U.S. ANIMAL AGRICULTURE AND THE U.N. SUSTAINABLE DEVELOPMENT GOALS

A summary of contributions and progress across all 17 goals









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Animal Agriculture Alliance
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Introduction

The United Nations' 17 Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs) offer a shared framework for advancing human well-being, economic opportunity, and environmental stewardship. U.S. animal agriculture intersects with each goal through the production of nutrient-rich foods, employment and rural investment, animal care, technological innovation, and management of land, water, and energy resources.

Raising animals for food is at the heart of healthy, sustainable communities and healthy, sustainable diets. Across all sectors of animal agriculture, farmers, ranchers, and their partners have documented progress in productivity and resource efficiency while expanding education, community programs, and collaboration. Below is a summary and examples of how U.S. animal agriculture is engaging in sustainability initiatives to further progress toward each SDG.

Contributions across the 17 goals

01 | No Poverty

Animal agriculture supports livelihoods throughout rural and urban communities, from farms and feed businesses to transportation and processing facilities. The U.S. meat and poultry sector is an economic driver, supporting 3.2 million jobs and $347.7 billion in economic value.[1] Meat and poultry packers and processors alone provide nearly 584,000 jobs and contribute $40.6 billion in labor income. U.S. dairy creates nearly 3 million jobs for Americans with an overall economic impact of more than $628 billion.[2] The U.S. poultry community provides 2.3 million jobs and contributes $799.5 billion in economic activity.[3]

02 | Zero Hunger

Meat, dairy, poultry, eggs, and seafood play a pivotal role in healthy, balanced diets. The U.S. dairy community alone is supplying enough protein for 169 million people, calcium for 254 million people, and energy for 71.2 million people.[4]

Improvements in genetics and animal breeding have allowed farmers and ranchers to feed more people with fewer animals and fewer natural resources. For example, the U.S. beef community is producing 66% more beef per animal while reducing emissions by more than 40% between 1961 and 2019.[5,6] Chicken output also grew 21% over the preceding decade.[7]

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[1] https://www.meatinstitute.org/Economic_Contributions_of_the_Meat_and_Poultry_Industry_2025
[2] https://www.thinkusadairy.org/sustainability/impact
[3] https://poultryfeedsamerica.org/
[4] https://pubmed.ncbi.nlm.nih.gov/33076178/
[5] https://www.fao.org/faostat/en/#data/GLE
[6] https://quickstats.nass.usda.gov
[7] https://www.nationalchickencouncil.org/industry/sustainabilityreport/

The U.S. animal agriculture community is contributing directly to hunger relief efforts, including companies like Smithfield who has distributed 200.8 million servings of protein between 2020 and 2025.[8] Meat Institute members have contributed more than $400 million to their communities since 2020 and is partnering with Feeding America and others to fill the protein gap for hungry Americans.[9]

03 | Good Health and Well-Being

Meat, dairy, poultry, eggs, and seafood provide high-quality protein and nutrients that support health across life stages. Research published in 2026 found that animal-source foods generally provide equal or higher nutrient bioavailability compared with other food sources, particularly for several nutrients essential to human health, including protein, omega-3s, iron, zinc, calcium, vitamin A, and vitamin B12.[10] These foods can also support weight management, satiety, physical fitness, and overall health.

At the global level, the Food and Agriculture Organization (FAO) has recognized that, "Livestock serves as a crucial source of high-quality protein and essential micronutrients, and is vital for normal development and good health."[11]

04 | Quality Education

Animal agriculture companies are supporting the continued learning of employees and community members by providing opportunities and pathways for further education. The Meat Foundation reports awarding more than $1 million in research grants and $110,000 in scholarships in 2025.[12] Tyson Foods offers employee education through Upward Academy, including access to online degrees, certificates, and essential courses, with approved programs eligible for tuition support.[13] The pork community also reports professional development opportunities in addition to ongoing animal care training.

05 | Gender Equality

Women's participation in agriculture is growing. The United States Department of Agriculture reports that women's share of the U.S. farm workforce has risen from 20.3% in 2006 to 26.4% in 2022.[14] Many companies within U.S. animal agriculture describe efforts to reduce hiring bias, improve recruitment, and support women's advancement. In recognition of 2026 being declared as the International Year of the Womam Farmer, many U.S. agriculture organizations have celebrated women's contributions to food production.

06 | Clean Water and Sanitation

Farmers and food processors are working to use water more efficiently and protect water quality. In the Protein PACT's 2025 reporting, 62% of reporting meat processing establishments had completed a water risk assessment.[15] On dairy farms, water may be reused as many as

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[8] https://www.smithfieldfoods.com/our-company/sustainability-report
[9] https://www.meatinstitute.org/sites/default/files/documents/Meat%20institute_protein%20pact_layout.pdf
[10] https://www.sciencedirect.com/science/article/pii/S0002916526000626
[11] https://openknowledge.fao.org/items/b86cd543-e8ca-4e95-b5d2-06ea6af23842
[12] https://meatfoundation.org/Scholarships
[13] https://www.tysonfoods.com/sustainability
[14] https://www.ers.usda.gov/topics/farm-economy/farm-labor/
[15] https://theproteinpact.org/sites/default/files/documents/Meat%20institute%202025%20continuous%20improvement%20report.pdf

four times before applying it to crops.[16] In the aquaculture community, shellfish help to remove nitrogen, carbon, and other nutrients from marine waters.[17]

07 | Affordable and Clean Energy

The U.S. animal agriculture community is always looking for new ways to innovate, including projects to recycle manure from the farm and convert it into renewable energy. Dairy and pork farms are increasingly using anaerobic digesters and covered manure systems to capture methane and convert it to biogas or renewable natural gas.[18,19] In one area of California alone, several dairy farms are producing enough renewable natural gas to replace 3 million gallons of diesel.

08 | Decent Work and Economic Growth

U.S. food and agriculture provides more than 24 million direct jobs to Americans, with meat and poultry supporting 3.2 million.[20,1] Additionally, agriculture, food, and related industries contributed approximately $1.53 trillion to U.S. gross domestic product in 2024, making up 5.5% of the share.[21] Companies also report workplace safety policies, training opportunities, and supplier expectations.

09 | Industry, Innovation and Infrastructure

Advances in genetics, animal nutrition, equipment, and data-informed management are helping to make animal-source food production and distribution more efficient. For example, Smithfield is using GIS-enabled feed-delivery navigation systems, which has saved more than one million transportation miles.[8] Innovation also supports animal health, resource efficiency, and stronger logistics infrastructure.

