

# SUSTAINABLE SOURCING

A  
SUSTAINABLE  
FUTURE

Sourcing the ingredients and raw materials we use can have a significant impact on the natural environment, whether that's in waterways, agricultural land, soil or forests.

We're committed to caring for the environments that our ingredients are sourced from. Where it drives change, we support credible certifications and work with key partners to take a restorative approach to nature.

We focus our [responsible sourcing strategy](#) around categories of ingredients that have the greatest sourcing risks for our business. Since many ingredients have shared risks, our category approach is a more effective way of tackling sourcing risks. Our ingredient categories are<sup>1</sup> fresh produce, animal protein, primary forest-risk commodities<sup>2</sup> and Fairtrade priority ingredients.

This approach aligns with our commitments to external partnerships, including IGD, WRAP<sup>3</sup> and WWF<sup>4</sup> Retailers' Commitment for Nature, and reflects our evolving risk approach whilst continuing to prioritise the actions and opportunities that will reduce our most material sourcing risks.

This section is structured around the different ecosystems our ingredient categories are based in:

- Aquaculture and Fisheries
- Forests and Peatland
- Fields and Orchards



## OWNED BY YOU

### Our big conversation with members on ethics

We held our biggest conversation yet this year! Across the year, through a range of activities, members shared with us over 300,000 views as we celebrated [30 years of Responsible Retailing](#), and asked them to shape how we will work together on ethical campaigns in the future.

## AQUACULTURE AND FISHERIES

We are dedicated to preserving our oceans, marine life and the livelihoods of our suppliers. By employing a risk assessment process for all our fish products, we ensure responsible seafood sourcing.

As proud members of the Sustainable Seafood Coalition, we adhere to its voluntary codes of conduct for responsibly sourcing and labelling fish and seafood. Our collaboration with the Sustainable Fisheries Partnership keeps us up to date with the latest industry science, and our participation in the Global Ghost Gear Initiative addresses the issue of discarded fishing gear, contributing to marine ecosystem health.



<sup>1</sup> Some ingredients will come under more than one category

<sup>2</sup> Cattle (beef), cocoa, coffee, palm oil, rubber, soy, wood (including paper/pulp, charcoal)

<sup>3</sup> Waste and Resources Action Programme

<sup>4</sup> World Wide Fund for Nature

In 2024, 56% of our wild-captured seafood was sourced from MSC fisheries (2023: 77%). The overall fish range has reduced in Co-op this year, and a number of products that carried the MSC<sup>1</sup> logo have been removed, resulting in the overall reduction of assured products. We are still committed to [MSC sourcing](#) and are looking for ways to label more seafood products in 2025. We strive for transparency, and details of all our wild-capture fisheries and farmed seafood sources can be accessed on the [Ocean Disclosure Project website](#).

We actively support Fisheries Improvement Projects (FIPs) as a crucial step toward achieving fisheries sustainability and certification within a defined five-year timeframe. We support various UK FIPs such as [Project UK](#), which has now concluded, and remain committed to supporting FIPs, both in the UK and internationally, as part of our ongoing commitment to advancing fisheries sustainability and certification.

## FORESTS AND PEATLAND

This year, global deforestation rates continued at an alarming rate, with an estimated 10 million hectares cleared each year between 2015 and 2020<sup>2</sup>. We recognise that deforestation and land conversion present a significant risk in, and to, food supply chains, and tackling this risk is essential to meeting the ambitions in our climate plan, as well as the wider protection of nature and communities.

In line with the Science-Based Target initiative's Forest, Land and Agriculture (FLAG) guidance we are committed to zero deforestation across our primary deforestation-linked commodities, with a target to reach this by the end of 2025. Reaching this

target remains challenging and we know there is a significant risk we will not meet it on time. We have made progress in several areas, outlined below, and have increased the transparency of our forest supply chains. But we need to see a significant increase in the rate of this progress and wider system changes during the next year to meet the goal.

Because of the scale of many of these supply chains, collective efforts play a vital role in managing the risks and taking action. We are signatories to the UK Soy Manifesto, members of the Retailers' Palm Oil Group, Retail Soy Group, Palm Oil Transparency Coalition and Soy Transparency Coalition.



