

Beef and Veal Agricultural Requirements – Farm Standard

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Countries and associated businesses which apply these requirements

UK	ROI	HU	PL	CZ	SK	TR	KR	MY	TH	JV China/ India
Y	Y	N	N	N	N	N	N	N	N	N

Group Food	Group Procurement	International Sourcing	Clothing	Hardlines	Developing Business's	New Food Experience
N	N	N	N/R	N	N	N
N = No		N/R = Not Relevant		Y = Yes		Y? = Yes with differences

Scope:

Beef and veal animals at all stages of the lifecycle, that are destined for Tesco through slaughter at a Tesco approved abattoir, including transport and slaughter.

Policy statement

Tesco aims to be associated by its customers with high standards of animal welfare and best industry practice in its supply base. We will deliver this commitment on the basis of the up to date knowledge of animal welfare science, ethics and legislation.

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For further information

Any questions concerning this document should be sent to grace.hurrell@uk.tesco.com.



How to use this document

The purpose of this document is to describe the systems, facilities and procedures for the lifecycle of any beef or veal animal that is slaughtered for the Tesco supply chain, which will satisfy customer's expectations with regard to high standards of animal welfare, food safety, food quality, environmental concern and value for money. It is the base document against which Tesco will carry out its own auditing requirements.

It is the responsibility of the Tesco supplier of any beef or veal product to be aware of this document and ensure that the supply chain it uses is aware of this and other relevant documentation. It is the responsibility of the Tesco direct supplier to ensure compliance to this document through its own due diligence monitoring in line with the requirements of the Tesco Food Manufacturing Standard.

As a result of auditing against this standard, either by Tesco or Tesco suppliers, and the submission of outcome measures will result in a BRAG score being awarded. It is a Tesco expectation that all outcome measures and audits are BRAG green or better and Tesco suppliers must be working with farmers to ensure that this is the case. The aim is the elimination of problems not temporary fixes.

In all cases it is the application of strong, good active management and good agricultural practice which is key to delivering the high welfare standards demanded in law, by Tesco and its customers.

All farms that supply beef or veal product to Tesco have to comply with the following standards. Up to now industry has been focusing on absolute standards. However Tesco recognise that there are many examples of excellent farming practices and businesses within our supply base, and because of this going forward Tesco wish to focus on communicating the 'outcomes' to the supply chain which consumers find acceptable, but allow all suppliers to develop their own systems of achieving these targets. This allows innovation, benchmarking and sharing of best practice. The system also ensures continuous improvement through regular review of the targets. Therefore these are now a major part of the Tesco requirements and their completion and submission on a period basis is key in ensuring that Tesco requirements are met and that product statements designed to sell more product can be made based on sound data. It also allows Tesco to do meaningful Key Performance Indicator (KPI) reviews with suppliers. In addition the following document recognises competent, diligent stockmanship as a key factor in good livestock welfare.

Other documents that should be referred to in support of the policy

Beef and Veal Agricultural Requirements – Abattoir Standard	60436
Beef and Veal Agricultural Requirements – Transport Standard	60435
Beef and Veal Agricultural Requirements – Outcome Measures	60425
TESCO Agriculture Requirements for Suppliers – CCTV for monitoring Animal Welfare	60465
Agriculture Requirements - Feed Mill Operations	60476
Agriculture Requirements - Approved Schemes	60481



Absolute Standards

The below are standards that Tesco requires which are different or above those of general farm assurance schemes and which Tesco wants to be known for. They must be met by Tesco suppliers in addition to the relevant assurance scheme/legal requirements, in order to ensure the high standards that our customers expect.

- AS1. All owners and stockmen must take all reasonable steps to ensure the welfare of the animals under their care and to ensure that the animals are not caused any unnecessary pain, suffering or injury.
- AS2. All animals must travel straight from farm(s) (allowing multiple pickups) to slaughter (excluding collection centres).
- AS3. All farms must be compliant with all relevant UK and EU legislation or equivalent if outside EU and must notify the Tesco Agriculture Manager should any breaches of legislation be proven by a competent authority.
- AS4. Producers must be approved under an independently audited quality assurance scheme (to ISO/IEC Guide 65:1996/BSEN 45011:1998) and a current certificate held. Where an approved scheme is not immediately available to a new supplier, each producer must be inspected to the Tesco requirements by an independent inspection body and an approved scheme must be established within 2 years.
- AS5. No milk or meat must be supplied to Tesco from cloned animals or 1st generation progeny of cloned animals.
- AS6. The standard of hygiene management must reflect the production process as part of the food supply chain and therefore its effect on food safety and quality.
- AS7. Any factory based sites must be implementing the requirements of Tesco Food Manufacturing Standards (TFMS).
- AS8. No Tesco approved supplier is permitted to carry out slaughter without prior stunning (even for other customers).
- AS9. No Tesco approved factory is permitted to slaughter equine animals. Sites are also not allowed to slaughter bovine animals under 1 month of age.
- AS10. All Tesco sites must immediately slaughter, in situ where necessary, any animal deemed to be suffering.
- AS11. There must be a trained welfare officer on duty in abattoirs when animals are on site or being killed who is responsible for ensuring good animal welfare and an effective slaughter process. Training must be taken through an organisation approved under the 'TESCO Agriculture Requirements for Suppliers - Approved Schemes' document.
- AS12. Management competency and commitment to the Ethical Trading Initiative Base code must be demonstrated at all times.
- AS13. Management competency and commitment to the Agricultural Code of Practice must be demonstrated at all times through the appropriate resource allocation and active management.
- AS14. There must be a clear environmental strategy which allows Tesco to meet its environmental targets of a reduction in the CO2 emissions from our supply chain by 30% by 2020.
- AS15. There is no justification for treating animals, particularly those which are more vulnerable such as culls and young animals, differently from the production animal. This particularly applies to journey times and slaughter standards. Every effort must be made to ensure the welfare of these animals.
- AS16. Management must ensure that all staff must have received adequate formal and on the job training in all aspects of the job including legislative, basic food safety and Tesco specific requirements.



