



Animal Health and Welfare Report.

2024/25 Reporting Year

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Our Position on Animal Health and Welfare.

Rearing livestock well and ensuring high welfare standards apply throughout an animal's life are vital to creating high quality products of which we can be proud.

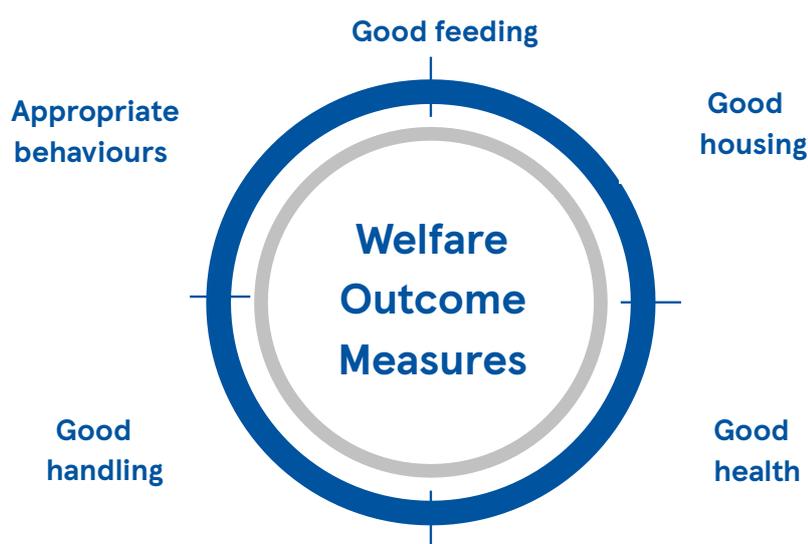
Animal health and welfare are key components of our wider sustainable farming agenda and is embedded within one of the core pillars of our [Planet Plan](#).

Unless otherwise specified, the data reported relates to Own Brand products supplied to Tesco UK (excluding Booker) and ROI. Tesco UK accounts for approximately 74% of all Tesco Group products by sales value.

Our approach to Animal Health and Welfare includes (see Figure 1):

- **Tesco Welfare Approved (TWA) Standards:** These are species-specific standards and reinforce the Five Domains, specifically acknowledging animal sentience. The standards ensure transparency across our supply chains and are designed and regularly reviewed by industry experts to drive improvement.
- **Farm Assurance:** All farms must comply with a recognised farm assurance scheme such as Red Tractor, in addition to meeting our TWA requirements.
- **Responsible Antibiotic Usage:** A focus on responsible antibiotic usage and antimicrobial resistance action as part of the Food Industry Initiative on Antimicrobials (FIIA) and in line with our antibiotic use commitments, which include publicly reporting progress.
- **No Animal Testing:** We do not support, commission, or carry out animal testing on any of our products or the ingredients they contain, and nor do our suppliers on our behalf.

Figure 1: Welfare Outcome Measures



Being transparent about our policies, standards, and progress is important.

To help us identify animal welfare issues concerning physical, mental, and behavioural well-being in our supply chain, we have a system of reporting on Welfare Outcome Measures. In 2024/25 we achieved a compliance rate of 96% for Tesco UK and Republic of Ireland (ROI) for consistent, complete submissions for each reporting period.

Welfare Outcome Measures derived from animal-based indicators are increasingly used by industry to assess welfare impacts. These measures give an indication of how animals are coping within a particular environment including on farm, during transport, and up to and including the point of slaughter. Reporting data is used to evidence compliance with our overarching animal welfare policy requirements (e.g., close confinement, maximum transport times over land and pre-slaughter stunning) that are applicable to all species. These are then supplemented with a range of species-specific measures.

Currently, Welfare Outcome Measures are reported for red meat (beef, lamb and venison), pork, poultry (chicken, turkey and duck), laying hens, crustacea (warm water prawns), and finfish species (salmon, trout, seabass, seabream and pangasius) in all farms across our global supply base, applicable to Tesco UK and ROI Own Brand products.

We aim to use data to support our decision-making, recognising the synergy between animal welfare and sustainable production, and gaining insight into practices associated with better holistic outcomes.

Animal Welfare Indicators

These indicators are essentially the criteria that have traditionally underpinned the Five Freedoms, but now also encompass The Five Domains model which recognises the impact on both the physical and mental well-being of animals and their standing as sentient beings. We support those management practices that actively promote positive welfare rather than just ensuring an 'absence of negatives'. A good example of this is our requirement for cattle brushes across all our Tesco Sustainable Dairy Group (TSDG) farms, where we require a minimum of one brush to the nearest one hundred cows, and the inclusion of pecking objects and perches across our UK broiler supply base.

How do we collect Welfare Outcome Measure data?

Welfare Outcome Measure data is typically submitted by suppliers monthly and/or verified as part of our ongoing programme of independent Tesco Welfare Approved (TWA) inspections.

The data allows Tesco to track and trend relative performance within any given sector and monitor individual supplier performance over time. This is pivotal to our supplier engagement and enables us to support improvements and good practice. Supplier engagement includes regular one-to-ones, supplier data reviews where data is presented and discussed to guide improvement plans, and, as a minimum, an annual audit and standards webinar where our team communicates best practice and continuous

improvement to partners who are tasked with delivering the TWA programme and application of the welfare standards across our supply base.

Key measures and trends are reported by welfare theme and species group within this report. These are sector averages for the reporting period March 2024 – February 2025 (across the whole supplying geography). Previously published comparative data from the last two years is also provided as illustrative reference of performance trending and impact.

Data sets from 2022 and 2023 should however be interpreted in the context of a number of disruptive factors including the ongoing resolution of processing challenges associated with Covid-19 and sector-specific health challenges such as Avian Influenza (globally) and African Swine Fever (in central Europe) and commercial events such as the closure of processing facilities.

Farm Assurance

In addition to our Tesco Welfare Approved (TWA) Standards, which apply irrespective of country of origin, as a prerequisite, 100% of farms and species must also be certified to an approved independent assurance scheme, which is compliant with [ISO 17020](#) inspection requirements. These are listed in Table 1 along with additional schemes adhered to within our supply base that represent higher welfare standards.

All (100%) of our British and Irish farms are assured by either Red Tractor, Quality Meat Scotland, Farm Assured Welsh Lamb, Bord Bia or RSPCA Assured as a minimum and all imported products are assured to a recognised scheme benchmarked for direct UK scheme equivalence. See below for the Farm Assurance Schemes that Tesco recognise (Table 1).

Table 1: Approved independent assurance schemes recognised within Tesco supply base

Scheme	Sector	Higher Welfare Standard
Aquaculture Stewardship Council	Aquaculture	
Best Aquaculture Practices	Aquaculture	
BEIC – Lion Code	Laying Hens	
BIM Certified Quality Aquaculture	Aquaculture	
Bord Bia Sustainable Quality Assurance Schemes	Beef & Lamb/Poultry & Eggs (Irish)	
British Quality Trout	Trout	
DB Kontrol	Pigs and Poultry (Danish)	
Debio	Aquaculture (Organic)	●
Englandsgrise	Pigs (Danish)	
FAWL	Farm Assured Welsh Lamb	
GenesisGAP Chicken	Poultry	
GenesisGAP Duck	Poultry	
GenesisGAP Pig Standard	Pig	
GlobalGAP	Aquaculture	

Global Smart Livestock Practices**	All	
IAWS - Interporc	Pork	
IKB Kip	Chicken	
IKB Nederlands Varkens (+ Welfare Module)	Pigs	
IKB Varkens (+Welfare Module)	Pigs	
Interporc	Pigs	
Farm First Poultry Standards (Platinum)	Poultry	
Naturland Organic*	Aquaculture	●
NIFQAS	Pigs, Poultry, Beef & Lamb	
Organic* EU Regulation (EC) No 834/2007 and 889/20081	Warm water prawns	●
Organic* Farmers & Growers	All	●
Organic* Food Federation	All	●
Organic* Trust	Trout	●
PAI International Pig Standard	Pigs	
QS (+ Welfare Module for Pigs)	All	
Quality Meats Scotland	All	
Red Tractor	All	
Red Tractor – Enhanced Welfare Module	Chicken	●
RSPCA Assured	All	●
SKAL*	All (organic)	●
Soil Association*	All (organic)	●

*Compliant with Regulation (EU) 2018/848 as of January 2021

**Now adopted for Poultry previously certified to GlobalGap



Close confinement.

The Tesco Animal Welfare Policy states a commitment to the avoidance of close confinement systems for livestock.

Within the Tesco UK supply base, we continue to make good progress on our cage-free commitment, with 86% of shell eggs now produced in free-range or barn systems. This is despite significant challenges in overall egg supply exacerbated by the prevalence of Avian Influenza and changes to housing orders affecting free-range systems. In addition to our UK position, at Tesco Group level, 83% of shell eggs are now cage-free.

Cage-Free Eggs

Our commitment

Tesco has made a commitment to source 100% cage-free shell eggs across Own Brand and branded products for Tesco UK, ROI, Booker, and CE by December 2025. Tesco has also made a commitment to source 100% cage-free ingredient egg for Tesco UK (excluding Booker) for Own Brand products by December 2025. The relative proportion of cage-free eggs within each division of Tesco Group is shown in Table 2.

Table 2: Proportion of cage-free eggs across Tesco business units

2024/25	Group	UK	ROI	CE	Booker
% cage-free shell egg *	83%	86%	99%	48%	98%
% cage-free ingredient egg **		68%	80%		

* Shell egg data was collected during the Tesco financial year (March 2024 – February 2025)

** Ingredient egg data was collected during the calendar year of 2024 (January 2024 – December 2024)

Species-Specific Policy Commitments

Our deliverables across species groups for reducing animal confinement are detailed in Figure 2.

