

Gressingham Foods

Soy sourcing policy

Gressingham are committed to reducing the environmental footprint of our business. As part of this commitment, we are continuously improving the sustainability of raw materials used in our supply chain.

Soy is a valuable source of protein and is used in our poultry diets to ensure our birds meet their nutritional requirements. We recognise the associated impacts of expanding global soy production, particularly in regions of South America, which has seen deforestation and habitat conversion of land for agricultural production.

Gressingham are committed to ensuring that soy used in our UK operations is deforestation and conversion free (DCF) by 2025, with a cut-off date of 2020 for land conversion. This includes both legal and illegal deforestation/ conversion. We recognise the need for industry to work together to achieve DCF soy targets, and the requirement for robust traceability and transparent reporting across supply chains. We are a signatory of the UK Soy Manifesto, a collective industry commitment to ensure physical shipments of soy to the UK are deforestation and conversion free as soon as possible, and no later than 2025.

To achieve the target for DCF soy by 2025, we have established annual interim targets for the quantities of soya in our supply chain to be certified DCF under certification schemes benchmarked against the FEAC soy sourcing guidelines (2021), including desired criterion 34. In 2023, we are aiming for 70% of soya to be certified DCF with a target of 85% by 2024. We are also sourcing over 25% of soy from low-risk areas including the United States.

Additionally, where possible, we are reducing our soy usage by reducing overall protein content in poultry diets and by researching alternative sustainable protein sources to be used instead of soy.

We are continuing to engage with our soy suppliers to ensure we are purchasing soy in line with our commitments.

In 2022, all of our own soy purchases were either from low-risk areas or certified to Cefetra area mass balance standard or RTRS regional credits.

We are working with our specialist poultry suppliers and supporting them to achieve the same commitment to verified deforestation and conversion free soy by 2025.