



ABP UK

Soya Position Statement.

As one of Europe's leading food processors, we provide quality beef and lamb to thousands of customers across the world and work with a network of over 35,000 farmers. With sixty years of industry experience, we have developed a reputation for quality, efficiency, and innovation. These values run throughout the ABP Food Group portfolio and have been essential in making sure that we are able to deliver exactly what our customers need.

Soya use in cattle and sheep diets

At ABP UK, we are committed to supporting efforts that will eliminate deforestation because of soya use in the supply chain. Use in Western European cattle and sheep diets is not driving demand for soya, with only small quantities used.

The UK industry has already delivered actions to significantly improve the sustainability of soya. 62 % of UK soya imports are considered to be from sources at low risk of deforestation/conversion or covered by a deforestation and conversion free certified soya standard (UK Roundtable on Sustainable Soya, Nov 2020). There is further improvement required and each actor in the UK supply chain has a part to play to support the sustainable production and use of soya.

Soya can be a beneficial inclusion within the feed ration, either as a good source of digestible fibre or as a high quality protein source, and can be purchased as a single ingredient or as part of a 'blend' or 'pellet'. ABP UK are not responsible for sourcing animal feed, except for certain units in our own integrated supply chains. We have worked with our farmers and feed companies to identify the key risk areas:

- Cattle and sheep diets can be formulated using the 'lowest-cost formulation'. Ingredients are chosen based on nutritional quality, protein percentage and cost to the producer therefore both quantity and source of soya can change regularly.
- It is not currently part of labelling regulations to include the sustainability status of ingredients used in cattle and sheep feed.
- Soya sourced from different regions and farms may not be segregated at shipping so it is difficult to maintain 100% sustainability certified supply chains. Segregation may also add additional cost to the supply chain.

ABP UK's timebound commitments



By 2019 all soya will be removed from ABP's own integrated supply chain, Blade Farming UK, calf rearing ration



By 2021 ABP UK will work with our UK retail customers to meet their time-bound commitments on purchasing RTRS soya credits



By 2021 ABP UK will be an active member of the UK Roundtable on Sustainable Soya and the supporting Beef & Lamb Working Group, participating in the publicly available annual reporting.



By 2025 ABP UK will work with feed companies and shippers to move towards 100% physically verified deforestation and conversion free supply chains



ABP UK will work with our UK producers to raise awareness of unsustainable soya in the supply chain and share knowledge about taking steps to reduce or remove unsustainable soya from cattle and sheep diets



ABP UK will only process Farm Assured cattle and sheep and will support the adoption of responsible sourcing standards within Farm Assurance to ensure all of our supply chain are working towards the goal of sustainable soya.

ABP UK will review the soya policy annually to determine suitability and amendments, if required, to ensure progress is being made

Making the difference

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