Figure 2: Percentage of animals free from specified confinement conditions in Tesco Group (%)

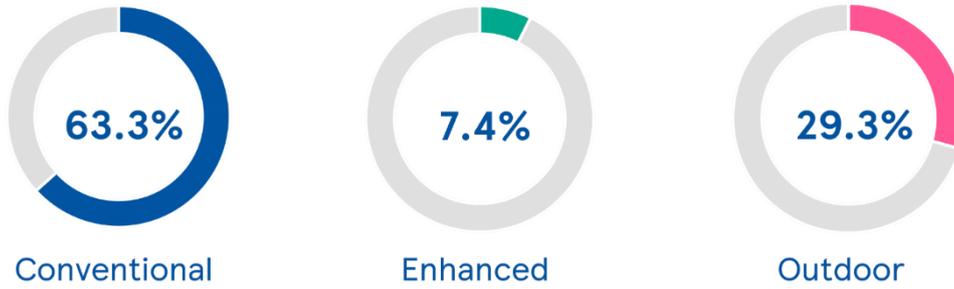


Pork Sector Confinement

Sow confinement is a key topic for the pork sector, and we have continued with our updated Outcome Measure reporting to ensure ongoing visibility of both the proportion of units and associated sow numbers practicing conventional farrowing, outdoor farrowing and indoor enhanced farrowing systems (where sow and litter are loose housed within 72 hours of farrowing) (Figure 3).

36.7% of sows in the Tesco UK supply chain (Own Brand) are housed in either adaptive farrowing (including zero confinement outdoor farrowing (29%)) or enhanced farrowing systems. In addition, as of January 2023, 100% of sows associated with Tesco UK continental pork products, Italian Parma and Spanish Serrano, are housed in an enhanced farrowing system, reflecting the progressive approaches being adopted within our supply chains. The overall percentage of pigs reared in free-farrowing, outdoor and enhanced farrowing systems has increased by almost 10% since the previous reporting period.

Figure 3: Percentage of Tesco UK pork supply chain associated with specified farrowing systems (%)





Routine physical/surgical interventions.

Tesco encourages farming practices that reduce the need for management mutilations. At present, tail docking of dairy cattle, beak trimming in commercial meat chickens, fin clipping of finfish, dubbing of cockerels and mulesing of lambs are not practiced by any producers across any Tesco businesses and geographies (Own Brand) (Table 3). In addition, live plucking for feather and down production is prohibited across Tesco Group.

Table 3: Summary of surgical interventions excluded from Tesco supply base

Procedure	Species/Sector	Tesco Scope	% Free of Mutilation
Tail docking	Dairy Cattle	Group	100%
Mulesing	Lamb	Group	100%
Beak Trimming	Meat Chickens	Group	100%
Beak Trimming	Organic Layers	Group	100%
Dubbing	Breeder Chickens (Cockerels)	UK	100%
Castration	Finished pigs	UK	100%
Teeth Clipping	Finished Pigs	UK & Italy*	100%
Fin Clipping	Finfish	UK	100%

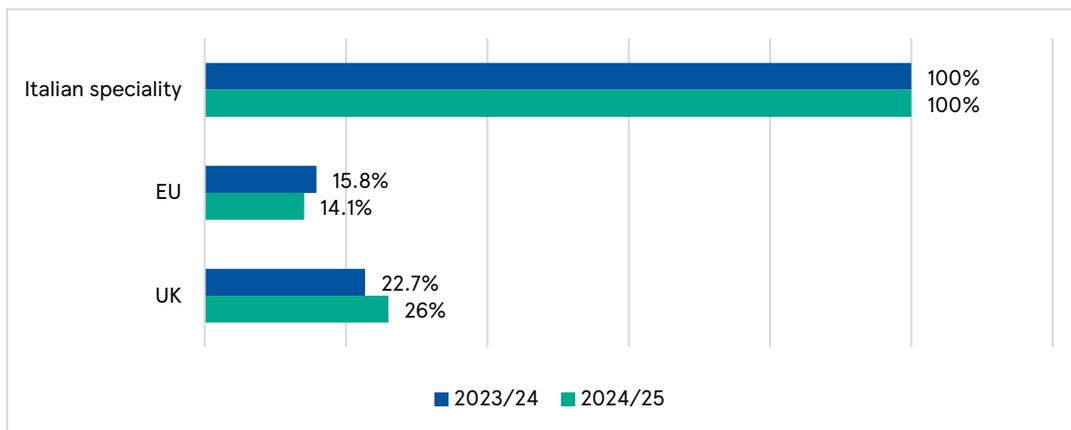
*Pigs sourced from Italy for Parma ham

No pigs finished for Tesco in the UK are castrated; 100% of males are entire, and our Dutch and Danish supply chains have committed to increasing the proportion of entire male pigs as part of their overall sustainability strategies. Our Danish supply chains have

quadrupled the total number of entire males from 450,000 pigs in 2022 to 1.7 million by the end of 2024. 100% of our Italian finished pigs used in a range of our speciality continental meats for Tesco UK are free from tail docking and tooth clipping. We updated our Outcome Measure reporting for the 2021/22 reporting period to provide greater visibility on the proportion of pigs within our supply chain that are tail docked. Current UK figures show that over a quarter (26%) were undocked. Across our entire EU pork supply base for 2024/25 reporting year the figure was 14.1% (Figure 5).

We recognise the complex considerations that underpin the decision to tail dock in pigs, i.e., short-term discomfort versus the potential for long-term issues associated with tail biting, and we require every supplying farm to have a veterinary endorsed tail biting risk assessment to justify the need for docking and the implementation of strategies to reduce tail biting where it occurs. We will continue to use these data sets as a benchmark to track performance improvements, in conjunction with greater visibility and evaluation of risk factors. We will also monitor the impact of other in-country strategies such as the scheme running in Denmark from 2024 to 2029 intended to incentivise non-docking, and the Defra Animal Health and Welfare Pathway which prioritises support for farmers to leave tails intact.

Figure 5: Proportion of undocked pigs in Italian speciality, EU, and UK supply chains (%)



Tesco encourage farming practices that reduce the need for management mutilations





Transport and fitness to travel.

As part of our TWA standards for all species (excluding aquaculture and the transport of laying hens), we require transport times to be limited to eight hours or less confirm that this policy is adhered to. It is recognised, however, that occasions arise that are outside processor or haulier control.

100% of all transport occasions are planned to be less than eight hours, and over 99% of actual farm-to-slaughter transport times are eight hours or less over land (Table 4, Item 1). For the minority of unplanned occasions where this is exceeded, we have full visibility of root cause, e.g., traffic incident.

Additional Outcome Measure reporting was introduced across Tesco UK poultry supply chains in 2021/22 to give a further breakdown of the range of transport times. This shows a consistent year-on-year trend for the majority of journeys to be completed within four hours (Table 4, Item 2) totalling 86.1% of transport occasions across combined poultry species scopes. Shorter transport times are encouraged across our supply chains both from the perspective of animal welfare but also as an important aspect of our overarching decarbonisation strategy. There are currently no retail sales or associated Tesco supply chains for rabbit meat.

Aquatic transport and harvest

Farmed species

Transportation of aquatic species poses different challenges. For this reason, Tesco actively encourages the humane slaughter of finfish and crustacea in-situ, at the site of final grow out. 100% of UK & ROI farmed trout, sea bass, and sea bream are slaughtered on farm, and 3% of salmon volume is slaughtered at pen-side with zero transport time. Where this is not possible, our TWA standards stipulate strict criteria for transport including stocking density, regular animal behaviour and water quality monitoring (oxygen, temperature, pH, salinity and chemicals). Additionally, a risk assessment to establish fitness to travel must be conducted and transport times kept to a minimum. Our shrimp farms in the most part are situated close to hatcheries and transport to farm will be less than eight hours.

For farmed finfish and shrimp, we require harvest/capture methods that minimise the welfare impact of crowding, transport, pumping and all associated slaughter activities, and includes supervision by a trained animal welfare officer. 58% of Tesco UK Own Brand *L. vannamei* shrimp are harvested/captured using pump systems which minimise handling and time out of water. 42% of volume is harvested using gentle brail techniques, and crowd times must not exceed 2 hours. 100% of farmed shrimp (*L. vannamei* & *P. monodon*) are slaughtered on farm with zero transport time and must not be out of water for greater than 15 seconds (applicable to all farmed aquaculture species).

Wild species

Capture, slaughter, and transport of wild aquatic animals, including decapod crustacea, is widely variable depending on species, fishery, vessel type, gear, holding facilities and human interaction. Tesco endeavours to better understanding and reducing any welfare impact and are actively improving data gathering to identify further action with an expectation of providing enhanced visibility of reporting in 2025/26. In 2024, our winner of the Agri T-Jam award, [FloMo](#), demonstrated exciting innovation in the area of aquatic animal capture. Specifically, FloMo provides a gentle and sustainable fishing method that is designed to capture fish more efficiently with minimal bycatch of fish and crustacea.

Aquatic handling and fasting

Tesco does not support the sale of live aquatic animals in store across the Group. Additionally, we require that all handling of farmed aquatic animals is carried out by persons trained in aquatic welfare including species-specific considerations. Fasting prior to transport is important to mitigate poor water quality in transit which can be a stressor. However, excessive fasting times can impact welfare therefore we require that times are minimised and only implemented under the guidance of a veterinarian. 100% of farmed salmon smolts are free from fasting >72 hours prior to sea transfer. 100% of farmed salmon are fasted <72 hours prior to handling events, excluding harvest (Figure 6). We are aware of and support industry efforts to make improvements in this area such as [Seafish Best Practice guidance for industry initiatives](#) and the [Crustacean Industry Welfare Hub](#).

Figure 6: Percentage of salmon fasted for <72 hours prior to key management events (%)



Red Meat Transport

The cumulative proportion of animals considered not fit for transport, dead on arrival, or requiring euthanasia is recorded and monitored to look for seasonal trends, impact of weather conditions and any other contributing factors (Table 4, Item 3).