10 | Reduced Inequalities

Animal agriculture companies are actively working to support diversity, equity, and inclusion initiatives internally and in local communities. This includes adopting policies intended to protect worker rights and expand opportunity, such as Tyson Foods' human rights commitments and supplier standards, Hendrix Genetics' policy aligned with international frameworks, and equipment industry recruitment and inclusion initiatives.[13,22,23]

11 | Sustainable Cities and Communities

Farmers, ranchers, and those involved in agriculture are often well-connected and involved in their local communities and recognize the need to invest in them. The most recent data reports that U.S. meat packers and processors have donated more than $14 million to local charities.[24] Tyson Foods reports $20 million in product donations to charitable food channels and 5,185

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16 https://www.usdairy.com/news-articles/dairy-farm-water-usage
17 https://www.nature.org/en-us/what-we-do/our-insights/perspectives/restorative-aquaculture-for-nature-and-communities/
18 https://www.usdairy.com/getmedia/9d1e82b2-5c2c-42d4-b99a-a80f3c5d4b85/2021-2022_USDairySustainabilityReport_final_01252024.pdf?ext=.pdf
19 https://clear.ucdavis.edu/news/pork-industry-aims-cut-methane
20 https://feedingtheeconomy.com/
21 https://www.ers.usda.gov/data-products/ag-and-food-statistics-charting-the-essentials/ag-and-food-sectors-and-the-economy
22 https://www.hendrix-genetics.com/documents/2665/Sustainability_Report_2025_-_Hendrix_Genetics_vviOVg4.pdf
23 https://www.aem.org/getmedia/86ed1a54-de1b-4d7e-95b8-a558217e64b5/AEM-Sustainable-Development-Goals.pdf
24 https://www.meatinstitute.org/press/benchmarking-report-released-protein-pact-summit-spotlights-sustainability-progress-and-tools

employee volunteer hours during fiscal year 2025.[13] The pork community and coastal aquaculture organizations also engage in scholarships, volunteer activities, and beach cleanups that contribute to local resilience and quality of life.

12 | Responsible Consumption and Production

The industry is finding additional uses for resources and byproducts that might otherwise become waste. Livestock eat grasses, grains, and more that people can't eat and turn it into delicious, nourishing food like meat, milk, and eggs that people need to thrive. Currently, more than 37% of animal feed ingredients are leftovers from human food production.[25]

The U.S. leather industry is recycling 85% of hides from dairy and meat and has committed to ensuring the remaining 17% are also put to use for clothing, shoes, furniture, car interiors, and more.[26] This will save an estimated additional 137,500 tons of waste per year while reducing carbon emissions from landfill by 120,000 tons of CO_2 equivalent.

Meat processors are also pursuing waste reduction and recycling and packaging improvements. The pork community continues to work toward goals for supply chain traceability to support more accountable and efficient production.

13 | Climate Action

American farmers and ranchers have been innovating for decades to reduce their environmental impact, including: the beef community reducing emissions per pound of beef by more than 40% while also producing more than 66% more beef per animal; the dairy community reducing the carbon footprint of one gallon of milk by 19%, requiring 30% less water and 21% less land; and the egg community reducing its carbon footprint by 71%.[5,6,27,28]

Although incredible progress toward climate change efforts have already been made, the U.S. animal agriculture community remains committed to furthering that progress through industry-wide goals. Beef has pledged to becoming climate neutral by 2040. Dairy has committed to reaching greenhouse gas neutrality by 2050. Pork has set a target to reduce greenhouse gas emissions by 40% from a 2015 baseline by 2030.

14 | Life Below Water

Experts agree that the future of sustainable seafood must involve both farm-raised and wild-caught fish. Aquaculture farms reduce our reliance on wild fisheries for seafood, support at-risk species through propagation and release of fish, shellfish, sponges, and crabs, and provide habitat for wildlife through the creation of wetlands, ponds, and oyster reefs.[29] Shellfish, like oysters and clams, also help to improve water quality by removing excess nutrients, like nitrogen and carbon.

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[25] https://www.afia.org/feedfacts/feed-industry-stats/u-s-animal-food-industry/
[26] https://chooserealleather.com/real-leather/the-leather-and-hide-council-of-america-makes-earth-day-pledge/#_ftn1
[27] https://pubs.acs.org/esthag/article/59/19/9552/3663734/Spatially-Resolved-Greenhouse-Gas-Emissions-of-U-S
[28] https://www.sciencedirect.com/science/article/pii/S0032579119360043?via%3Dihub
[29] https://www.nature.org/en-us/what-we-do/our-insights/perspectives/restorative-aquaculture-for-nature-and-communities/?vu=aquaculture

15 | Life on Land

Livestock production can contribute to healthy soils, managed grazing lands, and wildlife habitat. Cattle and sheep utilize pasture and rangeland unsuitable for crop production and provide ecosystem services like wildlife habitats and increased plant diversity.[30,31]

Many livestock and poultry farmers also raise crops like corn and soybeans for animal feed. Data consistently shows that many of these farmers are using positive environmental practices like reduced tillage or no-till to minimize the impact on the soil. Cover crops to reduce nutrient run-off into waterways is also a common practice.

16 | Peace, Justice and Strong Institutions

Responsible farms and facilities depend on transparent expectations, compliance, and accountable workplace practices. In meat processor reporting, 69% of participating Meat Institute members committed to annual social compliance audits, while 44% reported commitments to policies and practices aligned with the Universal Declaration of Human Rights.[15] These voluntary measures strengthen oversight and responsible business conduct.

17 | Partnerships for the Goals

The U.S. animal agriculture community has made incredible progress toward SDGs, but progress can be amplified through partnership. Meat Institute participates in the United Nations Global Compact, and its Protein PACT initiative brings companies together around shared metrics and continuous improvement. The National Pork Board has partnered with Ducks Unlimited to link agricultural conservation practices with habitat and ecosystem objectives.[32]

Conclusion

The evidence assembled across the SDGs shows a broad contribution from U.S. animal agriculture: producing nutritious food, supporting employment and rural communities, improving the efficiency of natural resource use, investing in workforce development, and advancing partnerships. The industry also recognizes that sustainability is continuous journey, not a destination, and is committed to further innovation and advancement to reach global goals.

