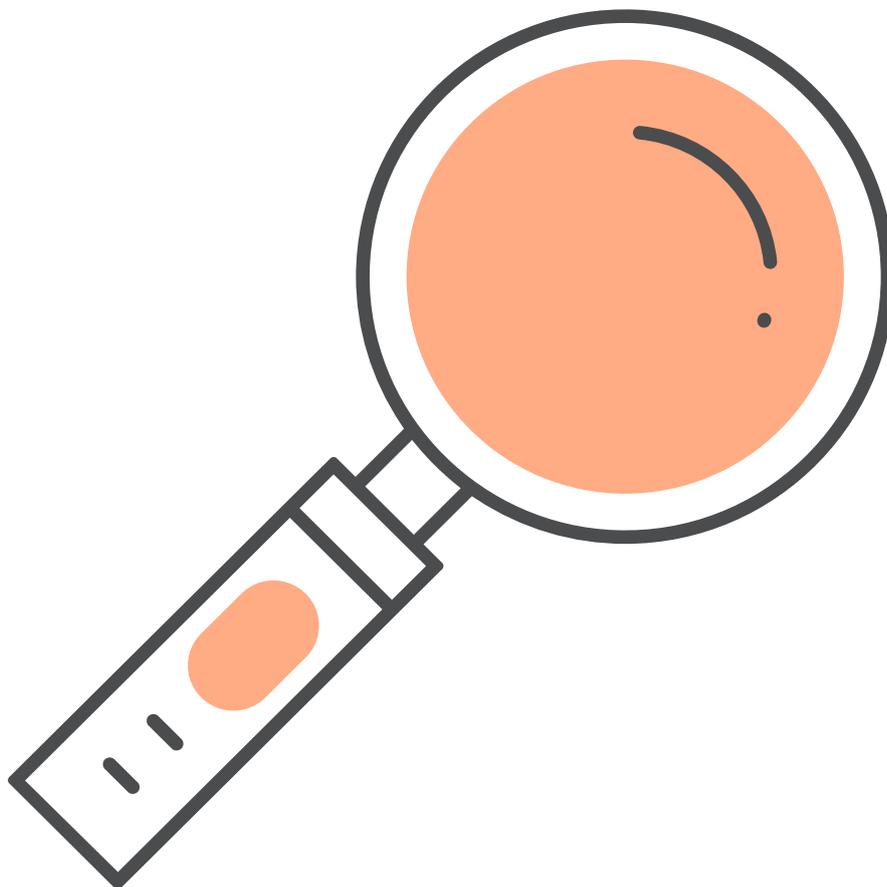


**RESPONSIBLE  
SOURCING**



# Supply chain analysis

DEER

# Supply chain analysis

## DEER

## RESPONSIBLE SOURCING

NOTE: RSPCA Australia is opposed to the removal of deer antlers in velvet solely for commercial sale. See our [policy on handling, husbandry and management of farm animals](#).

NOTE: RSPCA Australia is opposed to the killing of wild animals for commercial purposes (unless this meets [specific criteria](#)) and to the farming of animals taken from the wild, due to the risk of pain, injury or distress arising from the capture, transport, handling and long-term confinement of these animals. See our [policy on the utilisation of wild animals](#).

### Animal welfare considerations

- Antler removal method
- Capture from the wild
- Handling
- Transport and slaughter



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

### Product range

#### Velvet antlers

**Meat:** fresh, processed, pet food

**By-product:** antlers, deer velvet, gelatine, leather, pet food, pet treats

#### Step one

Where are deer antlers, meat or by-product used in your business?

- Are you using deer meat on site?
- Are you buying in products that contain deer meat?
- Are you buying in deer antlers?

What deer meat is used in your business?

- Is the deer meat used on site fresh or value added?

#### Step two

For deer meat and/or deer antlers used in your business, ask your supplier:

- Is the product certified by a third party? If so, which certification program.
- What country/ies is the deer meat/antler sourced from?
- What is the method of sourcing or production of deer?
- Is your supplier also the producer?  
If not, how many suppliers are involved in the chain back to the producer?

- Does the producer also undertake velvet antler removal?
- If product is sourced from wild/feral deer, what is the method and competency level of shooting?
- If product is sourced from deer farming, what husbandry practices are carried out and how?
- For farmed deer, what is the method of slaughter?

#### Step three

Compile your findings to work out the following:

- The percentage of certified deer meat/antler in your business supply chain
- The proportion of Australian deer meat/antler and any imported product
- A list of all producers supplying your business
- Husbandry practices, farming methods, capture methods 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.