<sup>1</sup> Marine Stewardship Council

<sup>2</sup> [State of the World's Forests 2020](#)

<sup>3</sup> Forest Stewardship Council

<sup>4</sup> Programme for the Endorsement of Forest Certification



New regulations will come into force for the EU at the end of 2025, setting legal requirements for sourcing forest-risk commodities. This will likely have significant impacts on supply chains and support progress at an industry level. We've continued to advocate for the urgent and aligned introduction of secondary legislation in the UK to ensure robust minimum requirements for entire food systems.

As well as driving positive change, we recognise the risk of unintended consequences on smallholders within supply chains. We have highlighted this in our advocacy and within the projects we support.

### Palm oil and soy

Palm oil and soy production can impact communities through deforestation, climate change and habitat loss. To achieve a sustainable approach to sourcing, we engage across the industry, and with environmental NGOs<sup>9</sup>, to understand the best approach and set clear policies. The advice from NGOs is to source responsibly, as this is the most effective way to drive change, and alternatives to crops such as palm oil are often more environmentally damaging due to their land use.

All our palm oil is certified by one of the Roundtable on Sustainable Palm Oil (RSPO) schemes. We continue to use 100% RSPO-certified palm oil in our own-brand products and, in 2024, 94% of the palm oil used in our products was segregated (2023: 92%).

We're committed to sourcing segregated RSPO palm oil wherever we can. Collaborative efforts through our membership of the Retailers' Palm Oil Group remain a key route to tackling the issues shared across the industry. We've maintained a

high coverage of segregated RSPO palm oil, and we continue to look for solutions for responsible sourcing and transparency in remaining areas (derivatives and fractions) where segregated RSPO supply is not currently possible.

Our most significant use of soy is in feed for livestock in our meat, dairy, egg and farmed fish products. We're targeting 100% physical, responsibly sourced and deforestation-free soy across our own-brand supply chain by 2025.

Our soy policy sets out how we work with our suppliers and the steps that will support us all in fulfilling our commitment. We've engaged with our strategic suppliers on soy and deforestation more widely this year. You can read the full policy and our soy commitment [here](#).

Achieving verified deforestation-free and conversion-free soy is an industry-wide challenge and progress has not yet been possible as fast as we and other members of the Retail Soy Group would have hoped. During 2024, we've continued to actively participate in the UK Soy Manifesto – a collective industry agreement to ensure all physical shipments of soy to the UK are deforestation-free and conversion-free<sup>10</sup> (vDCF) by the end of 2025. Work has intensified around driving aligned standards that will verify these flows, and 2025 will be crucial in achieving our ambition.

Our own-brand soy footprint is covered either by schemes supporting the transition (RTRS regional credits or mass balance systems) or physically vDCF (segregated certification or sourced from low-risk origin). Credits continue to cover the largest proportion of our footprint. They support more responsible soy production and provide an important first step, but are not an endpoint. As we increase physically certified flows, we will reduce our use of credits as a method of covering our footprint.

You can read more on our palm oil strategy [here](#). For information on our coffee and cocoa sourcing, see our section on [Fairtrade](#).




## 6th globally

WWF Palm Oil Buyers Scorecard 2024: Co-op scored 21.94/24 – in 'Leading the way category' and 6th globally.

<sup>9</sup> Non-governmental organisations

<sup>10</sup> Cut-off date of January 2020 at the latest

A photograph of an orangutan hanging from a tree branch in a lush green forest. The orangutan is looking towards the camera with a slight smile. The background is filled with dense foliage and sunlight filtering through the leaves.

## CASE STUDY

C Barton/Chester Zoo ©

### Partnerships to drive systems change

We know that we need to manage risk and impact beyond our direct sourcing decisions, ensuring the environments and communities are supported to allow responsible and resilient production.