[30] https://www.beefresearch.org/resources/beef-sustainability/fact-sheets/ecosystem-services
[31] https://www.sheepusa.org/wp-content/uploads/2026/04/Fast-Fact-About-Sheep-Ecology.pdf
[32] https://www.ducks.org/newsroom/usda-invests-in-sustainability-of-us-pork-products

The evidence

Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs)			
Goal:	**Commodity:**	**Contributions:**	**Additional Information:**
1 NO POVERTY	**No Poverty**		
	Multi-Commodities	U.S food and agriculture is an economic driver, providing more than 24 million direct jobs and supporting nearly 49 million jobs, or roughly 30% of the American workforce. The U.S. meat and poultry sector specifically, including livestock production, animal feed, equipment manufacturing, transportation, and more, contributes $347.7 billion in economic value and supports 3.2 million jobs. Meat and poultry packers provide 584,000 jobs and contribute $40.6 billion in labor income.	https://feedingtheeconomy.com/ https://www.meatinstitute.org/Economic_Contributions_of_the_Meat_and_Poultry_Industry_2025
	Dairy	The U.S. dairy community creates nearly 3 million U.S. jobs, has an overall economic impact of more than $628 billion, and accounts for more than 1 percent of the country's Gross Domestic Product (GDP).	https://www.thinkusadairy.org/sustainability/impact
	Poultry	The U.S. poultry community provides 2.3 million jobs and contributes $177.1 billion in wages and $799.5 billion in economic activity.	https://poultryfeedsamerica.org/
2 ZERO HUNGER	**Zero Hunger**		
	Multi-Commodities	Cargill has provided more than $28 miillion to Feeding America over the last 35 years to fight food insecurity. Sustainable animal breeding is needed to feed the growing world population, simultaneously ensuring food safety, animal welfare, and reduced environmental impact. Hendrix Genetics' breeding program and R&D platform aims to maximize efficiency and productivity outcomes through improved genetics. The genetic program results in livability, reduced inputs, and overall animal productivity, which can benefit farmers, consumers, and the planet. Meat Institute members have contributed more than $400 Million to their communities since 2000 and is partnering with Feeding America and others to help fill the protein gap for hungry Americans. Tyson Foods believes accessible, affordable protein is key to helping consumers take control of their own wellbeing. They work to provide nutritious products that taste good while remaining affordable and convenient for families around the globe.	https://www.cargill.com/about/community/community-partners https://swine.hendrix-genetics.com/en/about-hendrix-genetics-swine/research-and-development/ https://www.meatinstitute.org/sites/default/files/documents/Meat%20institute_protein%20pact_layout.pdf https://www.tysonfoods.com/sites/default/files/2026-08/Tyson%20Foods%20FY25%20Sustainability%20Report%208.27.26.pdf
	Beef	Between 1961 and 2019, the U.S. beef community is producing 66% more beef per animal while reducing emissions by more than 40%.	https://www.fao.org/faostat/en/#data/GLE https://quickstats.nass.usda.gov
	Chicken	Chicken farmers play an important role in supplying the world with safe and nutritious food. Over the past decade, U.S. chicken production has expanded dramatically to meet growing demand, now producing 21% more chicken.	https://www.nationalchickencouncil.org/industry/sustainability-report/
	Dairy	We care deeply about our communities and the health and wellbeing of our nation. The dairy community has made significant contributions to child health and wellness and continues to address the issue of food insecurity in America. Each year, dairy works with local food banks to provide the essential nutrients found in dairy foods to those in need. The U.S. dairy community supplies enough protein for 169 million people, calcium for 254 million people, and energy for 71.2 million people.	https://www.usdairy.com/community/hunger https://pubmed.ncbi.nlm.nih.gov/33076178/
	Eggs	Compared to 1960, today's egg farmers are able to feed 72% more people. Today's hens are living longer and producing 27% more eggs per day because of better health, nutrition, and housing. Although they produce more eggs, they are using less than 50% of the feed it took to produce a dozen eggs in 1960.	https://www.sciencedirect.com/science/article/pii/S0032579119360043?via%3Dihub
	Pork	Pork plays a critical role in addressing food inflation, hunger, and nutrition security. Research supports this high-quality, affordable protein that not only feeds but also nourishes people around the world. A modeling study published in *Nutrients* and funded by The National Pork Board, reviews the nutritional value and affordability of the Thrifty Food Plan (TFP) featuring fresh pork as one of the only meat sources. With the updated TFP, USDA Supplemental Nutrition Assistance Program (SNAP) benefits increased by 21%, meaning more access to affordable, nutrient-dense food is possible. The U.S. pork community has set a goal to help feed the hungry in local communities by expanding its national giving campaign by 100% by 2030 from a 2019 baseline. Smithfield reached its goal of distributing 200.8 million servings of protein between 2020 and 2025 through its Helping Hungry Homes® hunger relief program. Since the program's inception in 2008, Smithfield has provided more than 340 million servings of protein to food-insecure families globally.	https://porkcheckoff.org/research/fresh-pork-as-protein-source-usda-thrifty-food-plan-2021/ https://www.porkcares.org/stories/2025-we-care-sustainability-report/ https://www.smithfieldfoods.com/our-company/sustainability-report
	Veal	The veal industry produces a wholesome meat product that is high in protein and other nutrients.	https://veal.org/cooking/nutrition/

