

# RESPONSIBLE SOURCING

## *Progress and Priorities*

Today's consumer is more aware and interested than ever in issues that affect them, their communities and our world. The curiosity to understand where their food was grown or raised, and who grew, caught or processed it is driven by a thirst to understand how their food choices contribute to making a positive impact on people and planet.



PLANET

We have a long-standing commitment to advancing sustainable sourcing practices that minimize impacts on people, animals and the environment - which has direct impact on our local and global economies, our health and wellness, and the environment. We consider these impacts with every purchase and work with many partners to source local, seasonal, responsibly raised and grown products whenever we can.

The [Aramark Supplier Code of Conduct](#) serves as our foundation, setting forth our guidelines and expectations with respect to key areas of responsible sourcing. Over the last several years, we have made significant progress driving three core commitments:

- sustainably caught seafood
- humanely raised proteins
- locally sourced fruits and vegetables

We regularly evaluate our sustainable sourcing priorities to identify the most material environmental and social issues in our supply chain and work with suppliers to shift our purchases to address key issues.

### **SUSTAINABLE SEAFOOD**

At Aramark, we support our oceans on two main fronts—by watching what comes out of the water as well as what goes into it. Our [Sustainable Seafood Principles and Policy](#) details our purchasing practices, commitment to reporting, and approach to stakeholder engagement, while our [commitment to reduce single-use plastics](#) minimizes waste that may end up in our oceans.

Our progress to date includes:

- Nearly 80 percent of our contracted frozen fin fish and 100 percent contracted canned tuna purchases meet Monterey Bay Aquarium Seafood Watch recommendations, including cod, catfish, tilapia, pollock, and skipjack and albacore tuna.
- Continual expansion of our seafood contracts to ensure additional species we purchase meet Seafood Watch recommendations – such as salmon and frozen shrimp products.
- Our statement opposing genetically engineered (GE) salmon: We do not purchase genetically engineered (GE) salmon from any vendors. Additionally, should GE salmon come to market, we are not considering, nor do we have any plans to carry GE salmon.

### **HUMANELY RAISED PROTEINS**

Our [Animal Welfare Policy](#) addresses the treatment of animals for egg, meat and dairy products across a range of animal welfare issues including confinement, painful procedures, and rapid growth. Our global principles are the foundation for what we expect from our suppliers, while our policy details purchasing commitments specific to the countries where we operate.

Through engagement with suppliers, academia and NGOs such as the Humane Society of the United States (HSUS), Compassion in World Farming (CIWF), Global Animal Partnership (GAP), Global Coalition for Animal Welfare (GCAW), and many others, our industry-leading policy continues to expand on commitments we've made over the last several years.

We continue to drive measurable progress against our commitments including:

- Serving nearly 100% cage-free shell eggs in the U.S. since 2015. Completing the transition to 100% cage-free liquid and processed eggs in the U.S. by end of 2020, and achieving 100% cage-free eggs globally by 2025
- Being one of the first foodservice companies, in 2016, to commit to the humane treatment of broiler chickens by 2024 in the U.S.
- Calling on our suppliers to address breed selection, space per bird, environmental enrichments, and slaughtering practices of broiler chickens
- Transitioning 53% of our pork purchases in the U.S. to group housed as of December 2019, including bacon, butts and loin products
- Working with our suppliers, industry, and animal welfare organizations to expand supply availability as Aramark transitions to 100% group-housed pork by the end of 2022
- Ending the purchase of foie gras in 2011, and eliminating the use of veal crates from our supply chain in 2017 in the U.S.

## Eggs

Aramark is completing the transition to 100% cage-free liquid and processed eggs in the U.S. by the end of 2020. As of December 2019, in the U.S., 60% of Aramark's eggs were from cage-free hens (up from 32% in June 2019). This included 79% of shell eggs, 54% of liquid eggs, and 63% of processed egg products. Early in 2021, we will update our progress based upon 2020 year-end actual purchases.

This commitment applies to all contracted eggs within Aramark's controlled spend in the U.S. Our intent is to purchase 100% cage-free eggs, but unforeseen stocking or distribution challenges could still result in a small percentage of conventional egg spend. Through disclosure such as this, we seek to ensure transparency of our efforts. We continue to engage our suppliers and monitor our purchases to maintain progress.