Since 2019, we've supported reforestation and biodiversity research on former palm oil plantations in Malaysian Borneo, in partnership with Chester Zoo and HUTAN. We're working towards a target of planting 50,000 trees by the end of 2025, supported by in-depth biodiversity research. This project supports our ambitions on forests and nature, using 49 species of tree to create a connected wildlife corridor and the monitoring of how it's then used by returning species (186 documented so far). This not only delivers immediate restorative impacts to a production landscape, but also provides learnings that can be used to deliver future restoration more effectively at a larger scale.

We've also partnered with Solidaridad, a social CSO<sup>8</sup>, through its National Initiatives for Sustainable & Climate-Smart Oil Palm (NI-SCOPS) programme to support palm smallholders in Sarawak, Malaysia. The programme aims to empower smallholders to improve their livelihoods, make their farms resilient to climate change, and prevent deforestation.

Co-op supported a research study to better understand the emission profiles of smallholder farmers. The project closely monitors ten smallholder farmers in the implementation of climate-smart farming strategies. This is intended to develop insights on how to improve farm resilience in light of climate change impacts, which can be used for the broader implementation of Good Agricultural Practices.

Smallholders are an essential part of the palm production landscape, producing around 40%<sup>9</sup> of

global palm oil. Although smallholders contribute least towards climate change, they are the most vulnerable to its effects. Legislation and certification can also create administrative burdens that could unintentionally exclude these producers, and it is therefore important that we support outside of these routes in the short-to-medium term.

**“ I am grateful for the opportunity to participate in this programme, and I am confident that the knowledge and skills I have gained will benefit me in my career and contribute to a more sustainable future for the palm oil industry. I strongly encourage the continuation and expansion of this programme to benefit future generations. ”**

**Aminah, smallholder from Perak, Malaysia.**

<sup>8</sup> Civil Society Organisation

<sup>9</sup> [www.solidaridadnetwork.org/wp-content/uploads/2023/04/Briefing-paper-EUDR-and-palm-oil-smallholders.pdf](https://www.solidaridadnetwork.org/wp-content/uploads/2023/04/Briefing-paper-EUDR-and-palm-oil-smallholders.pdf)

## Wood and paper

We ensure that the wood and paper used in our own-brand products come from a responsible source and is of known origin. 99% comes from Forest Stewardship Council (FSC) or recycled sources (2023: 98%).

97% of coffins manufactured by our Funeralcare business were made from FSC® certified wood (2023: 98%). In 2025 we will be carrying out sourcing activity on the solid timber supply chain which is not currently covered by FSC to meet our deforestation commitment in 2025.

**99%**

wood and paper in own-brand products is from FSC or recycled sources (2023: 98%)

**97%**

of coffins we manufactured (from 2023-2024) were made from FSC® certified wood (2023: 98%)

## Peat

Peat is a vital natural resource, providing carbon storage and natural flood defences. In April 2021, we became the first UK retailer to ban the use of peat in bagged growing products sold in our stores, covering both own-brand and branded products. While this was an important first step, we recognise peat is also used more widely in our supply chains and we need to address this as part of a responsible approach to growing media, ensuring

we are using alternatives where we can understand and manage the sourcing risks.

We are working towards phasing out peat on bedding and pot plant ranges. Since 2022, we have removed 980,000 litres of peat from the range.

We are continuing our partnership with RSPB to restore upland peatland in Scotland and Wales, bringing vital peatland back into good condition to reduce carbon loss, and help to tackle [climate change](#) and protect nature.

## FIELDS AND ORCHARDS

We work with producers and growers, focusing on protecting our natural resources, water, soil and biodiversity, and building resilience in the changing climate. We understand that, whilst doing this, we must also consider impacts on people and their livelihoods. See our commitments on Fairtrade and Ethical trade. Read on for more information about our approach on water security and pesticide use, and our focus on fresh product, horticulture and crop protection in 2025.

### Water security

Without water, there is no food. The impending shortfall in water availability, coupled with farming's reliance on water<sup>10</sup> and a UK economy reliant on water outside of its borders<sup>11</sup> means we are facing increasingly serious risks related to water security and food sourcing.

Recent figures show dwindling water resources are under pressure from pollution, often from agriculture. In England, none of the rivers are in good overall health<sup>12</sup>, with 60% of river pollution attributed to agriculture and rural land management.