	**Good Health and Well-Being**		
	Multi-Commodities	Animal-based foods are great sources of many essential nutrients - some of which are best and sometimes only found in meat, dairy, poultry, eggs, and seafood. Research published in 2026 found that animal-source foods generally provide equal or higher nutrient bioavailability compared with other food sources, particularly for several nutrients essential to human health, such as protein, omega-3s (DHA/EPA), iron, zinc, calcium, vitamin A, and vitamin B12. Animal source foods can also support weight management, satiety, physical fitness, and overall health. The Food and Agriculture Organization (FAO) has concluded that, "Livestock serves as a crucial source of high-quality protein and essential micronutrients, and is vital for normal development and good health." Using antibiotics judiciously is a core principle of Hendrix Genetics, believing they should be used “as much as necessary, but as little as possible.” That means treating sick animals when needed, without compromising welfare, while striving to reduce the need for antibiotics altogether. This is achieved through improved biosecurity, robust vaccination programs, strong animal health practices, and root cause analysis of disease outbreaks. Tyson Foods invests in initiatives such as guest lectures, workshops, and internship programs to educate students and professionals about nutrition and its intersection with food science. The Tyson Foods Discovery Center serves as a hub for education and innovation within the poultry and meat industry. Offering both student tours and industry group visits, the center provides valuable insights into various aspects of poultry, meat science, and nutrition. Guest lectures at universities and colleges, featuring professors from Tyson Foods, further enrich the educational experience, fostering a deeper understanding of the field.	https://animalagalliance.org/issues/nutrition/ https://www.sciencedirect.com/science/article/pii/S0002916526000626 https://openknowledge.fao.org/items/b86cd543-e8ca-4e95-b5d2-06ea6af23842 https://www.hendrix-genetics.com/documents/2665/Sustainability_Report_2025_-_Hendrix_Genetics_vvi0Vg4.pdf https://www.tysonfoods.com/sites/default/files/2026-08/Tyson%20Foods%20FY25%20Sustainability%20Report%208.27.26.pdf
	Beef	Beef has 10 essential nutrients: iron, zinc, phosphorus, choline, niacin, riboflavin, selenium, vitamin B6, vitamin B12, and protein. These nutrients help your body use oxygen, support your nervous system, promote energy production and a healthy metabolism, build strong bones and teeth, maintain a healthy immune system, and more.	https://www.beefitswhatsfordinner.com/nutrition/beef-nutrients
	Chicken	Chicken is a source of niacin, riboflavin, vitamin B6, phosphorus, selenium, zinc, vitamin B5, potassium, and vitamin B12. It is considered an “excellent” source of niacin as one serving has 87% of the recommended daily value.	https://www.chickencheck.in/faq/chicken-health-benefits/
	Dairy	Dairy foods like milk, cheese, and yogurt provide essential nutrients that help nourish people and contribute to health. Eating dairy foods help Americans meet recommendations for calcium, vitamin D, and potassium, common under-consumed nutrients of public health concern. Milk provides 13 essential nutrients and is also the number one food source of calcium, vitamin D, and potassium for all Americans ages 2 years and older.	https://www.dietaryguidelines.gov/ https://www.mdpi.com/2072-6643/5/1/283
	Eggs	One large egg has varying amounts of 13 essential vitamins and minerals, six grams of protein, and only 70 calories.	https://www.incredibleegg.org/nutrition/egg-nutrition-facts-labels/
	Lamb	Lamb is a nutrient-rich food and an excellent source of vitamin B12, selenium, zinc, and niacin. It is also a great source of healthy, unsaturated fats with nearly 40% of the fat in lean lamb being heart-healthy monounsaturated fat.	https://americanlamb.com/nutrition/
	Pork	Pork is packed with the essential amino acids, vitamins, and minerals that your family needs. For example, every 3 oz. serving of pork tenderloin provides 22 grams of protein. The U.S. food supply has earned a global reputation for its safety, and pig farmers have contributed to that standard. Farmers rigorously test technologies and apply checks and balances to maintain quality and safety every step of the way. Farmers adhere to strict protocols to ensure medications are out of a pig’s system before processing, safeguarding consumer health. They are committed to continuous improvement, investing in innovative technology to track the usage of antibiotics, identify trends, and reduce the overall need for antibiotics in pork production.	https://www.pork.org/inspirations/health-and-wellness-with-pork/ https://www.porkcares.org/stories/2025-we-care-sustainability-report/
	Seafood	Eating fish at least twice a week is associated with lower risk of several chronic conditions, including stroke, depression, Alzheimer’s disease, and death from heart disease.	https://www.nutritionletter.tufts.edu/healthy-eating/fish-farm-raised-versus-wild-caught/
	Turkey	A 3-ounce serving of boneless, skinless turkey breast contains just one gram of fat and no saturated fat. Turkey also has 10 essential nutrients which help build strong bones, support a healthy nervous system, promote thyroid function, and more.	https://www.eatturkey.org/2020/02/21/turkey-the-perfect-protein/
	Veal	Veal is a lean choice for a healthy, balanced diet with about 170 calories per serving, a mere 8% of the recommended daily value. It is also a nutritional power source with most cuts being an excellent or good source of iron, zinc, niacin, vitamin B12, selenium, vitamin B6, phosphorus, choline, and riboflavin.	https://veal.org/cooking/nutrition/

	**Quality Education**		
	Multi-Commodities	In 2025, the Meat Foundation awarded more than $1 million in research grants and funded $110,000 in academic scholarships. Tyson Foods' Upward Academy On-Site program provides in-person adult education courses focused on essential life skills. It provides English as a Second Language (ESL) courses, General Education Development (GED), financial literacy, digital literacy, foreign language, and citizenship courses across 45 Tyson Foods facilities. In fiscal year 2025, 1,830 Tyson Foods team members were enrolled in Upward Academy On-Site and 555 team members graduated from learning programs. In partnership with Guild, Tyson Foods also offers team member educational courses via Upward Academy Online. Through this opportunity, U.S. team members gain access to over 200 online degrees, certificates, and essential courses from day 31 of employment. Approved programs come with no upfront tuition or out-of-pocket costs to team members, up to $5,250 per year.	https://meatfoundation.org/Scholarships https://www.tysonfoods.com/sites/default/files/2026-08/Tyson%20Foods%20FY25%20Sustainability%20Report%208.27.26.pdf
	Pork	Within the pork community, 31% of farm employees work at farms that offer opportunities for additional training and leadership in addition to PQA Plus®. Christensen Farms strives to be a supportive workplace that offers individuals opportunities to bring their highest talents and deepest devotions to the work they do, setting the stage for a richer, happier, and more fulfilling life experience.	https://www.porkcares.org/stories/2025-we-care-sustainability-report/ https://www.christensenfarms.com/wp-content/uploads/2024/04/CMMG_CF_Sustain2023_PRESS.pdf
	**Gender Equality**		
	Multi-Commodities	Women are increasingly getting more involved in U.S. agriculture. Between 2006 and 2022, women's share of the farm workforce has increased from 20.3% to 26.4%. Meat Institute member companies engage in activities to eliminate bias in hiring process. In recognition of 2026 being declared as the International Year of the Womam Farmer, many U.S. agriculture organizations have celebrated women's contributions to food production.	https://www.ers.usda.gov/topics/farm-economy/farm-labor/ https://www.meatinstitute.org/Reporting/Metrics https://www.nasda.org/celebrating-international-year-of-the-woman-farmer/
	Dairy	The U.S. Dairy Export Council is working to impact SDG 5 through its involvement with the Committee on World Food Security.	https://www.usdairy.com/getmedia/9d1e82b2-5c2c-42d4-b99a-a80f3c5d4b85/2021-2022_USDairySustainabilityReport_final_01252024.pdf?ext=.pdf
	Technology	The Association of Equipment Manufacturers (AEM) and its members will not only recognize the capability and value of women in the industry, but also guard against and combat discrimination they experience while on the job. Through deliberate planning and fundraising, AEM's goal is to end mistreatment industry-wide and empower women to achieve their highest potential without barriers.	https://www.aem.org/getmedia/86ed1a54-de1b-4d7e-95b8-a558217e64b5/AEM-Sustainable-Development-Goals.pdf
	**Clean Water and Sanitation**		
	Multi-Commodities	As part of the Protein PACT, U.S. meat processors and packers are implementing waterquality programs with a goal of reducing total water use and improving the quality ofwater coming into and leaving facilities. As of its 2025 progress report, 62% of reporting establishments have completed a water risk assessment for their operations. Tyson Foods contributes to local water protection and preservation by adopting recognized water stewardship standards. Recognizing the importance of a water sustainable future, Tyson Foods has also joined the World Resources Institute Aqueduct Alliance to seek guidance on water stewardship efforts. In addition, its U.S.-based facilities are subject to various federal, state, and local environmental laws and regulations, which include provisions relating to the permitted discharge of treated effluent.	https://www.meatinstitute.org/Reporting/Metrics https://theproteinpact.org/sites/default/files/documents/Meat%20institute%202025%20continuous%20improvement%20report.pdf https://www.tysonfoods.com/sites/default/files/2026-08/Tyson%20Foods%20FY25%20Sustainability%20Report%208.27.26.pdf
	Animal Feed	Through the leadership of the International Feed Industry Federation, the global animal food industry has collaborated on "The Road to 2050," a multi-year strategic plan to reduce inputs while achieving a safe and secure food supply and improving sustainable animal nutrition. In addition to recognizing the industry's inherent circular approach and highlighting successes to increase protein availability and decrease water usage in the past six decades, the plan highlights barriers and advocates for consistent policies and regulations that aligns incentives in producer countries to guard against extreme weather, manage land use, and collaborate across the value chain.	https://ifif.org/our-work/project/ifif-road-to-2050-strategic-project/
	Dairy	Most dairies recycle their water as many as four times, including a final stop on the crops. The U.S. dairy community has also committed to improve water quality by optimizing utilization of manure and nutrients.	https://www.usdairy.com/news-articles/dairy-farm-water-usage
	Pork	Pig farmers continue to improve water use efficiency, reducing the amount of water needed to raise pigs, including water used for barn cleaning. Significant wastewater treatment upgrades were made at facilities such as Tar Heel, North Carolina, including diffuser replacements and preparations for a third anaerobic lagoon. These investments reflect a multi-year capital investment in environmental infrastructure.	https://www.porkcares.org/progress/environment/ https://www.smithfieldfoods.com/our-company/sustainability-report

