

JOINT ANIMAL PROTECTION ORGANIZATION STATEMENT

On Broiler Chicken Welfare Issues

May 2018

To Whom It May Concern:

As you may know, we, the undersigned organizations, work individually with many food companies. In the course of that engagement, we're sometimes asked by companies if our groups can speak with one voice. That generally isn't possible—our groups don't necessarily work in tandem, and often disagree on issues, tactics, and more.

That said, you may be pleased to know that, while we often are not in agreement with one another, we have reached agreement on what the most pressing welfare concerns related to broiler production are, and how to best mitigate those concerns. Toward that end, we've reached three versions of broiler welfare policy language—each of which addresses the four main welfare concerns associated with broiler production, and each of which we all agree represents meaningful progress. Those versions are laid out below. Thank you for your interest in this issue.

Sincerely,



VERSION ONE

By 2024, we will source only chicken certified by Global Animal Partnership (GAP) and require all chickens to be processed in a manner that avoids live-dumping and live-shackling, and instead utilizes a pre-shackle, multi-step controlled-atmosphere processing system that's widely hailed as more humane.

VERSION TWO

By 2024, we will require our chicken suppliers to do the following for 100% of our products:

1. Transition to strains of birds that demonstrate higher welfare outcomes that meet the criteria of the RSPCA Broiler Breed Welfare Assessment Protocol or Global Animal Partnership (GAP).
2. Reduce stocking density to a maximum of 30 kg/sq. meter and prohibit broiler cages.
3. Provide birds enriched environments including litter, lighting, and enrichment that meets GAP's new standards.
4. Process chickens in a manner that avoids pre-stun handling and instead utilizes a multi-step controlled atmosphere processing system that induces an irreversible stun.
5. Demonstrate compliance with the above standards via third party auditing.

VERSION THREE

By 2024, we'll ensure 100% of our chicken comes from either RSPCA or Global Animal Partnership (GAP)-approved breeds/strains. We'll also ensure it meets GAP's environment standards (including lighting, litter, and enrichments); that stocking density is no greater than 30 kg/sq. meter and broiler cages are not used; and that it's processed in a manner that avoids live-dumping and live-shackling of birds and instead utilizes a pre-shackle multi-step controlled atmosphere processing system that's widely hailed as more humane. We'll demonstrate compliance with the above standards via third party auditing.