

Animal Welfare Policy

Why is this a topic for Van Loon Group?

Animal welfare receives considerable attention from consumers and society. Van Loon Group recognises the strategic importance of animal welfare for the company and its stakeholders. Although Van Loon Group does not keep any animals itself, nor does it slaughter them, Van Loon Group as a chain director does have influence on animal welfare in all links of the chain.

Scope:

This policy concerns the supply chain partners from Van Loon Group's own supply chain, and the meat raw materials that Van Loon Group purchases under certified animal welfare programmes.

Ambition:

Van Loon Group has set up its own chains for pork and beef that comply with the Better Life label of the Dutch Society for the Protection of Animals or SKAL certification. Van Loon Group aims to source for its customers as much pork and beef as possible from its own certified supply chain. This in line with the Van Loon Group sustainability policy and is actively promoted to its customers.

In addition to the legal requirements, the criteria of the Dutch Society for the Protection of Animals form the basis for Van Loon Group's animal welfare programme. Van Loon Group has a contract with all pig and cattle farmers in its supply chain, whereby they conform to these requirements. Compliance with the animal welfare requirements of the various programmes is reviewed by independent bodies.

The livestock coordinators of our raw material companies work closely with our farmers and other stakeholders to continuously improve and develop our own pork and beef supply chain. This includes with respect to animal welfare.

In addition to raw materials from its own supply chain, Van Loon Group also purchases meat from third parties. Our purchasing requirements include that we do not purchase meat from slaughterhouses that slaughter without sedating the animals. This also applies to Halal raw materials.

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