	Seafood	In aquaculture, the raising of oysters, clams, mussels, scallops and seaweed is helping to improve coastal waters. Shellfish and seaweed farms remove nitrogen, carbon, and other nutrients from marine waters, and provide habitat to a variety of marine organisms.	https://www.nature.org/en-us/what-we-do/our-insights/perspectives/restorative-aquaculture-for-nature-and-communities/
	Technology	Across livestock feed production systems, precision irrigation and related technologies save enough water to supply approximately 1.7 million U.S. households for an entire year.	Environmental Benefits of Modern Livestock Production, 2026

7 AFFORDABLE AND CLEAN ENERGY	**Affordable and Clean Energy**		
	Dairy	The U.S. dairy community is contributing with its growing use of methane digesters to turn manure into biofuel. In one area of California alone, several dairy farms are producing enough renewable natural gas to replace 3 million gallons of diesel.	https://www.usdairy.com/getmedia/9d1e82b2-5c2c-42d4-b99a-a80f3c5d4b85/2021-2022_USDairySustainabilityReport_final_01252024.pdf?ext=.pdf
	Pork	Storing manure in sealed systems, called anaerobic digesters, has emerged as one of the best approaches to taking a bite out of farms' methane emissions, with the Environmental Protection Agency naming them the top tool in our arsenal. In addition to putting a literal lid on methane emissions, these closed systems produce biogas, a fuel that can be piped out to replace petroleum-based sources of energy, the primary contributors to global warming and climate change. Smithfield continues to capture methane through renewable natural gas (RNG) projects and operates covered lagoons and biodigesters that convert manure into clean, renewable energy.	https://clear.ucdavis.edu/news/pork-industry-aims-cut-methane https://www.smithfieldfoods.com/our-company/sustainability-report

8 DECENT WORK AND ECONOMIC GROWTH	**Decent Work and Economic Growth**		
	Multi-Commodities	U.S food and agriculture is an economic driver, providing more than 24 million direct jobs and supporting nearly 49 million jobs, or roughly 30% of the American workforce. The U.S. meat and poultry sector specifically, including livestock production, animal feed, equipment manufacturing, transportation, and more, contributes $347.7 billion in economic value and supports 3.2 million jobs. Meat and poultry packers provide 584,000 jobs with a competitive starting pay rate of $22.00 per hour. Agricuture, food, and related industries contributed approximately $1.53 trillion to U.S. gross domestic product in 2024, making up 5.5% of the share. Recognizing the strength that diversity brings to organizations through varied experiences and ideas, Christensen Farms actively works to attract diverse talent through recruiting processes and fosters talent through comprehensive training and development programs. Tyson Foods' global health and safety policies comply with all relevant laws and occupational standards, are created with input from teams and experts, and apply to every Tyson Foods operation and team member. Suppliers and independent contractors are expected to meet or exceed the health and safety expectations stated in Tyson Foods policies and require all suppliers to comply with the Supplier Code of Conduct and all applicable safety laws and regulations. The Tyson Foods Board and its committees have oversight of safety and are updated quarterly on specific topics, including initiatives, projects, and results around people safety and property risk and safety. By continuously fostering a culture of safety, Tyson Foods aim to protect its people, operations, and assets while striving to meet Tyson Foods' broader objectives.	https://feedingtheeconomy.com/ https://www.meatinstitute.org/press/meat-poultry-processors-contribute-57-billion-us-economy-and-provide-584000-jobs https://www.ers.usda.gov/data-products/ag-and-food-statistics-charting-the-essentials/ag-and-food-sectors-and-the-economy https://www.christensenfarms.com/wp-content/uploads/2024/04/CMMG_CF_Sustain2023_PRESS.pdf https://www.tysonfoods.com/sites/default/files/2026-08/Tyson%20Foods%20FY25%20Sustainability%20Report%208.27.26.pdf
	Chicken	The U.S. chicken industry is always looking for ways to improve safety across the supply chain in order to keep employees safe and supported. Its collective commitments and investments in safety have made a big difference over the years, especially in processing plants. Chicken processors continue to focus on the prevention of workplace injuries. By acknowledging the benefit of implementing ergonomics and medical intervention principles, while continually implementing new technology and automation in the workplace, processors have dramatically improved employee safety.	https://www.nationalchickencouncil.org/industry/sustainability-report/
	Pork	Smithfield employs approximately 34,500 people across the U.S. and Mexico and exceeded its employee safety engagement goal of 70% in 2025.	https://www.smithfieldfoods.com/our-company/sustainability-report
	Veal	The veal community employs hundreds of individuals in the production of feed and processing of meat. It also provides a steady income to hundreds of rural farming families, which allows their farms to continue to be economically viable, thereby supporting the rural communities in which they operate.	