Globally, as of September 2019, 40% of Aramark's eggs were from cage-free hens (up from 33% in June 2019), including 40% shell eggs and 40% liquid eggs. We will update our global progress in early 2021, as well.

## Pork

In 2012, Aramark committed that by 2017, it would eliminate all pork from animals bred using gestation crates by working with our suppliers, industry, and animal welfare organizations to address confinement issues and expand supply availability of gestation crate-free pork.

Like many companies, we learned a lot during this process including the significant capital investments and longer time horizons required by farmers to make such changes. Ultimately, due to supply chain constraints, such as lack of product availability and limitations in traceability of product from farm to production, Aramark in 2016 adjusted its public commitment to purchase 100% group-housed pork by the end of 2022. This shift enabled Aramark to drive meaningful progress, while continuing to navigate industry-wide challenges.

Specifically, we have made strides in sourcing group-housed pork and moving in the direction of a gestation crate-free pork supply. As of December 2019, 53% of pork purchased by Aramark is group-housed. Pending no significant supply chain disruptions, we are on a pathway to transitioning 100% of our contracted pork to group-housed by the end of 2022. Early in 2021, we will update our progress based upon 2020 year-end actual purchases. (*cont'd >*)

We are proud of our progress. In fact, among dozens of companies with similar commitments or statements, Aramark is one of only 19 companies recognized for actively working toward our goal<sup>1</sup>. Additionally, through disclosures such as this, we seek to ensure transparency of our efforts, challenges and progress.

To be clear, group-housed operations still use crates about 30%, and up to 50%. Aramark remains opposed to reliance on confinement systems and will continue to work with our suppliers to source gestation crate-free pork where possible. Aramark's goal is still for our supply chain to be completely free of gestation crates. We will continue to engage our pork suppliers to reach that objective.

## LOCAL PURCHASING

We recognize the increasing pressure on our food systems due to global issues such as resource scarcity, volatile commodity markets, and labor inequalities. We have an opportunity to address myriad environmental, social and economic issues while reducing risk and driving innovation. As a global company, our size and reach gives us the opportunity to influence purchasing decisions and minimize environmental impacts in hundreds of locations across our operations and in our communities.

Our commitment to purchase from local farmers and growers - within 250 miles of our locations:

- Ensures investment in businesses and services in our local communities.
- Maintains farmland and green space.
- Reduces greenhouse gas emissions by minimizing shipping and distribution.
- Provides fresh seasonal ingredients.

## EDUCATING CONSUMERS

We also understand the importance of engaging and educating our clients and consumers about our sustainable sourcing practices, including our commitments to sustainably caught seafood, humanely raised proteins and locally sourced produce. We continue to report progress on these practices and utilize in-unit marketing tools and events to reach our consumers directly. Examples of our marketing materials for each of these responsible sourcing commitments are depicted here.



<sup>1</sup> World Animal Protection, Quit Stalling Report, September 2020 <https://www.worldanimalprotection.us/news/quit-stalling-new-report-shows-companies-may-be-misleading-customers-false-promises-pig>  
December 2020

## LONG TERM PROGRESS

As detailed in our [Antibiotics Position Statement](#), we believe that protecting the efficacy of antibiotics and preventing the development of antibiotic resistant bacteria is imperative to the wellbeing of our global community. We also remain committed to offering climate-healthy menu options – good for people and planet.

In collaboration with experts and stakeholders we constantly evaluate our progress and move toward meaningful objectives. We remain committed to advancing responsible sourcing practices in partnership with diverse stakeholders and will continue to publicly report on our results.

Aramark's sustainability strategy – inclusive of responsible sourcing - is governed by a seven-member executive Sustainability Steering Committee, led by the Aramark Chief Diversity & Sustainability Officer and Vice President of Sustainability, and reporting regularly to the Aramark Chief Executive Officer and the Board of Directors. Responsible sourcing decisions are made in partnership with Aramark supply chain management, in collaboration with Aramark businesses.

As we learn from our experiences in the U.S., we are applying our knowledge to advance responsible sourcing practices in the other countries in which we operate. Ultimately, our goal is to support global progress and we are prioritizing change based on materiality and scale and where we can make the greatest impact.