We're committed to playing our part in changing this for the better. We've been developing a more integrated water security strategy to help us protect our farmers and our food supply from growing risks, without compromising water resources for people and nature.

Throughout 2024, we continued our work with others to improve water security – both through our unique partnerships with The One Foundation and Water Unite (read more [here](#)), and via collective action in our food supply chain.

As founding supporters of WRAP's Water Roadmap, Co-op continues to work collaboratively with our peers, our suppliers and local delivery bodies to achieve the Roadmap's over-arching target that half the UK's fresh food will be sourced from areas with sustainable water management by 2030. It is essential we work collaboratively to improve water security in our most at-risk, shared food sourcing areas.

To help drive progress towards the milestones set out in the Water Roadmap, we continued our work with WRAP, WWF, and UK retailers to carry out Leadership Actions agreed in 2023 to strengthen and align agricultural standards, advocate for better water governance, and harmonise our mapping, measurement and reporting. We also provided input into the integration of WASH and increasing supplier engagement in the Roadmap's collective action projects.


We've continued to provide core funding towards 7 Water Roadmap collective action projects in key sourcing areas across the UK, Kenya, South Africa, Spain and Peru. These projects enable us to play our part in helping to achieve better water management on the ground, working with networks of farmers,

<sup>10</sup> 72% of all freshwater withdrawals are for agriculture, [UN Water](#)

<sup>11</sup> 70% of the UK's water footprint is external, with 40% classed as unsustainable, [Water Witness data](#)

<sup>12</sup> [Rivers Trust data](#)





## CASE STUDY

### Collective action in southern Spain

Alongside other food businesses, we are funding a collective action project on water stewardship in Southern Spain, aiming to reduce water scarcity and pollution, increase supply chain resilience and improve the state of groundwater bodies and ecosystems. The work focuses on key at-risk fruit & vegetable growing regions and is convened by WRAP in partnership with IDH SIFAV. It is delivered by Good Stuff International's Spanish team.

Since launching in 2022, activity has centred on the berry-growing area of Doñana in Huelva. In 2024, a repository of key data on the local water situation was launched, and work continues to strengthen certification standards,

increase uptake of water stewardship practice and improve legality of water use. Work has now begun in the Mar Menor catchment in Murcia and parts of the surrounding Segura basin – an important growing area for salad leaves, citrus and vegetables. Foundational work has allowed for the mapping of key hotspots and the creation of a second repository of key data.

Ongoing work will centre around building capacity, and securing engagement from local growers and stakeholders around an agreed set of actions, which will increase sustainable water use, promote regenerative agriculture and ensure legality.

local stakeholders and technical experts to deliver action plans and secure additional funding for nature-based solutions.

We've also contributed funding towards scoping and preparatory work carried out by West Cumbria Rivers Trust to set up a new collective action project in the Cumbrian Waver-Wampool catchments, to help address water risks linked to agriculture in the area.

In 2025, we plan to launch our new integrated water security strategy, setting a clear path towards improving water security in our high-risk supply chains. Read more [here](#).

### Crop protection

Whilst crop protection plays a role in food production, it must be implemented responsibly. Currently, pesticide application is the most common method of protecting crops from diseases, but we acknowledge the consequences pesticide use can have on the environment and the health of workers in our supply chains.

Our Crop Protection Policy is built on transparency and collaboration – you can read the full policy and transparency report [here](#).

Implementation is supported by the Co-op Crop Protection Board which includes supplier representation. Our [pesticide phase-out list](#) was published online in 2023 and was updated in 2024. Our suppliers are working towards phasing out the actives on this list and will be reporting annually on progress.

In 2025, our focus will remain on phasing out Highly Hazardous Pesticides and supporting the wider uptake and use of Integrated Pest Management (IPM) techniques across our supply base, using Co-op Crop Protection Groups to help share best practice with suppliers.

