text-align: right;">(Max Score 10)</td> </tr> </tbody> </table>	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)	
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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		
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																	
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	<table border="1"> <tbody> <tr> <td>0% of farmed salmon is effectively stunned and killed, or no reported information.</td> <td>0</td> </tr> <tr> <td>1 — 20% of farmed salmon is effectively stunned and killed.</td> <td>1</td> </tr> <tr> <td>21 — 40% of farmed salmon is effectively stunned and killed.</td> <td>2</td> </tr> <tr> <td>41 — 60% of farmed salmon is effectively stunned and killed.</td> <td>3</td> </tr> <tr> <td>61 — 80% of farmed salmon is effectively stunned and killed.</td> <td>5</td> </tr> <tr> <td>81 — 98% of farmed salmon is effectively stunned and killed.</td> <td>7</td> </tr> <tr> <td>99 — 100% of farmed salmon is effectively stunned and killed.</td> <td>10</td> </tr> <tr> <td style="text-align: right;">(Max Score 10)</td> <td></td> </tr> </tbody> </table>	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)	
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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		
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	<table border="1"> <tbody> <tr> <td>0% of products is from animals that have been pre-slaughter stunned, or no reported information.</td> <td>0</td> </tr> <tr> <td>1 — 20% of products is from animals that have been pre-slaughter stunned.</td> <td>1</td> </tr> <tr> <td>21 — 40% of products is from animals that have been pre-slaughter stunned.</td> <td>2</td> </tr> <tr> <td>41 — 60% of products is from animals that have been pre-slaughter stunned.</td> <td>3</td> </tr> <tr> <td>61 — 80% of products is from animals that have been pre-slaughter stunned.</td> <td>5</td> </tr> <tr> <td>81 — 98% of products is from animals that have been pre-slaughter stunned.</td> <td>7</td> </tr> <tr> <td>99 — 100% of products is from animals that have been pre-slaughter stunned.</td> <td>10</td> </tr> <tr> <td colspan="2" style="text-align: right;">(Max Score 10)</td> </tr> </tbody> </table>	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)	
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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. 	

Reducing Reliance on 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). 	

Glossary

Alternative farrowing systems	Generic reference to farrowing systems which vary from those with zero confinement practices (the sow is always free within the farrowing accommodation, prior, during, and after farrowing) to those with the option to temporarily crate the sow. The following types are used:
Pens with the option to routinely or temporarily crate	Indoor farrowing pens which allow for the routine (always) or temporary confinement of the sow, particularly around farrowing (usually for 3–7 days)
Free farrowing pens	Indoor farrowing pens without the option to confine the sow, which allows freedom of movement at all times. Sows can be very briefly confined for stockperson safety and management purposes (less than 1–2 hours)
Animal-sourced foods	Food items coming from an animal source such as fish, meat, dairy and eggs.
Animal welfare	The physical and mental wellbeing of animals and the freedom to express behaviours that are important to them.
Basic farm assurance	Certification schemes that ensure certain standards of safety and quality are met (on-farm), often including some animal welfare standards similar to the legislative requirements of the market(s) in which they operate.
Barren battery cage (or: conventional cage)	A cage used to house several laying hens, usually providing space equivalent to less than an A4 sheet of paper per hen; provision is limited to food and water; barren battery cages are prohibited by EU legislation although they are common in other parts of the world.
Battery caged hens	Hens housed in barren battery cages.
Beak trimming or beak conditioning	Removal of part of the beak (equal shortening of the upper and lower mandibles) of laying hens, parent broilers and turkeys (and sometimes of quail and ducks) using a hot blade, secateurs or an infra-red beam. Infra-red is the only method permitted in the UK; in the EU no more than a third of the beak may be removed.
Beak tipping	Is an alternative to trimming and removes only the hook of the upper beak.
Broiler chickens	Chickens reared for meat.
Cage-free egg production (laying hens)	Production systems which do not use barren, enriched, or combi cages. Hens are instead housed with full access to the floor and any structures within the building. Hens may also have access to a wintergarden and/or an outdoor range.