- AS17. Totally untrained staff cannot work in areas with or operations involving live animals; workers who have undergone basic training and are in training can only work with or operations involving live animals where there is adequate training and effective supervision.
- AS18. Animal welfare training must come from someone that has been trained by a Tesco approved trainer.
- AS19. Certain medicines and substances having thyrostatic, oestrogenic, androgenic or orgestagenic activity or any beta-agonists must not be given to any farmed animal. Hormonal growth promoters or antimicrobial digestive enhancers must not be used.
- AS20. The abattoir must have a database containing basic information on all the units throughout the chain (including transport) which it uses. The information must include details required to allow good management practice, support due diligence with respect to ensuring that Tesco requirements are met and hold key data on areas of public concern e.g. farming conditions, child labour, environmental pollution etc. Suppliers who provide the bulk (80%) of the animals must be on the system by end 2016, with the remaining sites by 2020.
- AS21. It is the responsibility of each Tesco supplier listed on the approved list to ensure that the requirements of this requirements are effectively communicated to all producers involved in the production of Tesco brand products as defined by the requirements.
- AS22. No animal destined for Tesco must be transported by land for more than 8 hours.
- AS23. All farming sites must have a veterinary health plan.
- AS24. Movements of animals between farms risks detrimental effects on animal welfare, food safety and meat quality. It also significantly affects performance. In order to decrease these risks, no more than 4 farms and a minimum of 20 days on the last farm (minimum of 30 days on last farm from July 2014) is permitted. Moves between farms under the same ownership and Farm Assurance will be counted as 1 farm (if questioned on the day of a visit or audit, proof must be available to demonstrate compliance).
- AS25. All animals must be kept on an assured holding for at least 90 days before slaughter and in addition they must remain on the final farm for a minimum of 20 days. Animals must remain on the final farm for a minimum of 30 days from the 1st of July 2014.



Core Standards

The below are standards that Tesco requires which are expected to be found on any farm enterprise supplying Tesco beef or veal. They would also typically be expected to be found in relevant farm assurance schemes.

Core Standards - Traceability

- CS1. The use of Quinolones and 3rd and 4th generation cephalosporins are not desired for use in animals destined for Tesco. It is important that there is understanding of which brands of treatments contain these products and effective communication by the processor and implementation of good practice on farm to minimise their use.
- CS2. A producer declaration must be presented at the abattoir, for each load of cattle from a supplier, clearly stating if Quinolones and 3rd and 4th generation cephalosporins have been used to the best of the farmers knowledge and if so, stating which product.
- CS3. If cattle are bought at markets it is important that the medical history is known both to aid internal management and to ensure compliance with the above. Processors must effectively communicate this to their supply base.

Core Standards – Feed & Water

- CS4. Mammalian animal proteins (either processed or unprocessed) must not be included in animal feed. This includes animal meat meal, animal fat (e.g. tallow), meat and bone meal, offal meal, feather meal and any other animal protein or by-products, including catering waste. The only exceptions are: milk and milk products, eggs and egg products.
- CS5. Rejected products or by-products from the human food manufacturing industry may be fed provided that:
 - I. The product is safe;
 - II. Ingredient declarations are available and verifiable that they do not contain animal protein or fat.
 - III. The nutritional value for animal feed can be quantified and is known;
 - IV. The product is 100% traceable to source.
 - V. Feed materials are purchased from an approved source. In the case of feed materials that are sourced:
 - a. From a merchant: the merchant must be approved under UFAS (or agreed equivalent)
 - b. Directly from the manufacturer: the supplier must be approved under UFAS, BFBI Assurance Scheme or agreed equivalent.
 - c. From “ingredient” suppliers: the suppliers are FEMAS (or equivalent) approved and all additives/premix are from FAMI QS (or equivalent) approved suppliers. Ingredients include food by-product waste e.g. from vegetable processing etc.
 - d. Directly from farmer growers: the crop must be assured or be covered by a warranty declaration.
- CS6. Producers must ensure that newborn calves receive colostrum during the first 6 hours of life (ideally within one hour of birth). If the calf is unable to suck, colostrum must be given by a suitably trained person using a stomach tube. Ideally calves will be left with their dam for a minimum of 24 hours.
- CS7. Home mixers (defined as mixing 2 or more feeds together) must comply with the Industry Code of Practice for on Farm Feeding. In the UK mixers must be registered with the Local authorities under the Feedstuffs (Establishment and Intermediaries) Regulations 1999 or with Trading Standards under the EC Feed Hygiene Regulation 183/2005.
- CS8. Farmers mixing medicated feedstuffs and specified feed additives must register with, and be approved by, the Animal Medicines Inspectorate (AMI) of the Veterinary Medicines Directorate (VMD) and have the relevant HACCP and quality control plan.
- CS9. Outside the UK home mixers must register with the Appropriate National Authority. Records must be kept for 2 years (5 years for medicated).