Inter-site variation is a significant aspect, which we work with suppliers to understand and address as necessary. Where there has been an apparent increase in total average in any sector this is reviewed further. The cumulative data for lamb for 2024/25 has seen a decrease from the previous period, returning to levels seen in former years. Killed in-situ for pork has increased year-on-year. There is a suggestion that this reflects improved processes at live animal intake, with more focus on prompt intervention as opposed to an absolute increase; however, levels are still comparatively low.

Poultry transport

Poultry data for transportation fitness focuses on in-transit mortality or dead-on-arrival figures (Table 4, Item 4). Overall levels across the poultry supply base have remained comparatively static since 2020; however, a positive reduction has been seen in end-of-lay hens, with the lowest reported figure in four years. Mortality has an impact on net sustainability of production, which we continue to work with suppliers to reduce.

Table 4: Transport and fitness to travel metrics

Metric	Item	2020/21	2021/22	2022/23	2023/24	2024/25
Percentage of transport occasions completed within eight hours for cattle, sheep and pigs for Tesco UK and ROI	1					
% Pigs		-	99.8	96	99.9	99.8
% Cattle		-	99.7	100	100	100
% Sheep		-	100	100	99.3	99.4
Percentage of Poultry deliveries (chicken, turkey, duck and end-of-lay hens) completed within specified time frame for Tesco UK and ROI	2					
<i><4 hours</i>						
% Chicken			88.7	84.9	86.5	87.7
% Turkey			53	55.1	66.5	71.4
% Duck			73.2	76.2	64	50.3
% End of Lays Hens			48.3	59.4	46.9	52
<i>4-8 hours</i>						
% Chicken			11.3	15.1	13.4	12.1
% Turkey			45.7	43.7	34.9	28.3
% Duck			26.8	23.8	33.8	47.3
% End of Lays Hens			47.4	37.8	47.6	44.2
<i>8-12 hours</i>						
% Chicken			0.07	0.05	0.06	0.15
% Turkey			1.21	1.16	0.34	0.29
% Duck			0	0	2.32	2.46
% End of Lays Hens			4.3	2.64	5.41	3.64
Combined percentage of casualty animals (cattle, sheep, venison, pigs) in Tesco UK and ROI	3					
<i>Not fit for transport</i>						
% Beef		0.04	0.02	0.04	0.05	0.04
% Lamb		0.03	0.06	0.04	0.12	0.07
% Venison		-	-	-	-	-
% Pork		-	-	-	-	-
<i>Dead on arrival</i>						
% Beef		-	-	-	-	-
% Lamb		0.01	0.01	0.01	0.01	0.01
% Venison		0.018	0.017	0.012	0.009	0.017
% Pork		-	-	-	-	-
<i>Killed in situ</i>						
% Beef		-	-	-	-	-
% Lamb		0.01	0.01	0.01	0.01	0.01
% Venison		0.03	0.021	0.02	0.04	0.03
% Pork		0.11	0.12	0.13	0.17	0.18
Percentage in-transit mortality (Poultry species) for Tesco UK and ROI	4					
% Chicken		0.09	0.09	0.09	0.08	0.07
% Turkey		0.05	0.04	0.04	0.05	0.05
% Duck		0.06	0.08	0.09	0.06	0.09
% End of Lay Hens		-	0.19	0.16	0.18	0.13



Animal handling.

Red Meat

It is recognised that loading and unloading animals onto livestock vehicles can be inherently stressful and as such Tesco requires that unloading is assessed and subsequently verified as part of the independent third-party inspection process (both from live observation and historic CCTV footage). Slips and falls were monitored for both cattle and pigs until 2022. However, numbers reported for cattle were negligible and static, and in 2022 the decision was taken to amend Outcome Measures for cattle and sheep to remove the requirement to report slips as an unloading metric and instead focus on falls and post-mortem inspection data.

The percentage of falls across the livestock supply base has been comparatively stable for the last five years (Table 5, Item 1). Accuracy and consistency of reporting are being aided by an increasing number of suppliers adopting AI technology to automate the process. The higher numbers seen across the venison supply chain are still low (<1%) but are reflective of the handling challenges of moving a larger, undomesticated species.

Goad use

Goad use is prohibited across the Tesco Group for veal, lamb, and finished pigs. It is permitted (subject to strict conditions of use) for beef and venison, where the size of the animal and the safety of personnel must be considered when trying to ensure animals are moved with minimal overall intervention and net welfare impact. Where goad use is high and/or accompanied by welfare indicators such as bruising, Tesco requires handling facilities and practices to be reviewed to resolve any issues. Comparative data sets indicate a consistent (and low) level of goad use in cattle and a trend reduction in use across the venison supply chain over the last 5 years (Table 5, Item 2).

Live clipping

There is an expectation that animals are presented to processing plants at the point of unloading in a clean and healthy condition. This is both a measure of animal welfare and a food safety requirement. There are occasions where the fleece or hide of an animal is heavily soiled on arrival and some degree of clipping is required. Live clipping is discouraged as it is a handling procedure requiring animal restraint and as such, we require the incidence to be reported. Figures for beef are higher than for lamb, but the relative incidence is broadly static for lamb. A slight increase was seen for beef in the 2023/24 reporting cycle due to extended periods of wet weather (Table 5, Item 3). However, live clipping for beef in the 2024/25 reporting cycle saw a reduction of 1.83%, which is in line with the downward trend since 2019 and its lowest reported level to date.

Variation tends to be a function of environment (location, housing type, and seasonality), geography (high rainfall) and season (autumn/winter) generating periods where live clipping is far more likely compared to the rest of the production year, as illustrated by the seasonal trend graph (Figure 7).

Figure 7: Seasonal variation in incidence of live clipping (beef & lamb) for Tesco UK and ROI (%)

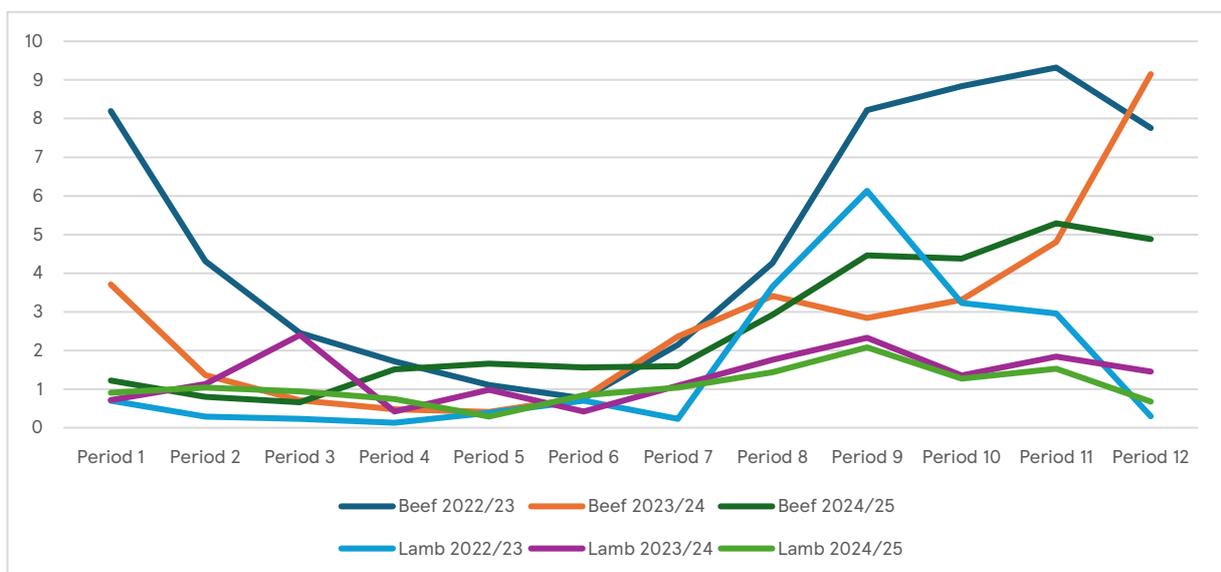


Table 5: Animal handling metrics

Metric	Item	2020/21	2021/22	2022/23	2023/24	2024/25
Percentage of falls during transport unloading (beef, lamb, pork, venison) for Tesco UK and ROI	1					
% Beef		0.03	0.03	0.02	0.03	0.02
% Lamb		0.04	0.04	0.04	0.02	0.03
% Pork		0.10	0.09	0.08	0.06	0.04
% Venison		0.74	0.63	0.64	0.81	0.54
Percentage use of handling aids (Proportion of beef and venison requiring goad use) for Tesco UK and ROI	2					
% Beef		3.70	3.95	3.74	3.70	3.48
% Venison		8.83	8.52	8.11	9.84	6.09
Percentage of animals (beef & lamb) live clipped at slaughter intake for Tesco UK and ROI	3					
% Beef		4.76	4.68	3.14	4.15	2.32
% Lamb		1.66	1.80	1.12	1.32	1.14



Slaughter.

The Tesco Group Animal Welfare Policy requires that all livestock species are pre-stunned in accordance with European regulatory requirements (Regulation 1099/2009 EC).

100% of broilers, ducks, turkeys, cattle, veal, finfish, lamb, pigs, end-of-lay hens, and venison are pre-slaughter stunned for Tesco Group (Own brand) as shown in Figure 8.

We do, however, in a small number of stores, sell branded meat or host concessions that sell un-stunned halal and kosher meat. This is to serve customers who specifically wish to purchase un-stunned meat. This meat is clearly labelled Halal or Kosher, so that our customers are able to make informed choices. At least 99% of animals destined for Tesco Group (Own Brand and branded) are stunned before slaughter, and this position remains consistent across reporting periods.