Castration	By scrotal incision, removal of the testes that are cut or torn at the spermatic cord (pigs, cattle), using a rubber ring or bloodless castration method (sheep, cattle). Generally done without anaesthetic or post-procedural pain relief
Close confinement	Provision of very limited space, representing inadequate space to allow an animal to move around or express normal patterns of behaviour.
Combi systems (laying hens)	Multi-tiered structures that have doors, so although birds can roam when the doors are open, the system can be converted into a caged system when the doors are closed.
Concentrated animal feeding operations (CAFOs)	Also known as a factory farm, a CAFO is a production process for meat or dairy that confines many cattle at high stocking densities. The animals have very little room to move and the land is bare of vegetation so, instead of grazing, feed is brought to the animals.
Disbudding	Removal of the horn buds in young animals (calves, kids) using a hot iron or chemical cauterisation, generally done without anaesthetic or post-procedural pain relief.
Dehorning	Removal of the horns of adult animals by cutting or sawing.
Dry sows	Sows in the herd other than those during the period of farrowing (giving birth) and lactation (this includes pregnant sow and sows awaiting impregnation).
Enriched cages or furnished cages (laying hens)	A cage used to house several laying hens, in the EU providing at least 750 cm ² per hen (which is just a bit larger than an A4 sheet of paper per hen) and with some cage furnishings (perch, nest box, scratching area).
Environmental enrichment	Material that is provided to an animal to encourage natural behaviours such as foraging, rooting, pecking, hiding, perching, rooting.
Farm animal welfare	See animal welfare, where farmed animals refer to those animals reared for food, fibres and other commodities.
Farrowing crate	A metal cage used to confine a single sow during farrowing (birth) and lactation (a period lasting ~ 4—5 weeks); the crate is designed to limit the crushing of piglets when the sow lies down and does not allow the sow to turn around or engage properly with her piglets. See also: alternative farrowing systems.
Feedlot	An intensive animal feeding operation used to fatten livestock prior to slaughter. Animals such as pigs, sheep or cattle are confined in small areas and supplied with a high protein feed.

Finfish	So-called 'true fish', this term is used to distinguish fish with gills, fins and a backbone from other aquatic animals such as shellfish and jellyfish.
The Five Domains	Animal welfare framework for guiding systematic and thorough assessments of animal welfare states, that sees welfare as the subjective (emotional) experience of an animal. This framework aims to quantify how changes in four "physical/functional" domains (Nutrition, Physical Environment, Health, and Behavioural Interactions) impact a fifth domain (Mental State), which ultimately determines an animal's welfare. The Five Domains framework explicitly includes quantification of both positive and negative states.
The Five Freedoms and Five Provisions	Animal welfare framework which sets out the conditions necessary to avoid poor welfare - the freedoms - and the means by which this can be achieved — the provisions. Similarly to the Five Domains (see above), this framework covers aspects of nutrition, physical environment, health, behaviour, and mental state, but does not present them in a hierarchical form but as equal conditions. The Five Freedoms focus on the prevention of negative states.
Food companies	Food businesses including producers, processors, manufacturers, food retail and service companies (e.g. restaurants, bars, catering).
Foie gras	Translated from French as 'fat liver', this is a product produced by force-feeding young ducks or geese, causing the liver to increase in size through the deposition of fat. The birds are typically housed in cages in the final weeks before slaughter, during the force-feeding phase. The process of force-feeding is also known as 'gavage'.
Free range	Free range livestock have access to an outdoor area for at least part of the day, allowing greater freedom of movement.
Gait score	A method for assessing lameness in poultry, cattle, pigs, using indicators such as balance, stride length, and the position of the feet.
Gestation crate	See sow stall.
Gilts	Young female pigs that have yet to be pregnant or have their first litter.
In-ovo sex identification (sexing)	Various methods to determine the sex of laying hen hybrid chicks in the 21-day incubation period before the chick hatches from its egg, aimed at avoiding the routine culling of day-old male chicks. In-ovo (= inside the egg) sexing technology has two main categories, optical (e.g. Nuclear magnetic resonance, NMR; Visible-near-infrared, VIS—NIR, spectroscopy) or non-optical (e.g. DNA analysis; immunosensing; mass spectrometry).