9 INDUSTRY, INNOVATION AND INFRASTRUCTURE	**Industry, Innovation and Infrastructure**		
	Pork	Smithfield saved over 1 million miles in feed delivery transportation through its GIS-powered navigation platform called Navigator, which was created to provide safer, more efficient farm access through sequential navigation tailored to private farm roads, helping prevent driving challenges and redundant travel while optimizing logistics.	https://www.smithfieldfoods.com/our-company/sustainability-report
	Technology	The livestock sector has identified five major technological advancement areas driving sustainability: animal genetics, data-driven decision making, machinery and equipment, feed crop equipment, and animal nutrition and health.	Environmental Benefits of Modern Livestock Production, 2026

10 REDUCED INEQUALITIES	**Reduced Inequalities**		
	Multi-Commodities	Hendrix Genetics' Human Rights Policy is built on internationally recognized standards, including the United Nations Guiding Principles, International Labor Organization (ILO) conventions, and Organization for Economic Co-operation and Development (OECD) guidelines, ensuring they meet the highest ethical benchmarks. Tyson Foods is committed to respecting human and labor rights in all of its operations. This includes supporting internationally recognized human rights, complying with all applicable laws and regulations, and working to prevent and remediate any negative human rights impacts. Tyson Foods' commitments are rooted in its Core Values, Code of Conduct, Supplier Code of Conduct, and Global Human Rights Policy. These expectations are reinforced through ongoing internal communications and annual compliance training to ensure our team members understand and uphold our commitments.	https://www.hendrix-genetics.com/documents/2665/Sustainability_Report_2025_-_Hendrix_Genetics_vvi0Vg4.pdf https://www.tysonfoods.com/sites/default/files/2026-08/Tyson%20Foods%20FY25%20Sustainability%20Report%208.27.26.pdf
	Technology	The Association of Equipment Manufacturers and its members will aim to reduce socioeconomic inequalities in the communities they serve by striving to promote employment from diverse backgrounds and support inclusivity through specific training and recruitment strategies.	https://www.aem.org/getmedia/86ed1a54-de1b-4d7e-95b8-a558217e64b5/AEM-Sustainable-Development-Goals.pdf
11 SUSTAINABLE CITIES AND COMMUNITIES	**Sustainable Cities and Communities**		
	Multi-Commodities	U.S. meat packers and processors donated more than $14 million to local charities, including Boys & Grils Clubs, in 2023. Tyson Foods' approach to supporting communities is informed by targeted giving and strategic investments. They build stronger links between their operations and surrounding communities through focused programs. In fiscal year 2025, $20 million worth of product donations were given to the charitable food system, $1.5 million was donated through Giving Together, and team members volunteered 5,185 hours.	https://www.meatinstitute.org/press/benchmarking-report-released-protein-pact-summit-spotlights-sustainability-progress-and-tools https://www.tysonfoods.com/sites/default/files/2026-08/Tyson%20Foods%20FY25%20Sustainability%20Report%208.27.26.pdf
	Pork	The U.S. pork community is committed to driving sustainable, equitable development and prosperity in its communities. 987 jobs, apprenticeships, externships, and internships are offered; 9 academic scholarships awarded; $845,956 donated for charities; and 18,355 volunteer hours accumulated. Christensen Farms is dedicated to enhancing the vitality of local communities through both company-wide and individual investments. They donated $300,00 in 2023 to local communities, including $14,200 to local emergency services and $22,000 to military veterans.	https://www.porkcares.org/progress/community/ https://www.christensenfarms.com/wp-content/uploads/2024/04/CMMG_CF_Sustain2023_PRESS.pdf
	Seafood	Coastal shellfish farms participate in beach cleanups to remove marine debris.	https://pcsga.org/beach-cleanup/
	Technology	The Association of Equipment Manufacturers and its members are working to advance the construction and maintenance of safe, resilient infrastructure that fosters sustainable communities and infrastructure. They strive to coordinate with disaster relief agencies, support local workforce development, and continuously advocate for improved product and jobsite safety.	https://www.aem.org/getmedia/86ed1a54-de1b-4d7e-95b8-a558217e64b5/AEM-Sustainable-Development-Goals.pdf
12 RESPONSIBLE CONSUMPTION AND PRODUCTION	**Responsible Consumption and Production**		
	Multi-Commodities	Livestock eat grasses, grains, and more that people can't eat and turn it into delicious, nourishing food like meat, milk, poultry, eggs, and seafood that people need to thrive. More than 37% of ingredients used in animal feed are leftover from making human food and would otherwise go to waste. Similarly, the U.S. leather industry uses 83% of hides from dairy and meat and has committed to ensuring the remaining 17% are also put to use for clothing, shoes, furniture, care interiors, and more. This will save an estimated additional 137,500 tons of waste per year while reducing carbon emissions from landfill by 120,000 tons of CO2 equivalent. "As a leading animal breeding company, Hendrix Genetics aligns its practices with the recommendations of the World Organization for Animal Health (WOAH) and supports the entire animal production sector in this approach. Reducing antibiotic use strengthens the connection between disease prevention, animal welfare, and long-term sustainability across the value chain. Using antibiotics judiciously is one of Hendrix Genetics' core principles, believing they should be used "as much as necessary, but as little as possible." That means treating sick animals when needed, without compromising welfare, while striving to reduce the need for antibiotics altogether. This is acheived through improved biosecurity, robust vaccination programs, strong animal health practices, and root cause analysis of disease outbreaks. U.S. meat packers and processors, through the Protein PACT, are implementing waste management programs to prevent waste generation when possible and to find new ways to reduce, reuse, or recycle waste products to limit waste sent to landfills. Member companies are also encouraged to reduce packaging used and increase the percentage of packaging that is recyclable, compastable, and/or reusable.	https://www.afia.org/feedfacts/feed-industry-stats/u-s-animal-food-industry/ https://chooserealleather.com/real-leather/the-leather-and-hide-council-of-america-makes-earth-day-pledge/#_ftn1 https://www.hendrix-genetics.com/documents/2665/Sustainability_Report_2025_-_Hendrix_Genetics_vvi0Vg4.pdf https://www.meatinstitute.org/sites/default/files/documents/2026AllMetricsCompilation.pdf
	Chicken	Poultry companies have invested tens of millions of dollars in technology and other scientifically-validated measures to enhance the safety of chicken products. By supporting food safety research and applying the best science, research, and technology available, the entire industry is better equipped to break the chain of foodborne illness at every stage of production.	https://www.nationalchickencouncil.org/industry/sustainability-report/