Figure 8: The percentage of animals pre-slaughter stunned across Tesco Group (Own Brand (%))

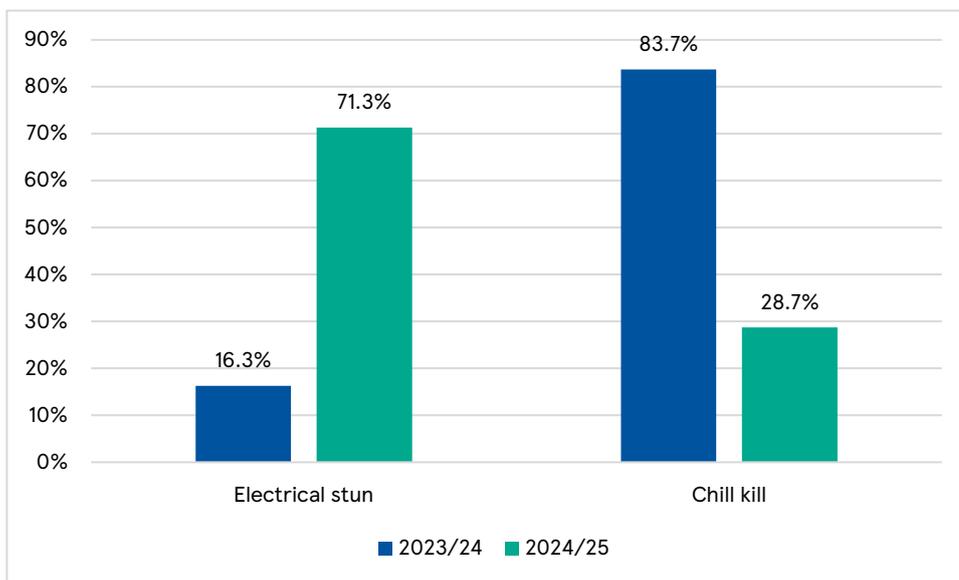


While there is currently no statutory requirement to adhere to prescribed methods of stun and slaughter for fish, 100% of Own Brand salmon, trout, sea bass, sea bream, and pangasius across Tesco Group are slaughtered to industry best practice, such as electrical stunning or automated percussive stunning prior to slaughter. Methods such as the use of ice slurry (chill kill) or gill cut without prior stunning are explicitly prohibited.

Tesco UK and ROI source farmed aquatic species from a global supply chain, where enhanced welfare schemes such as RSPCA Assured are absent. Therefore, to ensure higher welfare standards are met globally, Tesco requires suppliers to comply with our Slaughter Standard. Higher welfare parameters include crowding, handling, harvest, slaughter, and the implementation of Welfare Outcome Measures. In 2024/25, the primary method of humane stunning for salmon was percussion in 76% and electric in 24% of slaughter sites.

In 2024, we published the [Tesco Farmed Decapod Crustacean Welfare Policy](#) which covers practices applied during capture, on-board holding/sorting, landing, storage, transport and slaughter. We are working with our suppliers to facilitate the adoption of more humane stun systems in harvesting shrimp to meet our policy commitment. In 2024/25, 71.3% of warm water prawns are now electrically stunned (Figure 9), an increase of 55% from the previous year.

Figure 9: Proportion of warm water prawns (Tesco UK and ROI) stunned by stated method year-on-year (%)



Poultry and Pigs – Controlled Atmosphere Systems

In poultry, it is still the case that the majority (85.1%) of broilers processed across Tesco UK & ROI are stunned using biphasic or inert gas Controlled Atmosphere Systems (CAS) (Table 6, Item 1).

This is also the case for our pig supply chain, with 96.7% of pigs processed across Tesco Group being stunned using CAS (Table 6, Item 2), with the remaining 3.3% electrically stunned. However, Tesco remains dedicated to engaging with industry projects, such as [PigStun](#), to actively seek robust alternatives to CO₂. We support initiatives to develop commercially viable alternatives to the use of high-concentration carbon dioxide as a stunning method for all species, however, it is essential that any replacement delivers the same pre-stunning handling benefits as achieved currently and ensures a consistent, irrecoverable stun.

Secondary stunning

In addition to requiring that all species are pre-slaughter stunned, we recognise that the effectiveness and consistency of stunning is crucial to animal welfare during the slaughter process.

We favour the use of methods that result in an irrecoverable stun (stun-kill) such as the Controlled Atmosphere Stunning (CAS) systems used in the majority of our pig and poultry supply chains. We recognise the debate in relation to the use of Carbon Dioxide in CAS systems for pigs. However, in the absence of commercially viable, scientifically validated alternatives, Outcome Measure data continues to illustrate the net benefits of the system

(relative to electrical stunning) in terms of effectiveness of primary stun. Where electrical or percussive systems are used, our suppliers report on the percentage of animals that require a secondary or 'back-up' stun (Table 6, Item 3).

The higher figures seen in our beef and venison supply chains reflect a proportion of human 'health and safety' stuns to minimise spontaneous post-stun movement. After 2022, a differentiation of secondary stuns in terms of 'health and safety' as opposed to 'stun failure' has been included in reporting requirements to provide absolute visibility and better cross-species comparative data.

Electrically stunned poultry may show some post-stun responsiveness in a minority of cases. Similarly, where a bird misses the automated neck cut, a manual back up will be used to ensure that 100% of birds are effectively stunned and slaughtered. Both these parameters are carefully monitored to ensure animals are insensible throughout (Table 6, Item 4).

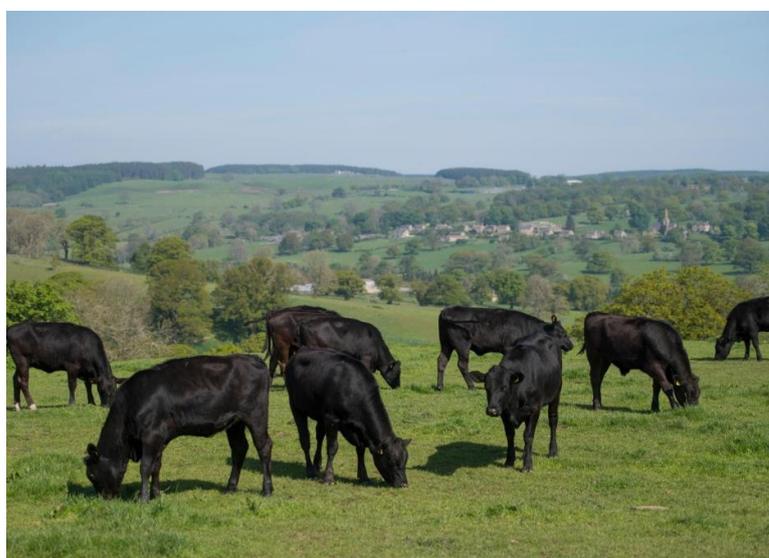
Tesco promotes the use of CAS systems that induce an irrecoverable stun-kill. These systems are widely used in broiler and turkey supply chains (hence the lower values for responsiveness post-stun). However, duck physiology makes the application of CAS systems more difficult, and higher responsiveness figures are associated with the necessary use of electrical stunning systems. There has nevertheless been a significant reduction in post-stun responsiveness within the duck supply chain in the last two reporting years.

Humane slaughter systems in farmed fish are in place in 100% of our supply chain; however, the adoption of technology and measuring outcomes in this area is relatively recent compared to terrestrial animals.

Table 6: Slaughter metrics

Metric	Item	2020/21	2021/22	2022/23	2023/24	2024/25
Percentage of broilers stunned by stated method (Electrical Versus Biphasic or Inert Controlled Atmosphere Systems) for Tesco UK and ROI	1					
% Biphasic or Inert Gas CAS system		-	-	93.3	85.4	85.1
% Electrical Stunning		-	-	6.7	14.6	14.9
Pigs stunned by stated method (Electrical Versus Controlled Atmosphere Systems)	2					
% Electrical		-	-	8.59	3.90	3.30
% CAS		-	-	91.41	96.10	96.70
Percentage Incidence of Red Meat animals (beef, lamb, venison, pork) requiring secondary stunning for Tesco UK	3					
% Beef		0.46	0.35	0.37	0.57	0.48
% Lamb		0.02	0.02	0.03	0.04	0.04
% Venison		0.78	0.7	0.69	0.87	0.7
% Pork		0.02	0.01	0.02	0.02	0.02
Percentage Incidence of poultry (chicken, turkey, duck) requiring secondary stunning for Tesco UK and ROI	4					
% Chicken		0.01	0.008	0.009	0.002	0.001
% Turkey		0	0	0	0	0
% Duck		0.19	0.09	0.1	0.01	0

We are supportive of trialling suitable methods of improved stunning when they become commercially available across all species sectors.





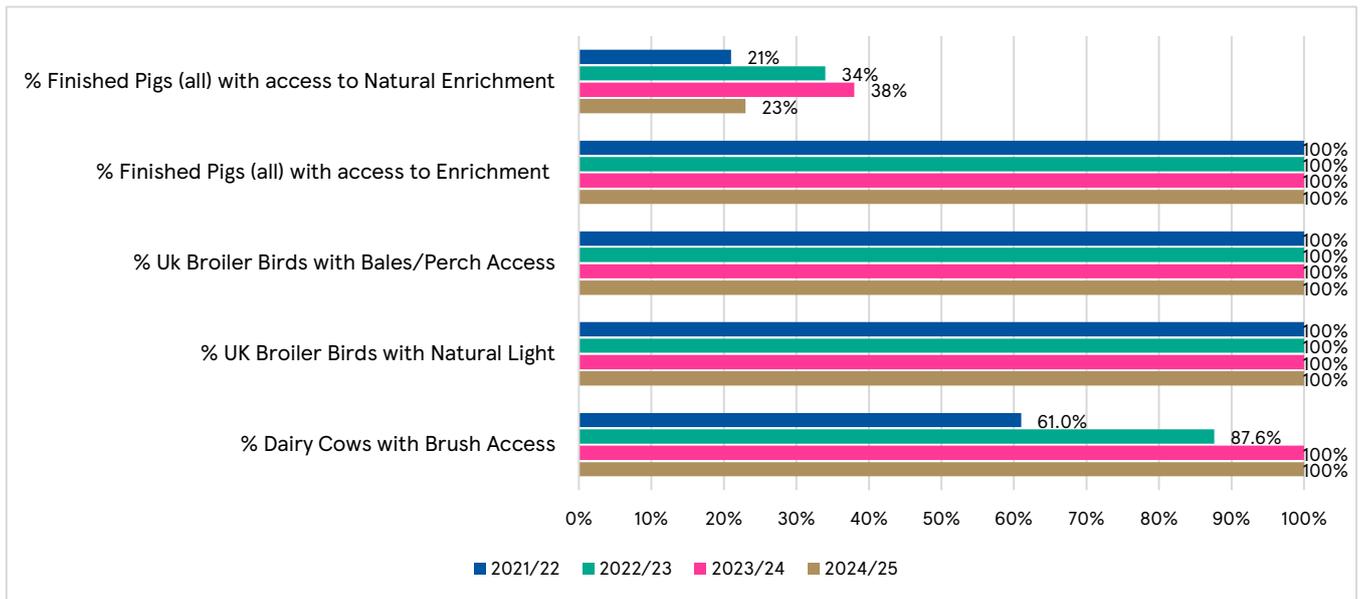
Cross-species enrichment.

