



## **ANIMAL WELFARE AT DEL TACO**

### **Animal Welfare**

At Del Taco, we believe in the dignified and humane treatment of animals throughout our supply chain. We believe that it's both an ethical obligation and an important component of our commitment to providing safe and quality food for our guests.

The humane and responsible treatment of farm animals begins with five key principles, recognized internationally as the Five Freedoms. They consist of the following:

- Freedom from hunger or thirst
- Freedom from discomfort
- Freedom from pain, injury and disease
- Freedom to express normal behavior
- Freedom from fear or distress

We are committed to upholding these principles through our vendor selection processes and food safety oversight measures to ensure that our suppliers consistently meet and/or exceed government and industry standards for animal welfare.

### **Broiler Chicken Welfare**

In accordance with our animal welfare principles, Del Taco partners with poultry suppliers that share our commitment to animal well-being and observe the following requirements:

- Maintain an animal welfare program that provides oversight and compliance for responsible animal handling throughout the broiler chicken life cycle
- Comply with National Chicken Council (NCC) Animal Welfare Guidelines and utilize the NCC Audit Checklist for animal welfare audits
- Conduct internal and third-party animal well-being audits throughout the production system to ensure compliance with animal welfare best practices and standards
- Ensure that internal and third-party animal welfare auditors are certified by the Professional Animal Auditor Certifier Organization (PAACO)
- Comply with USDA and FDA regulations regarding use of antibiotics for veterinary care
- Demonstrate commitment to the pursuit of new methods and technologies to advance progress in the areas of stocking density, environmental conditions and stunning methods

### **Our Ongoing Animal Welfare Commitment**

Our commitment to animal welfare is enduring. The humane and dignified treatment of animals in the Del Taco supply chain is important to us and we remain steadfast in our efforts to promote awareness and continue progress.