



## ANIMAL WELFARE POLICY

### ZERO TOLERANCE FOR ANIMAL CRUELTY

We expect all cow handlers to adhere to proper animal care and handling methods in all circumstances. Adequate and recognized training received by the producers and their farm employees is essential.

In the event of an alleged animal abuse/cruelty situation presented by a credible source, it is our expectation that:

- provincial authorities will suspend a producer's license and hence milk pickup from the implicated farm,
- provincial authorities will notify implicated processors immediately and provide them with all relevant information,
- milk from an implicated farm will not be shipped to any of our plants nor to any other dairy processing plant until such time as assurance is provided by a third-party veterinary animal welfare auditor (i.e. a veterinarian with no association to the implicated farm who is trained in conducting animal welfare audits) that there is compliance with the *Code of Practice for the Care and Handling of Dairy Cattle*, and the farm is cleared by the provincial authorities to ship milk.

**POLICY:** In response to an alleged animal abuse/cruelty situation from a credible source, none of Lactalis Canada's plants will accept milk from an implicated farm until a third-party veterinary animal welfare audit has validated compliance with the *Code of Practice for the Care and Handling of Dairy Cattle*, and the farm is cleared by the provincial authorities to ship milk. Should a Corrective Action Plan be required, it will have to be acceptable to Lactalis Canada and agreed upon in writing by the implicated producer. The plan has to include a precise timeline to rectify deficiencies as well as follow-up audits to validate the implementation of the corrective measures identified.