The provision of an environment that supports the display of a range of natural behaviours is crucial to the mental and physical well-being of animals.

An appropriate environment is multi-faceted in that resource allocation (space allowances, feed and water provision) must support maintenance behaviours and minimise competition as a prerequisite, while additional enrichment media promote improved well-being.

Providing enrichment materials is one of the ways we can stimulate animals in their environment. Animal enrichment must satisfy key species-specific characteristics to be considered optimal. Where this cannot be achieved through the provision of a single substrate (e.g., straw for pigs), then a variety of different enrichment types must be provided which collectively meet behavioural needs. Figure 10 gives an overview of some of the enrichment types used across our supply chain.

Figure 10: Percentage provision of enrichment by species type supplying Tesco UK and ROI (%)



100% of all pigs supplied into Own Brand product across Tesco Group are provided with enrichment and all our Finest* pork is reared and finished in straw-based systems satisfying the criteria for optimal enrichment at each life stage. Additionally, all of our pork sourced from Germany for Tesco UK is provided with natural enrichment sources such as straw, hay, shavings or wood, reflecting in-country legislative requirements, and similarly our suppliers in Italy and Spain have now moved to this requirement, demonstrating the innovative use of materials such as compressed alfalfa blocks to facilitate pigs natural rooting behaviours.

Slower Grown Chicken

Tesco UK introduced its 'Slower Grown', previously launched as 'Room to Roam' chicken range several years ago, in addition to the existing higher welfare offerings of Finest* Free Range chicken and Organic chicken. 'Slower Grown' systems use a slower growing bird, which have a maximum stocking density of 30kg/m² or below and meet growth per day thresholds defined by RSPCA Assured. Birds raised in this system have 20% more space provided than the industry standard of 38kg/m². Within the Tesco UK global supply base for 2024/25, 16% of broiler chicken were raised at or below stocking densities of 30kg/m² (Figure 11), and 1.4% were slower-growing breeds (Figure 12). As of March 2025, we have implemented our commitment to rear all our UK fresh chicken at 30kg/m² or less. With the completion of our commitment on stocking density, we introduced our Slower Grown range to complement our other own brand chicken ranges.

Figure 11: Percentage of broiler birds stocked at 30kg/m² or below for Tesco UK 2024/25 (%)

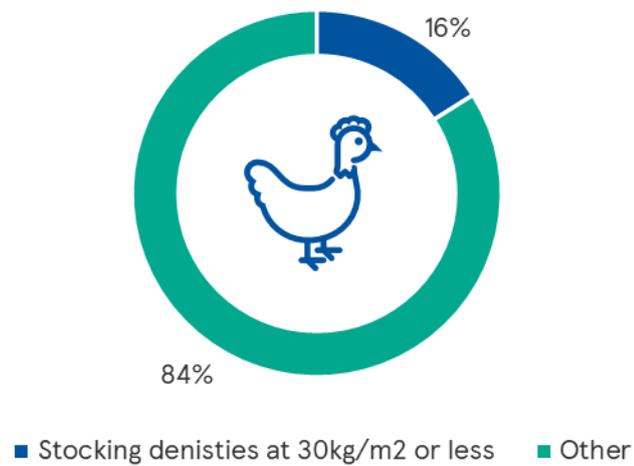
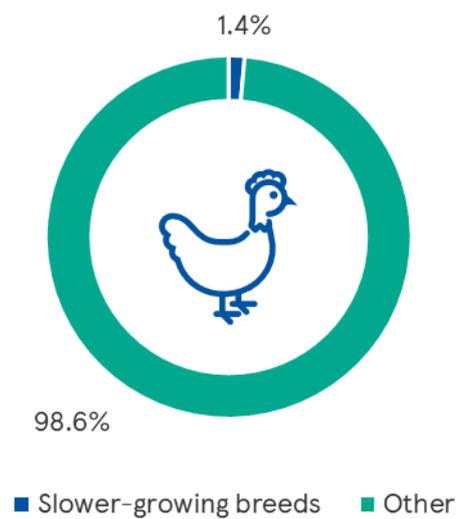


Figure 12: Percentage of Tesco UK broiler chicken sourced from slower-growing breeds 2024/25 (%)



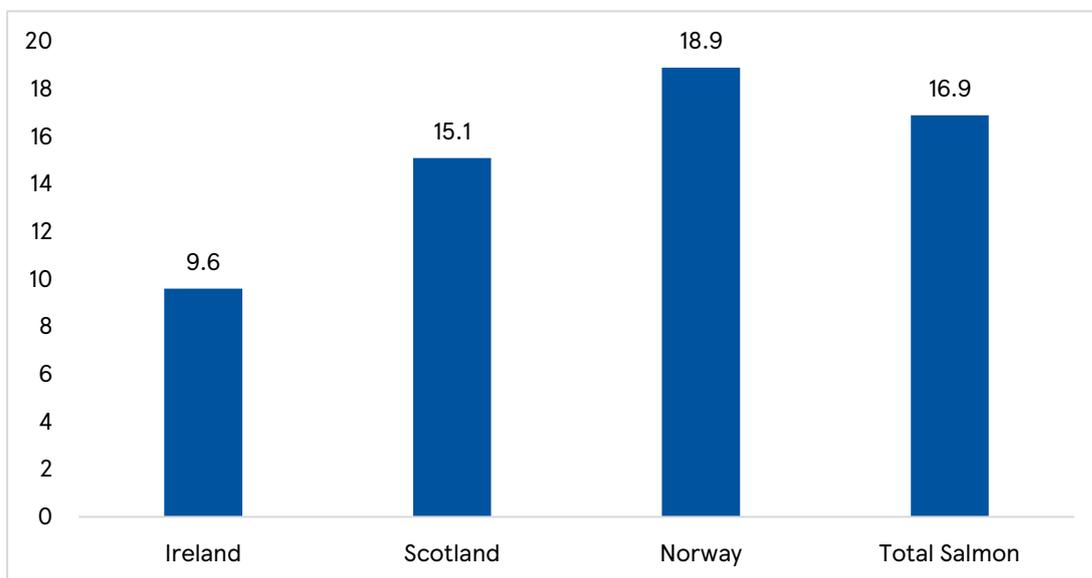


Aquaculture stocking rates

Maximum stocking density is reviewed as part of aquaculture Welfare Outcome Measure reporting. Organic salmon supplied to Tesco UK and ROI is reared to higher welfare standards (RSPCA Assured and Organic) and is required to farm at lower stocking densities of 10kg/m³ or less. For 2024, organic salmon represented 1.42% of total salmon volume, and 100% of Irish salmon supplied.

Tesco Finest* salmon is reared to RSPCA Assured standards and is required to farm at stocking densities of 17kg/m³ or less. Figure 13 shows the stocking densities of salmon across different geographies. The average maximum farm stocking density for all salmon supplied was 16.9 kg/m³ and never above 25 kg/m³. In reality, average farm stocking density will be much lower.

Figure 13: Average maximum salmon farm stocking density (kg/m³) reported for Tesco UK & ROI



100% of our farmed salmon is reared in open net pens at sea, and there is no use of recirculating aquaculture systems (RAS) used for the grow out stage.



Species deep dive.

Dairy cattle

Members of the Tesco Sustainable Dairy Group (TSDG) and Sustainable Cheese Group (TCG) are independently assessed at farm level to track and trend performance against key welfare Outcome Measures and targets.

[Our TSDG farmers supply all of our liquid fresh milk into Tesco UK.](#)

There is a high proportion of dairy farms meeting compliance targets, indicating that key management considerations such as nutrition, housing and health care are consistently being met. It is encouraging that despite targets being increased over time, the proportion of TSDG producers meeting those targets has typically remained unchanged (Figure 26) indicating relative performance improvement as targets change.