## 3rd Place



Co-op came 3rd in [Pesticide Action Network's Supermarket Ranking 2024](#), and was scored as "making good progress" or leading the way on all criteria

## Livestock

Respecting animal welfare is an important part of our work in agriculture. For all our Co-op branded fresh, frozen and prepared meat and poultry products, our main welfare standard and focus is Red Tractor. For higher welfare, we use RSPCA Assured certification or equivalent. Since 2008, all shell eggs sold (Co-op own-brand and branded) have been free-range as a minimum and, since 2010 we only use free-range eggs as ingredients in our own-brand products. In 2018 we also moved to 100% outdoor-bred pork (see [here](#) for more detail).

## Business benchmark on farm animal welfare

The Co-op had held a Tier 2 position for the past 10 years in the Business Benchmark on Farm Animal Welfare (BBFAW). However, the scoring methodology changed in 2022, which led to the results not being made public at that time. The results published in 2024 show that the Co-op has moved from Tier 2 to Tier 3, which is still a positive outcome. In previous years, 47 companies were in Tiers 1 to 3, but this year only nine companies are in Tiers 2 to 3, with no companies in Tier 1.



## Monitoring animal welfare

More than 8,000 farmers and growers feed into our own-brand fresh supply chain, supplying us with meat, dairy, poultry, fresh produce, and prepared products for our Co-op brand products. All farms, whether they're part of our farming groups or not, may be subject to announced and unannounced visits or audits by us, or an appointed independent audit body, to check compliance with our animal welfare requirements. Read more about our animal welfare policies and our separate animal welfare report [here](#) and our motion from Co-op member-owners for Co-op on animal welfare in our membership and co-operation section.

## Chicken welfare

Co-op is a proud supporter of British Farming, and all our fresh chicken exceeds Red Tractor Assurance Standards. We also have RSPCA Assured free-range chicken in store.

We made the commitment to move to lower stocking density across all fresh chicken last year. Working closely with a cross-functional team, and in collaboration with our supplier, we delivered on our commitment 10 months ahead of schedule. All fresh chicken varieties under 'Space to Thrive' are sourced from farms that give the chickens 20% more space.

Following the successful delivery of phase 1 to reduce stocking density across fresh chicken, phase 2 saw our commitment expand to cover 'added value' poultry products, such as breaded, in November 2024. At the AGM in 2023, we also committed to explore the implementation of slower growing breeds and, during the 2024 AGM, we reported back to the business that moving to slower growing breeds was not the right move at that time.

## Antibiotics

Antimicrobial resistance is an increasing global challenge and threat, and food retailers have a responsibility to act. We're a member of the Food Industry Initiative on Antimicrobials (FIIA) and have signed a code of conduct to work pre-competitively as an industry to reduce antibiotic use. We're also supporting research, through membership of Responsible Use of Medicines in Agriculture (RUMA), that helps identify alternatives to antibiotics. Our antibiotics strategy, in line with the industry approach, is based on the '3Rs' framework to Reduce, Replace and Refine the use of medicines.



## OWNED BY YOU

Responding to calls from our member-owners, we launched our 'Space to Thrive' commitment moving to lower stocking density across all fresh, breaded and ready to eat chicken, giving chickens 20% more space in barns.

