

# Soy sourcing policy

2 Sisters Food Group is committed to reducing its impact on the environment and will act to improve continuously the sustainability of the ingredients we source for food and feed.

Soy is an important source of high quality protein used extensively in animal feed and some food products. It is also one of a number of global commodities associated with forest loss and conversion of natural habitats. These habitats contain rich biodiversity and ecosystems and have globally significant carbon mitigation potential. They are also critical to the populations who inhabit them or depend on them for their livelihood.

In South America\* areas such as the Cerrado are threatened by agricultural expansion, including soy production. To reduce emissions associated with deforestation and land conversion, and to preserve valuable ecosystems requires a move towards sustainable supply chains that are free of deforestation, legal or illegal, and land conversion.

2 Sisters Food Group is committed to a gross deforestation-free and ecosystem conversion-free supply chain, developing and implementing measures in line with global agricultural and forestry best practices. Deforestation and conversion, both legal and illegal, are as defined by the Accountability Framework Initiative:

**Deforestation:** loss of natural forest as a result of: i) conversion to agriculture or other non-forest land use; ii) conversion to a tree plantation; or iii) severe and sustained degradation.

**Conversion:** Change of a natural ecosystem to another land use or profound change in a natural ecosystem's species composition, structure, or function.

## 1. Scope

2 Sisters Food Group is a leading UK food manufacturer and one of the country's biggest poultry producers. Soy meal forms a significant part of the feed used in production of our poultry and is the focus of our responsible sourcing approach for soy.

In addition to poultry, 2SFG produces a range of chilled and frozen food products and bakery goods and we wish to ensure that the embedded soy in raw materials used to make these products aligns with our responsible sourcing standards. Embedded soy is therefore addressed in Section 3 of this policy.

## 2. Principles and commitments

2 Sisters Food Group is committed to ensuring the soy we use is cultivated in a responsible and sustainable manner and we are supporting the Brazilian Forest Code through our sourcing. 2 Sisters Food Group is also a member of the UK Roundtable on Sustainable Soy and signatory to the Cerrado Manifesto Statement of Support, a call to action to halt deforestation and native vegetation loss in Brazil's Cerrado. We support the UK Soy Manifesto, a collective industry agreement to work together to ensure all shipments of soy to the UK are Deforestation and Conversion Free (DCF), with a cut-off date of 2020. This commitment covers both legal and illegal deforestation.

Since 2015 2 Sisters Food Group has sourced soy meal at additional premiums to ensure Brazilian and Paraguayan farmers are rewarded for preventing deforestation. We require suppliers of soy meal for our poultry feed to ensure that it has been produced in line with responsible production standards which make a difference on the ground, including:

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- Protection of valuable ecosystems
- Prevention of illegal deforestation
- Protection of water resources
- Compliance with labour laws, local environmental legislation and land title
- Good Agricultural Practices

All 2 Sisters soy meal is produced in line with the listed standards utilising the Feed Materials Assurance Scheme (FEMAS) Module for Responsible Procurement of Agricultural and Natural Products and the supporting FEMAS Responsible Procurement Brazilian Soy Schedule or equivalent standards. Each standard is benchmarked against the European Feed Manufacturers Federation (FEFAC) Soy Sourcing Guidelines.

100% of South American soy meal in 2 Sisters poultry feed is now covered by three deforestation free sourcing standards, Cefetra CRS<sup>1</sup>, Cargill Triple S<sup>2</sup> and ADM v3 RS<sup>3</sup>, all basis Area Mass Balance or Mass Balance. It is our goal to source 100% of South American soy meal as deforestation free basis Mass Balance through these sourcing standards by 2025. For calendar year 2023, 56% of the soy meal used in feed for our poultry operations was certified deforestation free basis Mass Balance.

We continue to work with our suppliers on availability of conversion free soy meal and to navigate the anticipated requirements of the forthcoming UK Forest Risk Commodities legislation.

### **\*Geographical origins**

For many years 2 Sisters Food Group experience has found that Brazilian and Paraguayan soybean meal has been of superior quality to alternative sources. This is mainly based on higher protein levels and lower levels of crude fibre. Both of these attributes add considerable nutritional value to the product.

Lower fibre products minimise digestive disturbances in growing chickens. This leads to drier droppings and improved litter conditions, providing an improved environment in which to rear the birds. Benefits are seen not only in health and performance of the birds but also in terms of welfare, with levels of hock burn and foot pad dermatitis being reduced.

Sourcing soymeal from alternative geographies such as the USA remains an option and we will continue to explore opportunities where the required nutritional profile and environmental standards can be achieved.

### **Alternative proteins**

2 Sisters Food Group commits to investigate the use of replacement protein sources to soy and consider increasing their use in our poultry feed wherever viable. We will explore options available and invest behind Research and Development to reduce the overall quantity of soy meal in the poultry diet.

## **3. Embedded soy in animal-derived raw materials**

In addition to poultry, 2 Sisters Food Group produces a range of chilled and frozen food products and bakery goods. The embedded soy in animal-derived raw materials used to make these products is included in our UK Soy Manifesto commitment. We expect suppliers of farmed animal products including meat, fish, seafood, poultry, eggs and dairy to support the [UK Soy Manifesto goal](#).

Before December 2025, suppliers of meat, fish, seafood, poultry and eggs must be able to demonstrate that soy in animal feed is purchased to a FEFAC benchmarked deforestation free Segregated, Mass Balance or Area Mass Balance supply chain standard. As a minimum, RTRS Credits may be purchased to cover soy volumes.

Evidence of soy certification must be provided to 2 Sisters Food Group for annual retailer

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Forest Risk Commodity reporting in January of each year.

### 4. References

1. <https://www.certifiedsoya.com/crs/>
2. [https://www.cargill.com/doc/1432181492104/triple-s-guidance-\(pdf\).pdf](https://www.cargill.com/doc/1432181492104/triple-s-guidance-(pdf).pdf)
3. [assets.adm.com/Sustainability/ADM-ARS\\_V1\\_2021\\_1-color-azul-corregido-14.7.pdf](assets.adm.com/Sustainability/ADM-ARS_V1_2021_1-color-azul-corregido-14.7.pdf)

### 5. Policy Details

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