In addition to this, as part of the Tesco Welfare Approved Standard, for TSDG and TCG animals:

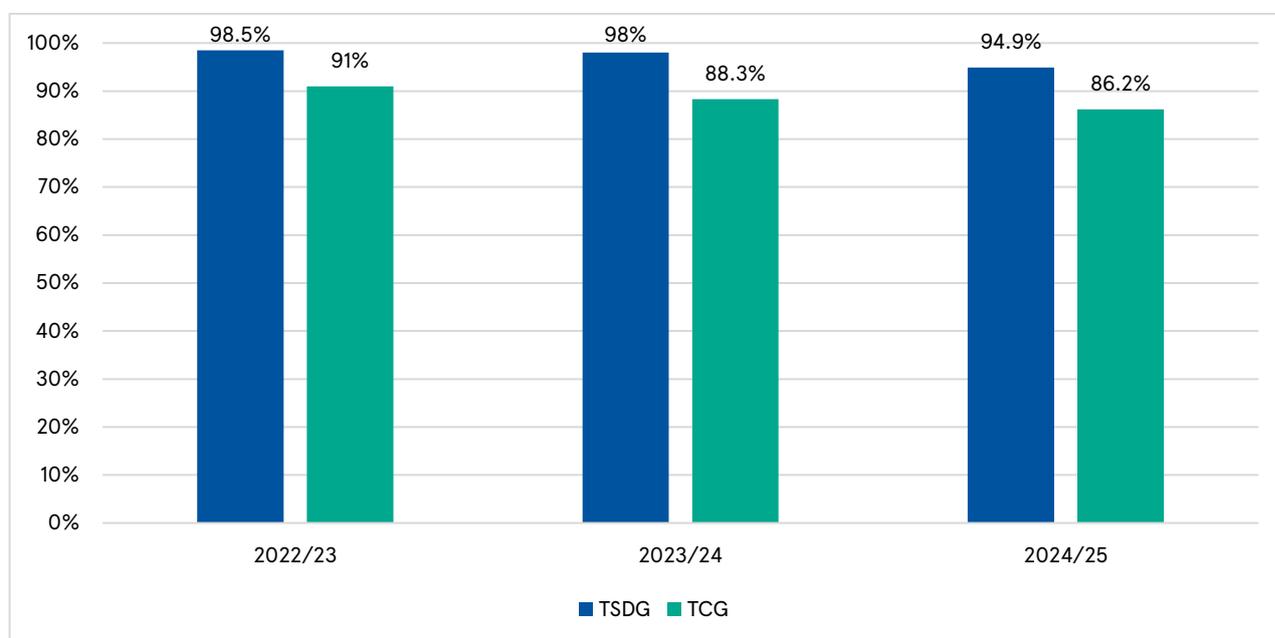
- 0% are housed in fully slatted systems
- 100% of cattle are not tethered at any point of life
- Where dehorning is undertaken, this is always (100%) performed under 5 months of age

Our organic dairy herds and over 60% of the herds in our TCG are provided with pasture access of at least 6 hours per day for 120 days per year. For this year, 4.3% of our milk volume was sourced from organic herds with pasture access.

The incidence of Johnes in the TCG has remained static, with a marginal increase seen in the TSDG (Figure 14). Tesco has established a threshold intervention value (98% of the herd free from Johnes) which is higher than the UK national average (97.3%), and overall incidence across the supply chain as a whole is still consistent with good practice in terms of management strategies to support clinical control.

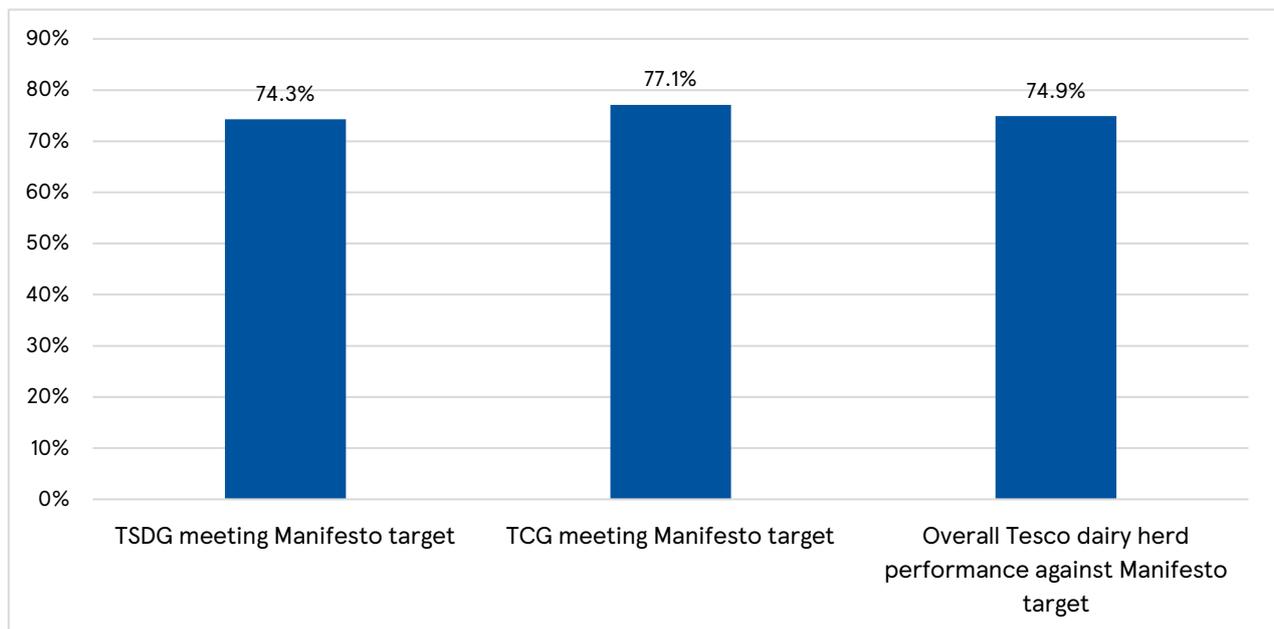
The UK national average is below 97.3% Johnes negative as a benchmark, as opposed to the Tesco target of 98%. When comparing against this, only 2.3% of total Tesco herds do not meet the UK target.

Figure 14: Proportion of TSDG and TCG dairy farms meeting compliance targets on absence of Johnes (% herds reporting more than 98% Johnes negative herds) (%)



The industry Dairy Cattle Mobility Steering Group has set new ambitious targets in their Lameness Manifesto to reduce lameness to a 5% herd average by 2044, in at least 95% of all British dairy herds. The Tesco Dairy Sustainability Groups are performing well against these, as shown in Figure 15.

Figure 15: Proportion of TSDG and TCG dairy farms meeting the GB Dairy Cow Lameness Manifesto targets (%)



Poultry

Mortality

Mortality is the measure of those animals that die or are euthanised on farm as a consequence of disease or injury. Mortality levels vary with species and external factors such as seasonal fluctuation, health challenges and a range of environmental conditions, which in turn can be a consequence of geography. Understandably, it is a key measure of on-farm welfare across our global poultry supply base and one which is closely monitored. Mortality data is also reviewed within the context of antibiotic trends. The Tesco Antibiotic Commitments emphasise responsible use (and specifically no prophylactic or routine metaphylaxis), but this must not be at the expense of bird welfare.

By tracking, trending, and correlating mortality and antibiotic data we can ensure there is no restriction in use of antibiotics at the expense of bird health.

Leg culls associated with leg weakness

A specific subset of mortality data relates to the proportion of birds that require culling for reasons associated with leg weakness. The percentage of birds culled for leg issues is consistent across species and remains proportional with any changes in absolute mortality levels. It also indicates that sites are taking a proactive approach to managing bird mobility.

There have been reductions in overall duck and broiler mortalities (Table 7, Item 1). While challenges in the turkey supply chain have continued, mortality has remained below the peak seen in 2021/22 and to some extent the higher levels are indicative of the longer

production cycle for turkeys compared to other poultry species. Importantly, the relative incidence of leg culls has remained stable over this time period.

Lesions

Tesco is devoted to housing systems and environmental management that ensure the occurrence of foot pad lesions (pododermatitis) in chickens, ducks and turkeys, leg lesions (hock burn) in chickens, and breast blisters in turkeys are minimised. Tesco liaise with individual suppliers and communicate evidence of good practice and associated on-farm management where individual suppliers are achieving significantly lower figures than the average.

Tesco does not recognise an acceptable level of pododermatitis (Table 7, Item 2) or hock burn (Table 7, Item 3). Unlike many scoring systems which only report on the presence of more severe lesions, the Tesco data represents absolute values, for example, where there is any indication of contact redness or abrasion, however minimal. Pododermatitis in broiler chickens remains below the 30% figures seen pre-2021, but this average does include a considerable range due to geographic variation. It has long been known that levels of pododermatitis are higher in the UK and Northern Europe compared to Thailand. Duck pododermatitis levels have reduced to their lowest reported figure in 5 years, which is very encouraging progress in this sector.

In addition, a 41% reduction in percentage incidence of hock burn in chickens has been observed since the last reporting year, and the incidence of breast blisters in turkey has marginally reduced.

Laying Hens

We continue to transition our laying hen supply chain to cage-free egg production but additionally, are also supporting the move towards a higher proportion of white birds (and white eggs) rather than exclusively brown flocks. Trended data sets appear to provide early signs that white flocks can remain in productive lay for longer (based on average age of depopulation). This is potentially reflective of positive health and welfare outcomes and additionally delivers sustainability benefits.

Mortality

As with other poultry species, Tesco collates mortality information in relation to commercial laying flocks. As the proportion of colony cage production decreases and the proportion of barn production increases (consistent with progress on the Tesco cage-free commitment) we have asked suppliers to report each method of production separately. This helps us to understand seasonal trends and those factors which may result in bird losses, specifically disease challenge. Flock age at depletion (i.e. 'end-of-lay') will inevitably impact total mortality and so we ask suppliers to report a standardised figure at 70 weeks (Table 7, Item 4), and a final figure and average flock age (Table 7, Item 5) to better assess relative performance. Standardised 70-week mortality has remained remarkably consistent across all production types over successive years. The data sets confirm that the increase in end-of-lay mortality rates is correlated with a similar increase in average

flock age. However, the data sets for barn production require cautious interpretation as this is still a minority consideration, where a single high value may disproportionately impact averages (e.g., end-of-lay mortality in the current reporting cycle).

Feather coverage

Tesco recognises the impact that injurious pecking behaviours have in laying hen flocks and encourages the implementation of strategies as outlined by the [Bristol University FeatherWel](#) initiative to minimise occurrence. Feather coverage is assessed and scored in all commercial egg-laying flocks supplying into Tesco UK and ROI from 40 weeks of age. This enables producers to monitor conditions or behaviours that may result in feather loss and respond accordingly. A score of 0 indicates complete feather coverage, while a score of 2 indicates a degree of feather loss. Most birds retain all or most of their feather coverage whilst in lay and only a minority of flocks have evidence of agonistic behaviours. Feather scores have remained broadly consistent up to the 2023/24 reporting period. In 2024/25 there has been an increase in score 0 (no feather loss) and reduction in score 2 (moderate feather loss), suggesting a trend toward improved management and bird health status across the supply base as a whole (Table 7, Item 6).