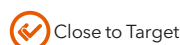
## SUSTAINABLE SOURCING DATA



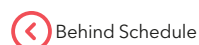
Target Achieved



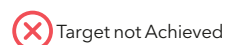
On Track



Close to Target



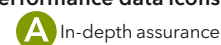
Behind Schedule



Target not Achieved



Restatement



In-depth assurance

Key Performance data icons

| Issue                     | 2024 Target | Performance against Target | KPIs   | 2021 | 2022 | 2023 | 2024                      | 2025 Target | SDGs |
|---------------------------|-------------|----------------------------|--|------|------|------|---------------------------|-------------|------|
| Aquaculture and fisheries |             |                            | % fish used in Co-op branded food products from farmed sources   | 51   | 32   | 51   | 57                        |             |      |
|                           |             |                            | % fish used in Co-op branded food products wild caught   | 49   | 68   | 49   | 43                        |             |      |
|                           |             |                            | Number of Marine Stewardship Council (MSC)-certified Co-op branded food products   | 55   | 62   | 45   | 39                        |             |      |
|                           |             |                            | % wild captured seafood sourced from MSC fisheries (by volume)   | 63   | 65   | 77   | 67                        |             |      |
|                           |             |                            | % of wild captured seafood sourced from FIP (Fisheries Improvement Project) Fisheries (by volume)                                      | 37   | 35   | 23   | 33                        |             |      |
| Livestock                 |             |                            | Higher welfare sales (£m)  | 164  | 173  | 183  | 263                       |             |      |
|                           |             |                            | This includes £69m Space to Thrive sales.  |      |      |      |                           |             |      |
|                           |             |                            | % Co-op branded fresh, frozen and prepared meat and poultry products produced to Red Tractor Farm Assurance Scheme standards or higher | 100  | 100  | 100  | 100                       |             |      |
|                           |             |                            | % Co-op branded shell egg sales RSPCA Assured  | 94   | 96   | 97   | 96                        |             |      |
|                           |             |                            | The remainder are classified as organic.   |      |      |      |                           |             |      |
|                           |             |                            | % Co-op milk Red Tractor Dairy Scheme assured  | 93   | 93   | 93   | 93                        |             |      |
|                           |             |                            | The remainder are classified as organic.   |      |      |      |                           |             |      |
|                           |             |                            | 2021 % fresh protein sales, by welfare standard  |      |      |      | See <a href="#">Table</a> |             |      |



## SUSTAINABLE SOURCING DATA



Target Achieved



On Track



Close to Target



Behind Schedule



Target not Achieved




Restatement



In-depth assurance

### Key Performance data icons

| Issue                   | 2024 Target   | Performance against Target   | KPIs  | 2021                      | 2022   | 2023   | 2024   | 2025 Target   | SDGs  |
|-------------------------|---|--|---|---------------------------|--|--|--|---|---|
| Palm Oil                |   |  | % Palm oil in food and non-food products certified by the Roundtable on Sustainable Palm Oil  | 100                       | 100  | 100  | 100  |   |   |
|                         |   |  | Palm oil used in Co-op branded food and non-food products (tonnes)  | 5,487 (in 610 products)   | 5,632  | 6,148  | 4,699  |   |   |
|                         |   |  | % Segregated and Identity Preserved   | 93                        | 93   | 92   | 94   |   |   |
|                         |   |  | % Mass Balance  | 7                         | 7  | 8  | 6  |   |   |
|                         |   |  | % GreenPalm/ RSPO credits   | 0                         | 0  | 0  | 0  |   |   |
|                         |   |  | Palm Oil Importer   | See <a href="#">Table</a> |  |  |  |   |   |
| Soy                     | 100% of soy in our Co-op products, including that embedded in animal feed, will be deforestation-free and responsibly sourced by 2025 | <div><p>This year, we've seen similar vDCF volumes, largely sourced from low-risk origins. We recognise there's still significant progress required and we are facing industry-wide challenges in meeting our goal by the end of 2025. We remain committed to our ambition, both working with supply chains to progress urgently during 2025 and develop clear plans to reaching 100% vDCF.</p></div> | Soy used in our food products (directly and indirectly through animal feed) (tonnes)  | 56,100                    | 51,862   | 60,126                                       | 52,119                                       | 100% of soy in our Co-op products, including that embedded in animal feed, will be deforestation-free and responsibly sourced by 2025 | <div><div>13CLIMATE ACTION</div><div>15LIFE ON LAND</div></div> |
|                         |   |  | % soy linked to an origin   | 61.9*                     | 51   | 55   | 64   |   |   |
|                         |   |  | % soy linked to an importer   | 36.5*                     | 50   | 51   | 63   |   |   |
|                         |   |  | *These numbers include when multiple origins and importers have been named, even if these are not separated out to specific volumes of supply. As such the importer number does not match up exactly with the 'Multiple/Not yet attributable' figure. |                           |  |  |  |   |   |
|                         |   |  | % soy footprint verified deforestation-free and conversion-free (Segregated Certified or vDCF sourcing - excludes mass balance)   | -                         | 0.4  | 16   | 10   |   |   |
|                         |   |  | Certified soy (under schemes benchmarked to FEFAC Soy Sourcing guidelines)  | -                         | RTRS Credits 72.7%                                   | RTRS Credits 7%                              | RTRS Credits 2%                              |   |   |
|                         |   |  |   |                           | Area Mass Balance 10.4%                              | Regional RTRS credits/ Area Mass Balance 50% | Regional RTRS credits/ Area Mass Balance 57% |   |   |
|                         |   |  |   |                           | Mass Balance 16.8%                                   | Mass balance 27%                             | Mass balance 26%                             |   |   |
|                         |   |  |   |                           | Segregated 0.1%                                      | Segregated 1.1%                              | Segregated 2%                                |   |   |
|                         |   |  | % soy footprint covered by UK Soy Manifesto signatories   | -                         | 83 volume of soy footprint 42 of suppliers using soy | 77   | 90   |   |   |
| Soy footprint breakdown | See <a href="#">Table</a>   |  |   |                           |  |  |  |   |   |