Pork	Farm employees are qualified to care for pigs, with 96% of the pigs being cared for by employees who have received training like Pork Quality Assurance Plus® (PQA Plus®). More than 95% of pigs produced annually come from locations that participate in PQA Plus® Site Assessments. Safety and well-being are just as important while pigs are being transported. That's why 74% of pigs were handled and transported by individuals who are certified in Transport Quality Assurance® (TQA®) programs. PQA Plus® 5.0, PQA Plus® site assessment and TQA® 8.0 are USDA-certified to meet ISO standards, ensuring global compliance with animal care practices. Over $5 million in pork checkoff funds were invested in animal welfare research in 2023, supporting more than 33 projects since 2018. Pig farmers manage manure as a valuable resource, for example by using manure as an affordable, soil-healthy alternative to chemical fertilizers. Capturing emissions by covering pig manure can also turn methane into clean natural gas. By 2030, a goal has been set that 100% of fresh pork products can be traced through the supply chain using technology that allows the public to easily access information on how pork was raised and produced. Packaging initiatives achieved a 52% reduction in virgin petroleum-based plastic use compared with the 2019 baseline.	https://www.porkcares.org/stories/2025-we-care-sustainability-report/ https://clear.ucdavis.edu/explainers/anaerobic-digesters-swine-farms https://www.smithfieldfoods.com/our-company/sustainability-report
Technology	Precision agriculture technologies have reduced the amount of cropland required to feed U.S. livestock by approximately 3.4 million acres, an area roughly equivalent to the size of Connecticut.	Environmental Benefits of Modern Livestock Production, 2026

13 CLIMATE ACTION	Climate Action		
	Multi-Commodities	Breeding programs have historically contributed to lowering the carbon footprint of animal production. Improvements in feed conversion ratio (FCR) and productivity have led to cumulative reductions in emissions intensity year after year. This positive trend demonstrates the long-term impact of genetic progress on sustainability. Looking ahead, Hendrix Genetics aims to strengthen and quantify this effect. They are exploring partnerships to conduct the Life Cycle Assessment (LCA) to measure the impacts of breeding strategies across species. Meat Insitute reporting companies are investing in measuring their impacts, developing solutions, and implementing actions to reduce emissions, increase renewable energy use, improve water quality, and scale conservation. The Meat Institute's role extends beyond measuring that activity. In 2026, Meat Institute expanded the tools, technical resources, and regulatory guidance available to members so companies of different sizes and at different stages of their sustainability journey can identify opportunities, meet evolving customer expectations, and regulatory requirements, and make measurable progress. 57% of reporting companies have an energy-management program in place to increase energy efficiency; 31% are undertaking projects to reduce Scope 1 and 2 greenhouse gas emissions through interventions such as cap and flare, anaerobic digestion, advanced waste water processing, renewable energy transition for electricity and natural gas; 87% have a waste-management program; 69% have conducted water-risk assessments; 70% have an environmental-management system; 12% participate in or lead land-conservation restoration projects. As a dynamic and growing company, Tyson Foods recognizes the need to continually improve data management to ensure accurate and complete greenhouse gas (GHG) calculations and maintain alignment with the GHG Protocol. Tyson Foods' sustainability and global impact team collaborates with environmental compliance, procurement, and other teams to regularly collect and manage emissions data. Tyson Foods' GHG emissions for global operations are calculated according to the GHG Protocol using the operational control approach. Tyson Foods maintains documented methodologies and quality assurance processes to promote consistency and reliability over time.	https://www.hendrix-genetics.com/documents/2665/Sustainability_Report_2025_-_Hendrix_Genetics_vviOVg4.pdf https://www.meatinstitute.org/sites/default/files/documents/Meat%20institute_protein%20pact_layout.pdf https://www.tysonfoods.com/sites/default/files/2026-08/Tyson%20Foods%20FY25%20Sustainability%20Report%208.27.26.pdf
	Animal Feed	The Institute for Feed Education and Research has developed the Animal Food Industry Sustainability Toolkit, a simple, self-guided resource to support and encourage animal food companies in the pursuit of identifying and developing sustainability goals. The tiered approach leads with gaining leadership buy-in for a sustainability program and follows through measuring performance and engaging suppliers.	https://www.ifeeder.org/sustainability/animal-food-industry-sustainability-toolkit/
	Beef	The U.S. beef community has reduced emissions per pound of by more than 40% while also producing 66% animal. This allows the to supply 17% world's with only 6% cattle. The U.S. beef community has committed to becoming climate neutral by 2040.	https://animalagalliance.org/issues/sustainability/
	Chicken	Technology, modern breeding, nutrient management, feed conversion, and improved animal care practices have helped chicken farmers to significantly reduce the use of natural resources, including a 36% reduction on greenhouse gas emissions from 1985-2010 and an addition 1% from 2010-2020.	https://www.nationalchickencouncil.org/industry/sustainability report/
	Dairy	Thanks to improved farming practices, U.S. dairy farmers are producing more milk to nourish people with a lower environmental impact. Between 2007 and 2020, U.S. dairy farmers have produced 28% more milk while reducing GHG emissions per gallon of milk by 13%. The U.S. dairy community has committed to reaching greenhouse gas neutrality by 2050.	https://pubs.acs.org/esthag/article/59/19/9552/3663734/Spatially-Resolved-Greenhouse-Gas-Emissions-of-U-S https://www.usdairy.com/sustainability/environmental-sustainability
	Eggs	Compared to 1960, egg farmers have made significant strides in minimizing their environmental impact with the help of technological advancements and improved animal care practices. They are using 32% less water, 26% less feed, and have a 71% lower carbon footprint. The amount of C02 reduced since 1960 is equivalent to taking 5.2 billion cars off the road for a year.	https://www.sciencedirect.com/science/article/pii/S0032579119360043?via%3Dihub

	Pork	In the pork community, farmers are actively removing more carbon from the atmosphere than they produce, sequestering 0.28 tons of carbon per acre, with net greenhouse gas emissions of -0.44 tons CO2 equivalent per acre. The U.S. pork community has pledged to reduce greenhouse gas emissions 40% from a 2015 baseline by 2030. In the past six decades, sustainability in pork production has improved by using 75% less land, 25% less water, 7% less energy, and 8% fewer carbon emissions. The Advancing U.S. Pork Sustainability and Market Value Grant is a conservation program funded by USDA's Advancing Markets for Producers program and administered by the National Pork Board. It helps farmers implement eligible sustainability practices through financial incentives and technical support. Farmers can receive funding for approved conservation practices while measuring and documenting their environmental progress through the Pork Cares Farm Impact Report. Smithfield's long-term target is to capture 24 million metric tons CO_2e through biogas projects by 2035, supported by ongoing lagoon coverage and RNG production.	https://www.porkcares.org/stories/2025-we-care-sustainability-report/ https://porkcheckoff.org/pork-production-management/sustainability/advancing-us-pork-sustainability-grant/ https://www.smithfieldfoods.com/our-company/sustainability-report
	Technology	Current manure management technologies can reduce greenhouse gas emissions equivalent to removing 1.9 million cars from the road permanently.	Environmental Benefits of Modern Livestock Production, 2026