Beak treatment

As part of the Tesco commitment towards the avoidance of routine physical interventions, we collect detailed information on both the instances and method of beak treatment (Table 7, Item 7). Beak treatment should be avoided, but where required, methods must minimise bird discomfort. All birds receive a score of either no beak treatment carried out (score 1), or they have been treated at day old in the hatchery (score 2), on farm (score 3), or because of emergency intervention (score 4). In 2024/25, 17.2% of free-range flocks were reported as not beak treated (Score 1), in comparison to 5% of all laying hens across Tesco Group.

Pigs

Lameness is recognised as a key welfare indicator in pigs and reflects historic housing and handling conditions. Skin lesions or ‘fight damage’ can arise due to mixing unfamiliar groups of pigs, or pigs being held in unfamiliar surroundings. We require that pigs are kept in their established farm groups during transport and lairage and that the time pigs are held in the lairage is minimised. All processing sites now consistently ensure that minimum numbers are held overnight and don’t exceed 25% of their daily processing numbers on any individual occasion. Pig welfare post-transit is further monitored by assessment of lameness and skin damage; the levels of which are consistently low across our supply base (Table 7, Item 8) indicating housing and transit handling are to a good standard.

There has been a year-on-year reduction in the incidence of lame pigs. The slight trend increase in the number of pigs held overnight may be reflective of the impact of site closures and interruptions to pig flow due to extreme weather events, but nevertheless the figure remains well below the Tesco threshold target of 25%. The increase in skin lesions seen between 2020 and 2022 appears to have returned to levels consistent with

2019. There are some minor year-on-year fluctuations, but overall this suggests a net downward trend in skin lesions over the past three years.

Beef Cattle & Lamb

Post-mortem inspection data is of increasing value in terms of providing an overview of animal experience on farm, for example the incidence of pneumonia/liver fluke, or transit and handling (e.g. bruising). These metrics were introduced into the Tesco Outcome Measures programme for cattle and sheep in 2022 and results for 2024/25 (Table 7, Item 9) indicate a year-on-year reduction in incidence of all condemnations for lamb and beef.

Lamb

Wherever possible, we support a move away from processes such as tail docking and castration. However, this must be balanced against the potential welfare impact of associated challenges in a pasture-based system, such as 'flystrike'. Given the relationship between tail length and discomfort associated with the docking process (the longer the tail, the less the impact) we actively monitor tail length. We prohibit short docking (score 2) and require the maximum possible length to remain (score 0), whilst retaining the long-term management benefits of docking where strictly necessary.

Across the supply base, there has been a proportional year-on-year increase in the number of animals with tail score 0 (long dock or no dock) (Table 7, Item 10). Score 2 has been exclusively associated with the New Zealand supply base and reflects the challenges in highly extensive systems where mulesing is absolutely prohibited. There has, however, been a very significant improvement in docking length specifically across the New Zealand supply base in the last 3 years, and this has driven the increase of over 25% in score 0s. Score 2 percentages are now negligible.

Table 7: Species specific metrics

Metric	Item	2020/21	2021/22	2022/23	2023/24	2024/25
Percentage mortality and incidence of leg culls within Tesco UK and ROI poultry (chicken, turkey, duck) supply chains	1					
<i>Mortality</i>						
% Chicken		3.78	3.71	3.64	3.50	3.32
% Turkey		13.16	14.22	7.54	7.23	10.11
% Duck		4.07	4.78	7.94	3.04	4.21
<i>Leg Culls</i>						
% Chicken		0.78	0.82	0.75	0.72	0.63
% Turkey		1.3	1.3	1.3	1.1	1.40
% Duck		0.6	0.6	0.8	0.9	0.76
Percentage incidence of pododermatitis within Tesco UK and ROI poultry supply chains (chicken, turkey & duck)	2					
% Chicken		31.16	21.82	25.45	23.86	26.12
% Turkey		73.73	69.18	63.01	71.34	62.47
% Duck		71.28	57.23	55.97	49.49	33.59
Percentage Incidence of Hock Burn (chicken) and Breast Blister (turkey) within Tesco UK and ROI Poultry supply chains	3					
<i>Hockburn</i>						
% Chicken		10.5	18.3	27.3	26.1	15.3
<i>Breast Blister</i>						
% Turkey		6.5	6.3	5.5	3.6	2.8
Mortality at 70 weeks and end-of-lay by method of production for Tesco UK and ROI	4					
<i>Mortality at 70 weeks</i>						
% Colony Cage		-	4.79	7.40	5.90	7.07
% Free Range		-	6.30	6.20	6.02	5.50
% Barn		-	7.03	6.70	5.19	6.70
<i>End-of-Lay Mortality</i>						
% Colony Cage		-	10.60	9.79	9.35	9.32
% Free Range		-	7.67	7.50	9.11	9.44
% Barn		-	8.70	7.20	8.20	17.37
Average flock age (weeks) by method of production for Tesco UK and ROI	5					
Colony Cage		73.29	74.30	82.90	91.25	86.80
Free Range		76.93	74.82	74.90	79.18	86.60
Barn		76.39	75.50	77.85	81.27	93.30
Proportion of feather coverage scores 0, 1 and 2 in laying hens for Tesco UK and ROI	6					
<i>0</i>						
Head/Neck		43.25	43.90	43.90	43.84	56.33
Back/Vent		43.73	41.86	41.36	42.16	54.18
<i>1</i>						
Head/Neck		38.96	40.50	41.00	35.90	30.29
Back/Vent		38.52	36.60	37.44	34.91	30.64

2						
Head/Neck		18.05	15.60	15.10	20.29	13.21
Back/Vent		23.84	21.54	21.20	22.94	15.18
Associated score 1s (no beak treatment) in free range flocks and all laying Hens (Tesco Group)	7					
Free Range		-	-	-	18.6	17.2
All laying Hens		-	-	-	5.0	5.0
Percentage incidence of Pork Outcome Measures for Tesco UK	8					
% Lameness		0.13	0.08	0.17	0.09	0.08
% Skin Lesions		2.47	2.46	1.05	1.21	1.33
%Lairaged Overnight		3.73	2.50	2.81	3.55	3.49
Percentage occurrence of post-mortem conditions in beef and lamb supplied into Tesco UK and ROI	9					
<i>Beef</i>						
% Fluke		-	-	5.48	7.39	6.08
% Pneumonia		-	-	1.49	2.31	2.19
% Bruising		-	-	0.60	0.81	0.39
<i>Lamb</i>						
% Fluke		-	-	0.53	0.41	0.13
% Pneumonia		-	-	2.63	2.31	2.19
% Bruising		-	-	0.40	0.08	0.008
Percentage occurrence of tail length scores in lamb supply to Tesco UK and ROI	10					
0		67.39	68.80	93.43	93.32	96.6
1		29.15	27.43	5.26	4.48	2.7
2		3.35	3.12	1.30	1.82	0.7



Aquatic Animals

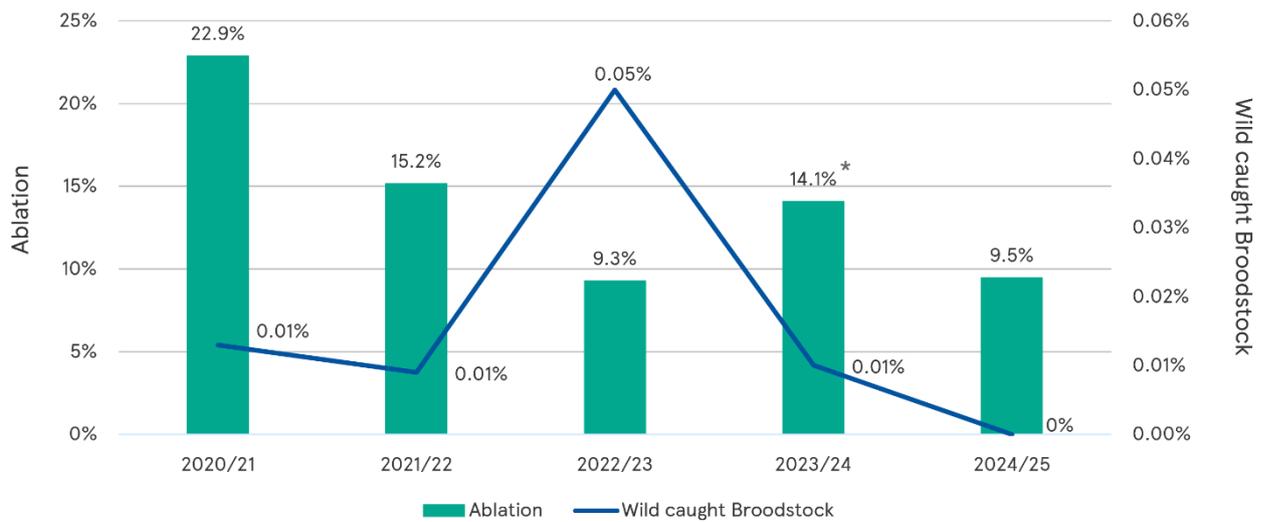
Shrimp

Tesco introduced farm welfare standards for shrimp in 2014. These cover the hatchery, transport, farming and harvest and are independently audited. The Tesco Sustainable Aquaculture and Fisheries Team have visibility of audit reports and any feedback, with discussion integral to the ongoing supplier relationship.

In August 2024, Tesco published a [decapod crustacean policy](#), addressing welfare and sustainability considerations in farmed species and developed in alignment with the [Aquatic Life Institute](#). This was heralded by the wider industry as a groundbreaking policy to improve decapod crustacean welfare, and has set a new industry standard.

