

# Animal Welfare

## Raising Animals in Comfort

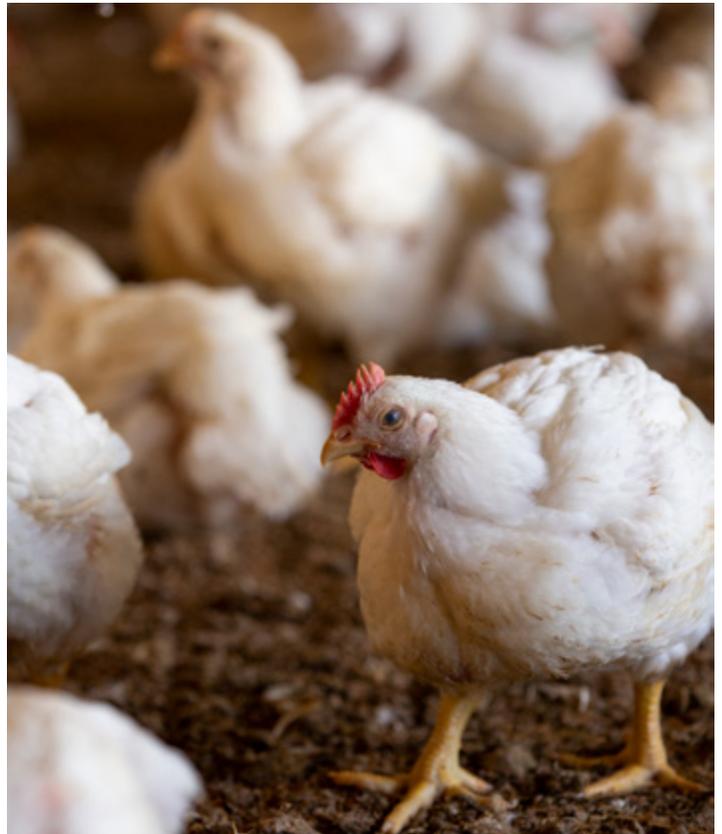


We work with thousands of independent farmers every day to ensure they are treating the animals responsibly and with respect, starting with where and how they are housed.

### Poultry

On the farm, birds are kept in enclosed barns to protect them from bad weather, extreme temperatures, diseases and predators. There are no cages, and birds can move freely within the barn. Stocking density, the number of birds within the available space in the barn, is carefully calculated to comply with national standards and to ensure that all birds can easily move to access feed water and to express normal behavior.

Barns are equipped with specially designed equipment to deliver a balanced feed portion and fresh water to ensure the birds receive the correct nutritional requirements to meet growth and production needs throughout their lives. The floor of a typical barn is covered with plant-based recyclable materials, such as wood shavings or rice hulls. The barns use automatic equipment to provide lighting and ventilation to maintain a climate-controlled environment that is suitable for the birds' age.



## Cattle

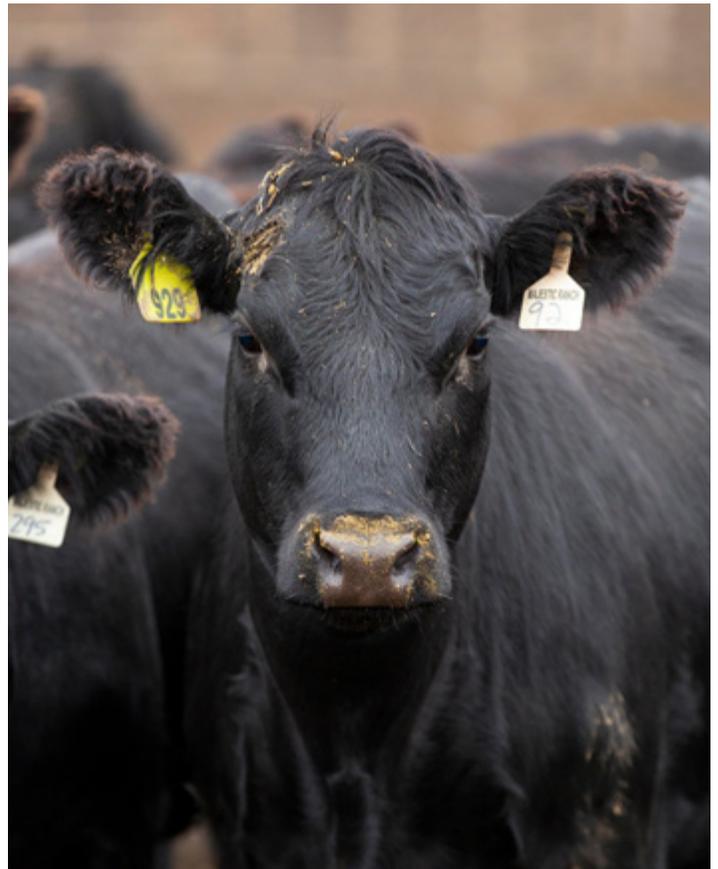
The cattle we source are raised in open pens that are maintained for proper drainage and dust control. We established a goal in 2017 that requires our beef producers to be Beef Quality Assurance (BQA) trained by January 1, 2019. BQA is a national program that provides [guidelines](#) for beef cattle production, which state cattle must be offered adequate space for comfort and socialization as well as environmental management.

## Pig Housing

Across the pig supply chain, good animal welfare is heavily dependent upon the environment in which the animals are raised. Through years of learning, science and innovation, pork producers have been able to identify and hone key practices of raising pigs that are conducive to animal health and welfare. These good management practices are laid out in the guidelines within the [National Pork Board's Pork Quality Assurance PLUS program](#) – a requirement of our supply chain partners. While actual housing systems in use across the pork supply chain are varied due to geography, capacity, phase and animal age, key aspects across all operation types include good management, proper training, provision of quality animal care, veterinary oversight and facility maintenance. Within each system, specialized tools and equipment are used to ensure the delivery of nutritious food, clean water and protection from the elements, predators and diseases.

Daily observations take place to monitor the animals and the facilities – constantly looking for any sign of illness or injury – so that prompt attention can be given to address such discomfort. Working closely with their veterinarian, herd health plans are established to address the unique challenges specific to each operation to bolster the overall health of the animals on site. Quality air and temperature control measures are in place to further aid in creating the best possible environment that promotes a positive experience for both the animals and the caretakers who raise them. As part of the supply chain from which we procure market pigs, 100 percent are raised in open pen systems, and growers are expected to incorporate these best management practices.

Because we serve as stewards of the animals we depend upon, efforts are ongoing to continue to understand what aspects of their environment drive animal welfare and how current practices can evolve to deliver even better care while maintaining responsible and sustainable production. In FY2018, we set in motion initiatives to aid in these efforts – which include looking at environmental enrichment objects,



increasing our understanding of pig housing system options and research efforts in genetic advancement.

While we do not actually own many pigs, we understand the need for information and transparency in how hogs are raised – including the mother hogs (sows) and how they are housed.

## Sow Housing Position Statement

We support housing systems that are well managed and maintain good animal health and welfare. Tyson owns and raises less than ten percent of the pigs used in our pork business and we work hard to make sure they're as comfortable as possible in their housing environment. We support our farmer partners in continuous improvement of the housing they use for pregnant mother pigs, known as sows. As of December 2018, 53 percent of Tyson-owned sows on contract farms are housed in open pens, and we expect this percentage to continue to grow. We also verify good management practices by the independent farmers who supply us. We do this through our FarmCheck® program, which is an extensive audit process involving a third-party auditor that ensures pig farms are monitored for proper access to food and water, human-animal interaction and worker training.