Lairage	Holding pens for livestock in slaughterhouses, in which they are placed following transport.
Long distance live transportation	Any transport of a live animal that exceeds 4 hours for poultry and rabbits and 8 hours for other species, from loading to unloading. Welfare has been shown to decrease significantly in journeys lasting longer.
Metaphylactic antibiotic use	Giving antibiotics to an entire group of animals after some of them have shown signs of illness. The goal is to treat the sick animals and prevent the disease from spreading to others in close contact, who might also be at risk, even if they are not showing symptoms (yet).
Mulesing	Removal of skin from the hindquarters of sheep breeds with excess folds of skin on their rumps, to manage fly strike. Generally done without anaesthetic or post-procedural pain relief.
Mutilation	A procedure that interferes with the bone structure or sensitive tissues of an animal, usually done to manage undesirable behaviour such as tail biting (pigs) and injurious pecking (laying hens). Generally done without anaesthetic or post-procedural pain relief.
Polled breeds	Typically refers to breeds or strains of ruminants that are naturally polled (without horns) through selective breeding (as opposed to being disbudded or dehorned).
Prophylactic antibiotic use	Giving an antibiotic treatment to an animal or group of animals in anticipation of a disease or when there is a risk of infection, rather than treatment when clinical disease has been identified (therapeutic use) or giving treatment when some animals in a group or on a farm are showing signs of illness (see metaphylactic use).
Routine Mutilations	The use of mutilations (see mutilation) on a routine basis, e.g. at a certain stage of production, rather than first addressing the underlying issues within the system and only using mutilations as a risk-based last resort.
Sow stall (or gestation crate)	A narrow metal crate used to confine individual sows for their 16-week pregnancy, without sufficient room for sows to turn around. Sows are generally confined in stalls during service, observation period (until confirmation of pregnancy) and throughout gestation until the sow is moved to the farrowing accommodation — usually one week prior to farrowing.
Stockmanship	The knowledgeable and skilful handling of and caring for livestock in a safe, efficient, effective, professional and low-stress manner.

Tail docking

Removal of part of the tail (usually up to two-thirds) using a hot docking iron, sharp blade (pigs) or tight rubber ring (lambs, cattle); routine tail docking of pigs is not permitted by EU legislation. Generally done without anaesthetic or post-procedural pain relief.

Teeth reduction

Reduction of a piglet's 8 sharp needle teeth, shortly after birth, using sharp clippers or pliers (cutting) or shortening with a grinding device; to manage damage to the sow's teats and to other piglets. Routine teeth clipping is not permitted by EU legislation. Generally done without anaesthetic or post-procedural pain relief.

Tethering

Tying of an animal indoors (usually done to cattle and goats, but also to sows) to a fixed point; tethering prevents an animal from carrying out its normal behaviour, not permitted in the EU for calves (certain exceptions) and pigs.

Toe clipping

The removal of the ends of toes, including the whole toenail, in poultry to prevent scratching damage. Generally done without anaesthetic or post-procedural pain relief.

Veal crate

A small pen or box to confine a single dairy calf; calves are often tethered in these systems and do not have adequate space to turn around or have adequate social contact. The use of veal crates is prohibited in the EU and some US states.

Welfare outcome measures

Animal-based method of assessing an animal's physical wellbeing and increasingly their behavioural expression and mental wellbeing.

Credits

Photography

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[Samarn Plubkilang](#)

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