Our method of data collection was improved in 2024/25, which accounts for a slight change in the reporting of ablation data. There has been significant progress towards our commitment of 100% ablation-free within our Tesco UK & ROI supply chain by 2026, with 100% of shrimp from Central America already ablation-free, and others are well on track at 84.5% of broodstock in Thailand, and 56.9% in Indonesia. For 2024/25, over 90% of our *L. vannamei* shrimp were derived from ablation-free broodstock (Figure 16). *P. monodon* were not supplied in 2024/25 but will be in 2025/26. Wild-caught broodstock (generally *Penaeus monodon* (Giant Tiger Shrimp) production in extensive systems) is a minimal percentage of the total.

Figure 16: Proportion of shrimp product supplied to Tesco UK & ROI practicing ablation (%)



* Revised since the 2023/24 report

Cleaner fish

Cleaner fish are co-habiting species in salmon aquaculture that can be used to lower sea lice burden. Farming with cleaner fish must consider the welfare of that species. For Scottish and Irish salmon farms, this is covered by RSPCA Assured. In addition to this, and for Norway, we require a plan for the humane management, capture and slaughter at harvest for cleaner fish, thereby minimising the welfare impact. In 2024/25, 33% of our farmed salmon were reared without cleaner fish (Tesco UK & ROI).



Innovation.

We believe innovation, research and development are integral to ensuring our supply chains are efficient, safe, responsible and sustainable. The key focus of Tesco supported research and development in agriculture is to ensure direct positive impact at farm level including improvements in animal health and welfare.

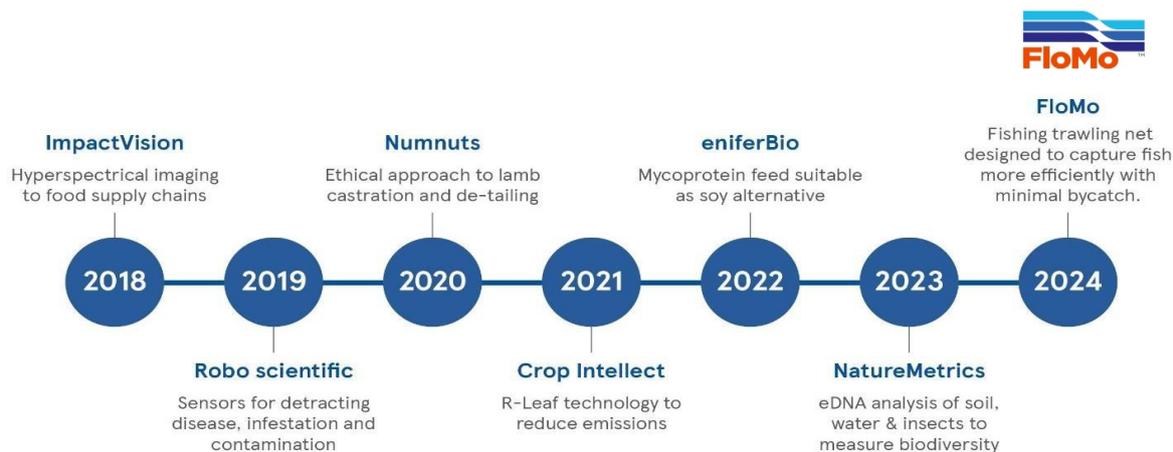
Enabling innovation sits across several key workstreams, including our Tesco Sustainable Farming Groups, supporting Government Innovation Centres, working closely with our innovative suppliers through the Tesco R&D Committee, and our flagship future facing event, the Agri T-Jam, which was launched in 2018.

Agri T-Jam

Our Agri T-Jam event has the ambition of helping make a positive difference within our supply chains on the key challenges facing the agricultural sector. Exciting agri-tech companies with solutions to some of our current and future challenges and opportunities pitch their technologies to us, our supply chain partners and investors. Novel approaches to addressing health and welfare issues are a priority criteria. Past T-Jam winners and several finalists have gone on to set up trials in our supply base. Crop Intellect (winners in

2021) are now part of Tesco's commercial low-carbon fertiliser trial with five major fresh produce suppliers.

The 2023 winner, Nature Metrics, converts complex eDNA analysis of soil, water and insects into simple metrics which can be viewed through its Nature Intelligence Platform, allowing users to comprehensively report on biodiversity improvement in their supply chain. The 2024 winner, FloMo, provides a trawling technology that monitors fishing nets in real-time to optimise performance and promote sustainable fishing. The key themes for 2025 applicants include improving animal health and welfare, responsible reduction of antibiotic use, and the development of rapid disease diagnostics for farmed species.



Government Innovation Centres

We actively support UK Government initiatives that foster collaboration between the food industry and academic researchers to transform the productivity of the UK livestock sector. As a member of UK Agri-Tech Centre, we are contributing to its development through participation in key management boards.

In 2022, we received recognition from Compassion in World Farming (CIWF) for leading the way in crustacean welfare through the introduction of a humane slaughter system for Whiteleg Shrimp (*Litopenaeus vannamei*) into commercial practice. In 2024, we established our commitment to farmed decapod welfare through the publication of our [Farmed Decapod Crustacean Welfare Policy](#) and are supporting farmers with the adoption of innovative solutions to implement electric pre-slaughter stunning across the supply base.



Celebrating success in our supply chain.

Open Farm Sunday

We are proud to be a principal sponsor of Open Farm Sunday and want to help our customers understand how their food is produced, from the experts who produce it. Every year, we support suppliers and farmers who welcome the public to their farms – both virtually and in person – to educate them on food production standards, particularly animal health and welfare, and sustainable farming practices. The initiative is seeing an increasing number of participating farms every year, which is great for public visibility of the positive work that our supplying farmers are doing.

Fair For Farmers Guarantee

The Fair For Farmers guarantee is one way we communicate the great work of our producers, tell the story of our food and show customers how our farmers meet our welfare standards and care for their cows. This is communicated on every single bottle of fresh milk. The Guarantee demonstrates to the consumer that our Tesco dairy farmers are getting a fair deal, with a price above the cost of production for their fresh milk, even if the price to the customer changes, and every pint is 100% British.

Commitment to more space for chicken

In order to increase the customer reach of higher welfare standards, we announced in mid-June 2024, that by the first half of 2025, 100% of our fresh chicken will be produced with 20% more space than the industry standard. This means our chickens enjoy more room to move around and will continue to have access to enriched environments, like straw bales, perches, pecking objects, and natural light. These changes represent a big improvement in animal welfare across the industry and builds on our commitment to higher welfare standards.

Showcasing our work

Additionally, we showcase the commitment and best practice of our suppliers and the care shown to animals through our Tesco communication channels, including social media (Instagram, Linked In), our PLC website, and our Tesco Magazine.

Alongside these customer facing initiatives, we also have representation on other key industry welfare initiatives, such as the Compassion in World Farming (CiWF) stakeholder roundtable on alternative farrowing systems for pigs and we are actively collating first hand case study material on commercially viable options other than traditional farrowing systems.

Future Dairy Partnership

In November 2024, Tesco and its milk suppliers joined forces to launch a farmer-led partnership which aims to put sustainability at the heart of the dairy industry. The launch of the [Future Dairy Partnership](#) marks a significant step towards uniting the dairy industry to accelerate reduction of emissions, farm in harmony with nature, and commit to higher animal welfare standards. Building on the foundation of the Tesco Sustainable Dairy Group, the partnership will see two milk processors working together to innovate, share learnings and collaborate to go faster towards sector improvements.

Greenprint for UK farming

67% of farmers are seeing the impact of climate change on their farms, which undoubtedly puts different pressures on the health and welfare of their livestock. Our [Greenprint](#) report, published alongside our partners at Harper Adams University's School of Sustainable Food and Farming is the result of consultation with our farmers. The report sets out recommendations across several key areas, including a long-term vision for the sector, financial certainty, innovation, standards and data, and attracting future talent. To help us meet the recommendations set out in the report, we've launched two low carbon concept farms to test and learn new technology on working farms.

Sustainable Pig Group

In 2025, we relaunched and extended the [Sustainable Pig Group](#). The Group will cover all UK production methods, with an ambition to triple in scope to cover all core fresh pork and sausages. Farmers will receive a combination of cost of production and market price plus incentives, giving producers greater stability in pricing, helping to support longer term investment. Animal welfare improvements will be incentivised, with an initial focus

on increasing the number of farms with enhanced farrowing, and a reduction in stocking densities.

Tesco Ireland Eggs

In August 2024, we reported that 100% of our Tesco Ireland Own Brand eggs (over 20 million annually) are barn, free range and organic only, ahead of the target of 2025. All the farms are Bord Bia accredited and demonstrate that a commitment to regional sourcing whilst improving welfare credentials can be achieved through effective supplier partnerships.

Beyond Steak

In May 2025, we were the first retailer to launch Beyond Steak from Beyond Meat. Our Sustainability Report outlines our approach and data related to plant-based foods. We are committed to reporting the sales of plant-based proteins as a percentage of overall protein sales every year to track progress. In 2021, we were the first retailer to share this information publicly.

Example publications

[AWRN 2023: Animal Welfare Science and Society](#)

Exploring The Motivation of A UK Retail Beef Sustainable Farming Group to Implement Preventative Health and Welfare Strategies

[AWSELVA Conference 2023: The Economics of Animal Welfare in Financially Challenging Times Reframing Welfare Metrics as Farm Gate Losses](#)

[HSA International Conference: Livestock Welfare during Transport, Marketing & Slaughter 2022](#) The Assessment of Dry Electric Stunning as a Commercial Method for the Humane Dispatch of Farmed White Leg Shrimp (*Litopenaeus vannamei*) (2022)

[Ventilation attributes: Impact on litter quality and associated bird welfare outcome measures](#) P23 Recent Advances in Animal Welfare Science VII Hutchings C, B Green, J Kirkpatrick and FG Roberts (2020)