

MESSAGE

Appendix 5: Animal Welfare Policy

MESSAGE A/S does not allow animals to be harmed in the name of fashion.

Animals used for our products must not be exposed to pain but treated with dignity and respect according to animal welfare laws and international recommendations.

We require our suppliers to work with us to increase traceability in our supply chain in order to decrease the distance to animal farms.

MESSAGE A/S does not support testing on animals.

The killing of animals must always be using the quickest and the least painful method available.

Transportation of animals must always be following local legislation and ensure that animals are not travelling long distance and are ensured enough space and access to food and water during the transportation.

The Five Animal Freedoms must be followed:

1. *Freedom from Hunger and Thirst*

By access to fresh water and diet to maintain health and strength.

2. *Freedom from Discomfort*

By providing an appropriate environment including shelter and a comfortable resting area.

3. *Freedom from Pain, Injury or Disease*

By preventing them from getting ill or injured and making sure the animals are treated if they do.

4. *Freedom to express Normal Behaviour*

By providing sufficient space, proper facilities and company of the animal's own kind.

5. *Freedom from Fear and Distress*

By ensuring conditions and treatment which avoid mental suffering.

Banned animal-derived materials or treatments of animals

The following animal-derived products or practices are banned in MESSAGE A/S products.

Endangered Species:

- MESSAGE A/S does not sell products that derives from animals appearing on either of below lists:
The International Union for the Conservation of Nature (IUCN)
The Convention of International Trade in Endangered Species (CITES).

Fur:

- MESSAGE A/S does not use fur in any of our products. We will only ask for fake fur, when placing orders. To ensure this ban is kept, random tests are being initialized.

Angora wool:

- Since we are unable to ensure that the rabbits are being ethically treated in our supply chain, the use of angora wool has been banned for MESSAGE A/S products.

Leather:

- MESSAGE A/S condemns the process of live skinning and live boiling, and we require our supplier to guarantee that this process is not practiced anywhere in our supply chain.
- We do not accept leather from areas where endangered forests are cut down to make room for farms.

Mulesing:

- MESSAGE A/S condemns the practice of mulesing and we require our supplier to guarantee that this method is not practiced when sourcing Merino Wool.

Responsible treatment and sourcing

When sourcing below mentioned animal-derived materials, you must ensure that the animals are treated according to our animal welfare policy.

Mohair wool:

- MESSAGE A/S does not allow the mistreatment of the Mohair goats during shearing of their wool.
- We are working on sourcing certified wool and our aim is to increase the use of wool from farms certified in line with best practices e.g., Responsible Mohair Standard (RMS) or similar standard.

Downs:

- MESSAGE A/S will under no circumstances accept live plucking of the animals.
- MESSAGE A/S only use feather or downs from birds that have been bred for the food industry, but not for the production of Foie Gras.
- We are only sourcing certified downs e.g., Responsible Down Standard (RDS), Global Recycling standard (GRS) or similar standard.

Wool:

- Ensuring a good treatment of the animals when shearing of wool, is essential to MESSAGE A/S. To ensure this, we require our suppliers to work with us to increase traceability in our joint supply chain.

- We are working on sourcing certified wool and our aim is to increase the use from farms certified in line with best practices e.g., Responsible Wool Standard (RWS), Global Recycling Standard (GRS) or similar standard.

Leather:

- We only accept the use of leather from animals that have been bred for the food industry. Animals should be treated according to this animal welfare policy and in order to ensure this, we require our suppliers to work with us to increase traceability in our joint supply chain.
- We only accept responsible leather from Leather Working Group (LWG) that have Gold rating or better.