

Meiji Group Farm Animal Welfare Policy

We, Meiji Group, conduct procurement activities sensitive to our social responsibilities, understanding that our businesses are built on the abundant bounty of nature.

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

We define animal welfare as livestock feeding management in consideration of their comfort.

We pursue animal welfare initiatives in our supply chain based on the Five Freedoms* espoused by the World Organisation for Animal Health (WOAH):

- (*) The Five Freedoms
- (1) Freedom from hunger, malnutrition and thirst
 - (2) Freedom from fear and distress
 - (3) Freedom from heat stress or physical discomfort
 - (4) Freedom from pain, injury and disease
 - (5) Freedom to express normal patterns of behavior

We use ingredients derived from dairy cattle, beef cattle, pigs, egg-laying hens and broilers.

We recognize that different livestock can present different animal welfare challenges.

To address those challenges, we will work with producers, suppliers and industry players to improve animal welfare in our supply chain based on the following concepts.

1.Livestock observation

It is important to keep track of the health of livestock to ensure living environments are comfortable.

We must increase the frequency of observations to prevent disease, injury, etc., immediately after a change in the feeding environment or during periods of heat or cold.

2.Livestock nutrition

It is important to feed livestock using high-quality feed that contains appropriate nutrients for their stage of development, and water. This feeding ensures good health, normal development, reproduction and other activities. Feeding and watering facilities should provide all livestock with unrestricted access to the amounts of feed, water and nutrients required.

3. Treatment of illness or injury

It is important to prevent illness and injury through daily feeding management. It is important to move sick or injured livestock, or livestock exhibiting abnormal behavior, to isolation cells for observation as needed, providing prompt treatment. Isolation cells should be equipped with additional bedding and other materials needed by livestock, as well as feed and water in easily accessible locations. The use of antibiotics should be administered in appropriate doses for therapeutic purposes under the guidance of a veterinarian or other health care provider at the minimum necessary dose. When disposing of livestock on farms, we must respect the sanctity of life of the livestock, using appropriate disposal methods under the guidance of a veterinarian or other professional to avoid causing pain to the greatest extent possible.

4. Barn environment

To ensure livestock comfort, barns should be well-ventilated and designed to minimize adverse effects on animal welfare caused by changes in interior temperature and humidity, including measures against heat and cold. To the greatest extent possible, we strive to avoid overcrowding and maintain sufficient feeding space in accordance with the characteristics of the feeding system in question, ensuring livestock movement, rest, feeding, drinking and other activities are not impeded.

5. Livestock transportation

When transporting livestock, it is important to maintain the health and safety of the livestock, handling them with care and avoiding uncomfortable conditions.

Appropriate measures should be taken during transportation to reduce stress as much as possible. Measures should include planning and preparation to minimize livestock transportation.

6. Untethered exercise of dairy and beef cattle

Many options exist for cattle feeding systems, including tethered, free-range, pastured or any combination thereof. It is recommended that cattle fed under the tethered system should be allowed adequate untethered exercise.

Livestock managers should take these considerations into account when building or renovating a barn.

7. Dehorning of dairy and beef cattle

Dehorning is an important measure to reduce cow aggression and ensure the safety of livestock managers. However, the process is painful and stressful for the cows.

When performing dehorning, it is advisable to do so when the cow is at a young age with horns still undeveloped. We recommend using a burner to minimize stress caused by dehorning, and to perform dehorning under the administration of anesthetics and analgesics by a veterinarian if necessary. The cow should be observed carefully after the procedure and treated promptly if any festering, etc., is observed.

8. Tail cropping of dairy cattle

Dairy cattle may have tails cropped to prevent contamination of raw milk due from dirt on their bodies and udders, as well as to prevent injury to the livestock managers. However, it is more desirable not to crop tails, as aspects of cropping make it impossible for cattle to ward off pests, which cause stress and other problems. Tail hair clipping or other alternative methods should be used to address any hygiene issues.

9. Castration of pigs

As the castration procedure can be painful and cause distress, it is advisable to perform castration as early as possible in the pig's life under the guidance of a veterinarian or other health care professional, and in a manner that minimizes distress.

10. Tail cropping of pigs

Pigs have been observed biting the tails of other pigs when under stress, such as high humidity during the rainy season or high temperatures during the summer. To a certain extent, the occurrence of tail biting can be reduced by expanding the feeding space and controlling the fight over feed and water. However, such measures may be ineffective, leaving tail cropping as the final alternative. Tail cropping should be performed as early as possible in the pig's life under the guidance of a veterinarian or other health care professional, and in a manner that minimizes pain.

11. Feeding space for pigs

Pigs are social animals and prefer to live in herds. Therefore, we recommend the herding method for raising these animals. It is important to keep pigs enclosed or caged only when necessary (e.g., boars, gilts or injured pigs). When kept in enclosures, cages, etc., pigs should be provided with sufficient space to allow them to stand, turn around, and lie down comfortably in a natural posture. A separate area for feeding should also be provided. When keeping pigs in stalls, we recommend stalls that are appropriately sized to allow pigs to stand in a natural posture without touching both ends of the stall simultaneously and without bumping into the stall walls or top bars. Stalls should allow pigs to lie down comfortably without disturbing or being damaged by neighboring pigs or by

other pigs.

12. Nail trimming and decombing for egg-laying hens and broilers

Chickens have a habit of fighting to secure feed, space for activity, and social ranking. Nail trimming and decombing may be performed to prevent injury or death due to fighting.

However, painful nail trimming or decombing should not be performed unless necessary.

13. Preventing feather picking of egg-laying hens and broilers

When chickens are kept in flocks, individuals can injure each other by picking each other's feathers.

One way to prevent feather picking is to select more gentle and docile strains of bird. Other methods include optimizing the feeding composition or format in feeding management, increasing available feeding space, providing other materials for picking and other measures as appropriate to reduce stress, limit risk of injury, and maintain health.

We must ensure comfort to maintain the health of livestock by engaging in detailed daily health management and improving the feeding environment.

We strive to conduct sustainable procurement activities by communicating the importance of animal welfare actively to our customers, as well as by actively supporting industry-wide efforts to improve animal welfare in cooperation with industry players, including our producers and suppliers.

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