

Animal Welfare Policy

1. Our Commitments

The Bega Group is committed to sourcing quality milk from those Australian dairy farmers that are committed to the best care of their animals.

2. Requirements

All farmers that supply milk to the Bega Group agree to produce milk in a responsible way in accordance with the Bega Group Quality Manual, that has been approved by all State regulators in Australia. All farms supplying milk to the Bega Group are audited by a third-party assessor and adherence to the Bega Group Quality Manual is a condition of supply.

The Bega Group has zero tolerance for any act of animal cruelty. Bega expects suppliers to comply with their relevant state animal welfare laws and regulations and supports the adoption of industry recommended best practices by its suppliers through its Better Farms Program. This support includes the adoption of practices that minimise the need for routine intrusive management.

The Bega Group works with Dairy Australia and other industry bodies to recognise and support animal welfare best practices, including through the Australian Dairy Industry National Dairy Industry Animal Welfare Strategy (NDIAWS). The NDIAWS, which includes the Australian Animal Welfare Standards and Guidelines for Cattle, was developed by the Federal Government with the vision that the welfare of all animals in Australia is promoted and protected by the adoption of sound animal welfare standards and practices.

The Bega Group recognise there are specific assurances our customers are seeking regarding animal welfare. In line with the NDIAWS and the Bega Group Quality Manual, all our dairy suppliers agree to:

- Refrain from routine tail docking and calf induction practices.
- Provide appropriate pain relief for routine management practices including cattle dehorning.
- Refrain from tethering calves. Noting the tethering of cattle in Australia is not common practice.
- Implement good calf management practices.
- Implement practices to minimise cattle lameness.
- Appropriately treat sick or injured animals including using veterinary medicines in accordance with the manufacturers label and veterinary advice.

Glenn Bake

General Manager - Farms and Milk Supply



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