Core Standards – Animal Health



- CS10. Tethering of animals is prohibited except when specifically required under veterinary supervision or when a welfare issue will arise unless tethering is used (in which case veterinary intervention is promptly required). Exceptions are to allow calf suckling (for a maximum of 1 hour) or at shows (where animals must be trained for the expected conditions).
- CS11. For housed animals a comfortable, dry lying area must be provided.
- CS12. Bull calves when weaned off their dam or when sexually mature/9 months must not be penned with heifers or breeding cows unless for breeding purposes.
- CS13. Animals must not be giving birth on concrete slats and must instead be in a bedded area.

Core Standards – Procedures & Systems

- CS14. A written herd/flock health plan must be established, implemented and reviewed at least annually.

Core Standards – Personnel

- CS15. Each part of the chain (farm, lairage, slaughter and feedback of information to the farmer) must have a competent, named, designated person in a position of authority that will ensure the day-to-day application of this document (Implementation date 1st of August 2014).

Core Standards – Environment

- CS16. Facilities and equipment used to store potential pollutants including manures, slurry, silage liquor, fertiliser, fuel and oils must be well maintained so that there is no obvious risk of pollution. At the first sign of any pollution occurring (such as leaking fuel tanks) the relevant statutory agency (the Environment Agency in England and Wales) must be notified immediately and appropriate remedial action taken to prevent the pollution.

Pillar Standards

Tesco Standard Beef:

Only steers, heifers under 30 months of age.

Young bulls under 16 months of age.

Only British and Irish cattle (born, reared and finished on solely British farms or born, reared and finished on solely Irish farms).

No more than 4 farms and a minimum of 20 days on the last farm (30 days on last farm from July 2014).

Cattle must be Farm Quality Assured.

Tesco Finest Beef (excluding Aberdeen Angus on contract):

Only steers, heifers under 24 months of age.

Only British cattle (born, reared and finished on British farms).

No more than 4 farms and a minimum of 20 days on the last farm (30 days on last farm from July 2014).

Cattle must be Farm Quality Assured.



Outcome Measures

- OM1. Outcome measures to be recorded are detailed in the Beef and Veal Agriculture Requirements – Outcome Measures. Measurement is done using the techniques indicated in the Beef and Veal Agriculture Requirements – Outcome Measures.
- OM2. The results must be sent to outcomes@foodsecure.co.uk to arrive on the 1st Friday after the end of the Tesco period (a Tesco calendar is available from the above if required). Failure to receive the information will affect a site's BRAG score and its position on the Tesco Approved List.

Supplier Database

Information that must be available on the producer club database

This is basic information that must be held for all Tesco beef and veal suppliers and recorded on an annual basis by the meat processor. The information may be required in the case of any issues such as feed scares, residue problems etc. Much of it is covered under schemes such as ABM or legislation.

Information held by the processor

Processors must collect the following information annually and ensure that it is up to date with validation on 30% of Tesco volume from each processor and information collected from a farm visit to ensure information is correct. The requirement of 30% will grow year on year with the next requirement to be stated in summer 2014 in release of version 2 of this document.

Timeline: 15% validation by 1st of July 2014. 30% validation by 1st of January 2014.

Information Required

Producer name

Person responsible for day to day management on farm if not person above

Producer address

Contact (email & telephone numbers)

Type of farm - enterprises with relevant numbers (conventional/organic, suckler to beef, purchasing of weanlings or stores to finishing, cereal, sheep, dairy etc).

Farm assurance (standard & approval date)

Vet's practice with contact details

Responsible procurement representative

Contact details of haulier (if different from above)

Product and total usage of record of Quinolones and 3rd and 4th generation cephalosporin's usage for all beef or veal animals on farm over the previous 12 months.

Date of farm inspection by the processor must be recorded.

Details of the finishing ration fed to cattle on farm.

If home mixing, feed ingredient suppliers and their FEMAS etc status

Bedding material for housed cattle on farm (ex, straw, concrete slats, rubber slats, woodchips, shavings etc).

