

# **Animal Welfare Policy**

SpartanNash takes animal welfare seriously.

SpartanNash does not own or operate any farms or animal processing facilities, yet we believe animals should and can be raised, handled, transported and processed in ways that ensure they are clean, safe and free from cruelty, abuse or neglect. SpartanNash also recognizes that animal welfare best practices evolve based on new information, technologies and agricultural advancements. We believe that animal welfare practices should be based on both science and ethics.

In keeping with our core value of accountability, SpartanNash expects its suppliers and vendors to comply with all laws and regulations. We encourage our suppliers to incorporate the Five Freedoms of animal welfare in their supply chain:

- Freedom from hunger, thirst and malnutrition by ready access to fresh water and a diet to maintain full health and vigor.
- Freedom from (physical and thermal) discomfort by providing an appropriate environment.
- Freedom from pain, injury and disease by prevention or rapid diagnosis and treatment.
- Freedom to express ("most") normal (patterns of) behavior by providing sufficient space, proper facilities and company of the animal's own kind.
- Freedom from fear and distress by ensuring conditions and treatment, which avoid mental suffering.

#### In addition, we commit to:

- Continue to challenge our Animal Welfare Committee to identify and evaluate animal welfare issues and report to company management on findings, best practices and recommendations.
- Engage and work cooperatively with our vendors and suppliers to embrace and promote best practices for food animal well-being in the animal agriculture supply chain process.
- Address any animal welfare issues in cooperation with our vendors and suppliers in a timely manner.
- Work cooperatively with industry and agricultural experts to stay abreast of scientific developments in animal welfare.

SpartanNash's animal welfare efforts currently include:

#### **Dairy Dehorning and Polled Genetics**

We believe that quality dairy products begin with quality animal care and healthy cows. The Animal Veterinary Medical Association (AVMA) states that dehorning (the removal of horns from a cow) is important for farmer and animal safety. Research on polled cows (cows naturally born without horns) is ongoing and the increasing availability of polled cows provides a promising alternative to dehorning. Polled genetics has been successfully implemented in the beef industry; we support the use of polled genetics breeding programs for dairy cows, which if successful will ultimately eliminate the need for dehorning. Until dehorning is eliminated, SpartanNash supports the adoption of best management practices, including using polled sires and disbudding calves before eight weeks of age with the use of anesthetics and/or analgesics.



#### **Genetically Modified Seafood**

SpartanNash has never sold and has no intention of selling any genetically modified seafood.

### Artificial Growth Hormones (rBGH/rBST) in Private Brand Fluid Milk

All Our Family® brand fluid milk has no artificial growth hormones (rBHG/rBST).

## **Cage-Free Eggs at Grocery Retail Banners**

We plan to transition to selling 100 percent cage-free eggs at our family of grocery retail stores by 2025 or sooner based on available supply, affordability and customer demand.

## **SpartanNash Corporate Responsibility Commitment**

Our commitment to animal welfare is one of our social responsibility programs, which – in combination with our environmental sustainability programs – is part of our broader SpartanNash Corporate Responsibility Commitment. We understand that our business decisions, products and services, and our operations have a direct impact on the environment and our communities, customers and associates. As a component of our Corporate Responsibility Commitment, we will consider the environmental impacts, social impacts and financial performance of our programs, projects, and operations, including animal welfare.