14 LIFE BELOW WATER	**Life Below Water**		
	Pork	Smithfield implemented wastewater treatment and environmental stewardship projects to improve water management and reduce potential environmental impacts.	https://www.smithfieldfoods.com/our-company/sustainability-report
	Seafood	Experts agree that the future of sustainable seafood must involve both farm-raised and wild-caught fish. Aquaculture farmers are supporting sustainability goals and life below water by raising shellfish, like oysters and clams, and seaweed that improve water quality and provide habitat to marine organisms. Aquaculture farms also reduce our reliance on wild fisheries for seafood, bait and fish for recreational angling, support at-risk species through the propagation and release of fish, shellfish, sponges and crabs, and provide habitat for wildlife through the creation of wetlands, ponds, and oyster reefs.	https://www.nature.org/en-us/what-we-do/our-insights/perspectives/restorative-aquaculture-for-nature-and-communities/?vu=aquaculture

15 LIFE ON LAND	**Life on Land**		
	Animal Feed	Through the leadership of the International Feed Industry Federation, the global animal food industry has collaborated on "The Road to 2050," a multi-year strategic plan to reduce inputs while achieving a safe and secure food supply and improving sustainable animal nutrition. In addition to recognizing the industry's inherent circular approach and highlighting successes to increase protein availability and decrease water usage in the past six decades, the plan highlights barriers and advocates for consistent policies and regulations that aligns incentives in producer countries to guard against extreme weather, manage land use, and collaborate across the value chain.	https://ifif.org/our-work/project/ifif-road-to-2050-strategic-project/
	Beef	Cattle benefit the environment by combating food waste and promoting ecosystem services. Cattle help with food waste by acting as "upcyclers" in our food system, eating grass and unusable byproducts like the left-over distilled grains created during biofuel production and turning them into nutrients that we can digest. This recycling power of cattle makes the whole system complementary and more sustainable. Beef cattle farmers and ranchers are not only managing their herd, they are also managing the land that they use! Beef cattle spend the majority, if not all, of their lives on grassland or rangeland and are able to provide ecosystem services, or benefits we receive from the ecosystem, to these lands. In addition, grazing cattle make use of pasture and rangelands that are not suitable for growing crops. Grazing also provides wildlife habitat and increases plant diversity.	https://www.beefresearch.org/resources/beef-sustainability/fact-sheets/ecosystem-services
	Dairy	Thanks to improved farming practices, U.S. dairy farmers are producing more milk to nourish people with a lower environmental impact. Between 2007 and 2020, U.S. dairy farmers have produced 28% more milk while reducing greenhouse gas emissions per gallon of milk by 13%. U.S. dairy is committed to continuous improvement through the ongoing, science-based pursuit of solutions that provide affordable, accessible, nutrient-rich foods that nourish the world's growing population while also protecting environmental resources. Dairy farms across the country are increasingly adopting conservation tillage, diverse crop rotations, and cover crops to improve soil health; precision feed management to achieve cow health and production efficiencies; and innovative manure management technologies to produce energy and reduce air- and water-quality impacts.	https://pubs.acs.org/esthag/article/59/19/9552/3663734/Spatially-Resolved-Greenhouse-Gas-Emissions-of-U-S https://www.epa.gov/anaerobic-digestion/basic-information-about-anaerobic-digestion
	Eggs	Compared to 1960, egg farmers have made significant strides in minimizing their environmental impact with the help of technological advancements and improved animal care practices. They are using 32% less water, 26% less feed, and have a 71% lower carbon footprint.	https://www.sciencedirect.com/science/article/pii/S0032579119360043?via%3Dihub
	Pork	Pork producers are committed to continuous improvement and transparent tracking of sustainability efforts. Within a pilot program of 225 farms and 170,660 acres, 79% of participating producers were using reduced tillage or no-till practices on their farms to build soil health, enhance structure, and reduce erosion. Similarly, 17% of those producers plant cover crops to improve soil health, minimize erosion, and increase water holding capacity.	https://www.porkcares.org/stories/2025-we-care-sustainability-report/
	Sheep	Sheep improve pasture and rangeland quality by recycling nutrients back into the soil and sequestering carbon, minimizing erosion, and encouraging native plant growth.	https://www.sheepusa.org/wp-content/uploads/2026/04/Fast-Fact-About-Sheep-Ecology.pdf

	Turkey	Turkey farmers are always looking for new ways to care for the environment. Improving genetics helps farmers raise the best bird while using fewer natural resources. Lower feed requirements reduce the demand for corn and soybeans. This efficiency also aids in lowering the fuel consumption and exhaust emissions of the tractors and trucks that harvest and bring the grain to market.	https://www.eatturkey.org/raising-turkeys/
	Veal	U.S. veal farms are engaging in environmental practices, such as 85% use of cover crops and 62% implementation of no-till practices.	https://veal.org/blog/a-first-for-u-s-veal-life-cycle-assessment-confirms-progress-on-veals-sustainability/

	**Peace, Justice and Strong Institutions**		
	Multi-Commodities	The Protein PACT has set labor and human rights metrics, with 69% of member participants committing to annual social compliance audits. In addition, 44% are committed to policies and practices that align with UN Universal Declaration of Humane Rights.	https://theproteinpact.org/sites/default/files/documents/Meat%20institute%202025%20continuous%20improvement%20report.pdf

	**Partnerships for the Goals**		
	Multi-Commodities	The Meat Institute is a participant in the UN Global Compact, a commitment to align strategies with the UN sustainable development goals. The Protein PACT is an industry wide effort to align best practices and data to demonstrate progress toward supporting healthy people, healthy animals, and a healthy planet.	https://www.meatinstitute.org/sites/default/files/documents/2026AllMetricsCompilation.pdf
	Pork	National Pork Board has partnered with conservation groups such as Ducks Unlimited to improve on-farm management to benefit wildlife and local ecosystems. Christensen Farms believes in fostering relationships with organizations within the communities where they operate. They choose to partner with those who share their desire to create a sustainable agricultural system that brings positive outcomes to people, pigs, planet, and collective prosperity.	https://www.ducks.org/newsroom/usda-invests-in-sustainability-of-us-pork-products https://www.christensenfarms.com/wp-content/uploads/2024/04/CMMG_CF_Sustain2023_PRESS.pdf