



Animal Welfare Policy

Coats is committed to ensuring that no animals are caused unnecessary pain or suffering to create our products and materials. We expect high standards of animal welfare and will only work with suppliers throughout our supply chain which have a good track record in this area.

This Animal Welfare Policy covers all products and materials we buy, but special attention is given to Angora and Merino wool as they can raise specific ethical concerns.

All Coats suppliers, and their suppliers, are expected to meet the standards contained in this Animal Welfare Policy. If we find that any of our suppliers do not meet these standards, we are committed to finding alternative sources, or working with the supplier to find alternative husbandry techniques.

POLICY

1. Living Conditions and Farming Practices

As a minimum, all animals must be protected from unnecessary pain or suffering from injury or disease.

Animals must be free from unnecessary discomfort, fear and distress as a result of farming practices.

2. Angora Wool

In early December 2013 we stopped sourcing Angora and have discontinued all products which contain Angora wool as, despite certifications, we were not able to source this product from suppliers that we were confident consistently meet the standards that we and our consumers expect.

3. Merino Wool

Mulesing is a surgical procedure performed on Merino sheep to prevent a condition known as 'fly-strike'. Fly-strike occurs when flies lay their eggs under the skin of sheep and the larvae feed on the animal's tissue.

We aim to source all our wool fibre from countries where mulesing is not practiced, or from suppliers who can assure us that their wool is mulesing-free, or from mulesed sheep with pain relief. Coats will verify its suppliers to ensure that all Merino wool meets our animal welfare standards.