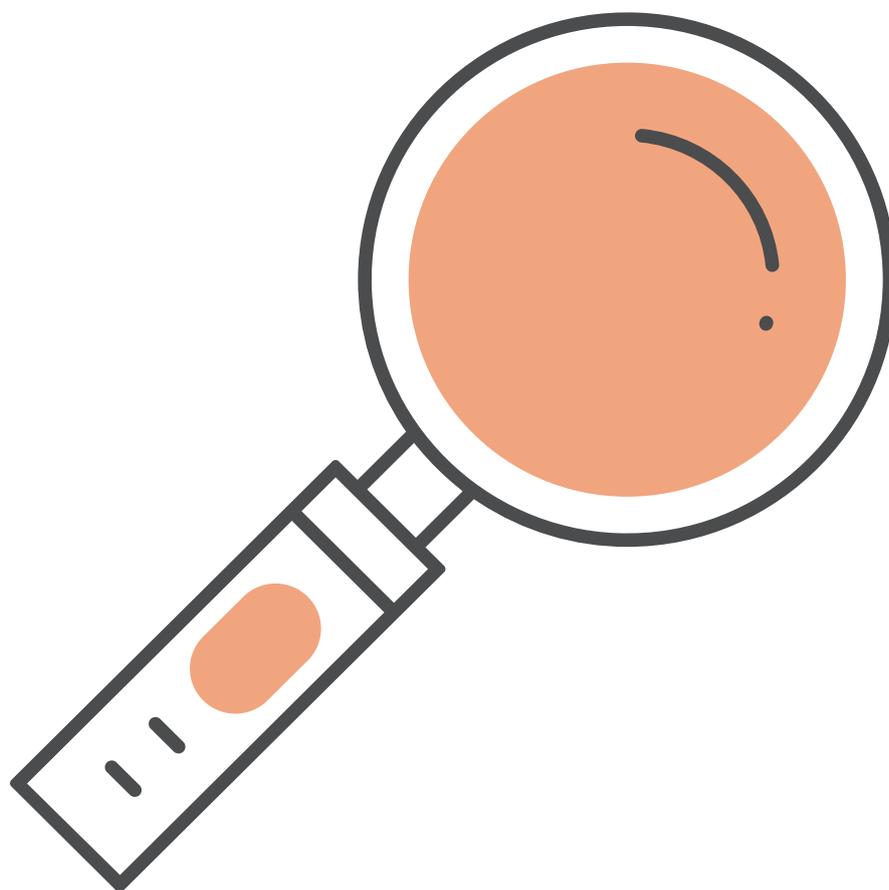


**RESPONSIBLE  
SOURCING**



# Supply chain analysis

DAIRY COWS

**RSPCA** 

# Supply chain analysis

## DAIRY COWS

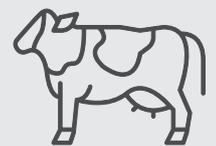
**RESPONSIBLE  
SOURCING**

### Animal welfare considerations

- Cow-calf separation
- Lack of access to pasture
- Lameness and mastitis prevalence
- Live export of excess heifers
- Practices such as calving induction and tail docking

For replacement or bobby calves

- Colostrum management
- Cow-calf separation
- Frequency and quantity of milk feeds
- Individual housing of calves
- Killing or slaughter method
- Painful husbandry procedures such as disbudding and castration
- Transport at young age



If you have specific questions or challenges arising from your supply chain analysis, get in touch with [RSPCA Australia](#).

### Product range

**Dairy products:** liquid milk, powdered products, cheese products, butter & cream products, sour milk products, whey products

**By-products:** pet food, pet treats, hooves, ears, gelatine, leather

### Step one

Where are dairy products used in your business?

- Are you using dairy products on site?
- Are you buying in products that contain dairy products?

What dairy products are used in your business?

- Is the dairy product used on site liquid, powdered, cheese, butter, cream, sour milk or whey?
- Do the products brought in list which kind of dairy product is used?

### Step two

For each type of dairy product used in your business, ask your supplier:

- Is the dairy product certified by a third party? If so, which certification program.
- Is the method of production labelled?
- Is your supplier also the producer? If not, how many suppliers/processors are involved in the chain back to the dairy producer?
- Does the producer also supply cattle to the live export trade?
- Is the dairy product produced in Australia?
- What husbandry practices are carried out and how?
- What is the method of transport and killing/slaughter?

For each product containing dairy used in your business, ask your supplier:

- Is the dairy product certified by a third party? If so, which certification program.
- Can the dairy ingredient be traced back to the producer?
- Is the dairy used in the product from Australia?
- What is the method of production for the dairy product?
- What type of dairy product is used?

## Step three

Compile your findings to work out the following:

- The percentage of indoor and pasture-based dairy in your businesses supply chain
- The percentage of the type of dairy product used by your business (liquid/powdered/cheese/butter/cream/sour milk/whey)
- The percentage of certified dairy product in your business supply chain
- The proportion of Australian dairy product and any imported product
- A list of all producers supplying your business
- Husbandry practices, farming methods, transport and slaughter methods

## Step four

Review your organisation's current supply chain to identify the animal welfare issues using the information collected from the first three steps.

## Step five

Implement plan within your organisation to address the identified issues. See RSPCA Australia's 'How to develop an animal welfare policy' for more information.