



OPEN PRAIRIE® NATURAL® PORK

## Animal Welfare Expectations

### INTRODUCTION

#### Mission:

Deliver on our purpose to raise the world's expectations for how much good food can do by continuously improving the welfare of animals entrusted to our care.

#### Vision:

We aspire to be a world leader in animal welfare through compassionate care based in sound science.

We aspire to produce real, accessible and inspiring foods that are more sustainable, creative and transparent in their respective production – and at a scale that matters. We will accomplish this through attention to our Core Values, Code of Conduct, Team Behaviors, trust and a commitment to creating value for our shareholders, customers and team members.

Animal welfare is important to our company. As noted in our [Core Values](#), “we serve as stewards of our resources.” Our commitment to animal welfare means we work to ensure the needs of the animals we depend on are met, while providing our customers and consumers the quality product they expect.

From our corporate offices to our harvesting facilities, and extending through our supply chain, we strive for essential elements of responsible food production including proper animal raising and handling, good animal welfare, and responsible harvesting. Ensuring the welfare of animals in our care is not only the right thing to do, we believe it is our responsibility.

#### Basic principles:

- 1) Responsible Animal Care Protocols
- 2) Training & Evaluation
- 3) Animal Health & Well-Being
- 4) Feeding Practices
- 5) Record Verification
- 6) Transportation and Harvest Facility Programs

The following pages will describe these principles in detail for our feeding partners, customers and consumers of *Open Prairie Natural®* Pork regarding the health and welfare of the animals that have been entrusted to us.

If you would like more information regarding the brand, please visit [OpenPrairieNatural.com](https://OpenPrairieNatural.com).



# RESPONSIBLE ANIMAL CARE PROTOCOLS

## On-farm verification

- Third-party audited
- All *Open Prairie* Natural® Pork suppliers of hogs are subject to verification audits through a statistically valid sampling method.
- On-farm audits include:
  - › Animal Welfare Training
  - › Site Self-Checks
  - › Daily Observations
  - › Animal & Facility Observations
  - › Animal Handling Practices
  - › Euthanasia
  - › Ensuring No Acts of Abuse
- Audit criteria are based on industry best practices and focus on human-animal interactions.

## External advisory panel

- External Animal Welfare Advisory Panel is a dynamic group that offers us an expert and unique perspective on various issues throughout the year.

## Research program

- Dedicated time and reserved resources to find better methods to raise healthy animals through scientific study.

## Committed staff

- Our Office of Animal Welfare is dedicated to managing our efforts around these important issues across the company.
- We have at least one In-Plant Animal Welfare Specialist at every processing plant and animal welfare committee.

# TRAINING & EVALUATION

## Training

- All farm employees involved with the handling, caring and feeding of natural hogs for us must be trained according to the operation's protocols and standards identified.
- Each operation must have an approval process for any supplier of piglets that supply the flow of natural hogs to ensure conformance throughout the supply chain.
- Additionally, all employees handling pigs are required to be Pork Quality Assurance® Plus (PQA) trained to help ensure animal care best practices.

## Third-Party audits

- All operations supplying hogs for the *Tyson Open Prairie* Natural® Pork program are required to undergo a third-party audit to verify compliance to the natural raising claims associated with the program. It is only after a completed audit meeting of all raising standards that an operation is approved to supply hogs to this important Tyson Fresh Meats program.

# IDENTIFICATION

If an animal is treated with antibiotics for any reason, it needs to be removed from the larger group. The farm operation must have a method in place to identify any treated animals.

# ANIMAL HEALTH & WELL-BEING

## General animal welfare conditions must be provided to the hogs.

- › Vaccination protocols and parasite control are encouraged to help minimize/prevent disease.
- › Any ill or suffering hogs must have veterinarian oversight or consultation for diagnosis and treatment.

## Hogs must be handled in a manner to minimize stress.

- Driving aids must be used appropriately. Excessive force shall not be used to move or handle the hogs.
- Hog suppliers must establish protocols for proper pen maintenance, extreme weather conditions (heat and/or cold) and processing piglets.

# FEEDING PRACTICES

## Hogs must have access to feed and water daily.

- Feed ingredients included in the diet must meet the necessary criteria for all natural (no antibiotics of any kind and no animal byproducts).
- Operations shall maintain records to ensure only approved products are provided to the hogs under their care.

## TRANSPORTATION & HARVEST FACILITY PROGRAMS

### All hog transporters are required to be trained pursuant to the Transport Quality Assurance (TQA) for hauling livestock.

- Key components of this training and the associated expectation for all hog transporters include:
  - › Hogs are fit for transport.
  - › Vehicles used to transport hogs must have appropriate flooring to ensure the hogs have good footing and are free from sharp edges or protruding objects that could hurt or injure the animals.
  - › Trailers are kept in good repair.
  - › Trailers are loaded to proper densities so that hogs have room to stand without overcrowding.
  - › Hogs transported distances over 28 hours must be off-loaded, rested, fed and watered before completing their trip.

### All harvest facilities implement the CARE program.

A robust and systematic animal well-being program is in place to manage our responsible handling policies and procedures and provide a method to continuously evaluate the processes employed in each facility to identify opportunities for improvement.

The CARE Program has three main components:

- Document each step in the animal handling process from live animal receiving through harvest.
- Evaluate each step to identify potential incidents that could result in excessive excitement, discomfort or accidental injury to the animal.
- Implement changes to mitigate or minimize potential risks.

### Best practice system assessments and animal-handling audits are implemented in all Tyson Fresh Meats harvest facilities.

- Internal Audits - This includes a combination of daily, weekly and monthly handling and well-being audits conducted by members of the facility management team, members of our Food Safety and Quality Assurance teams. Annually, representatives from FSQA conduct a complete animal well-being system review at every facility.
- Third-Party Audits - Conducted annually (at a minimum) to assess best practice systems.

Additional information about Tyson Foods Animal Welfare Mission and Vision Statement can also be found [here](#).



OpenPrairieNatural.com

\*Minimally Processed. No Artificial Ingredients. | <sup>™</sup>/<sup>®</sup>/© 2023 Tyson Foods, Inc.