## OWN-BRAND SOURCING STANDARDS

| Ingredient             | Sourcing standard   |
|------------------------|---|
| Oceans and aquaculture |   |
| Wild fish              | Preferred standard - MSC.   |
| Farmed fish            | Preferred standards - Global Aquaculture Alliance Best Aquaculture Practice (GAA/BAP) 4*, GLOBALG.A.P. Aquaculture Standard, Aquaculture Stewardship Council Standards, Marine Stewardship Council certification.   |
| Salmon                 | All Co-op 'Irresistible' own brand farmed, fresh and smoked Atlantic Salmon sourced from Scottish farms accredited to RSPCA Assured higher welfare standards. This does not include salmon used as an ingredient.<br>Co-op own brand standard tier farmed Atlantic Salmon fresh, smoked and used as an ingredient in Co-op food products may be sourced from either Scottish farms or Norwegian farms (excluding Rogaland and Hordaland). |
| Prawns                 | Cold Water prawns - MSC.<br>Warm Water prawns - either ASC certified or GAA BAP4*   |
| Tuna                   | Skipjack tuna, including as an ingredient, sourced from fisheries employing pole and line or hand fishing method which are either MSC certified or in a credible or comprehensive Fishery Improvement Project which is demonstrating measurable progress towards MSC certification.   |
| Livestock              |   |
| Chicken & poultry      | Red Tractor or equivalent (Irresistible range RSPCA Assured) British (Fresh, frozen and ready meals).   |
| Beef                   | Red Tractor or equivalent, British.<br>Only European corned beef.   |
| Milk & dairy           | Red Tractor, British.   |
| Lamb                   | Red Tractor, British.   |
| Pork                   | RSPCA Assured, Outdoor bred, British.<br>Red Tractor for Bacon, Gammon and Ham in Co-op Honest Value products.<br>As an ingredient - Red Tractor.   |
| Eggs                   | 100% free range, British, Shell eggs RSPCA Assured.   |

| Ingredient           | Sourcing standard   |
|----------------------|---|
| Forest and peatlands |   |
| Cocoa                | 100% Fairtrade, including where used as an ingredient within our Fairtrade Sourcing Ingredient (FSI) programme. |
| Coffee               | 100% Fairtrade.<br>Where used as an ingredient Fairtrade producers benefit.                                     |
| Sugar                | 100% Fairtrade in bagged sugar.   |
| Wood, paper & pulp   | FSC or recycled content (by exception PEFC accepted).   |
| Palm oil             | Certified as sustainable under one of the Roundtable for Sustainable Palm Oil certification schemes.            |
| Soy                  | The majority of our footprint (direct and indirect) is covered by RTRS Credits.                                 |
| Peat                 | All bagged growing medium sold in our stores is peat free.  |
| Fields and orchards  |   |
| Tea                  | 100% Fairtrade.<br>Where used as an ingredient Fairtrade producers benefit.                                     |
| Bananas              | 100% Fairtrade.<br>Where used as an ingredient Fairtrade producers benefit.<br>GLOBALG.A.P.                     |
| Grapes & wine        | Entry level South African wines are Fairtrade.<br>Grapes - GLOBALG.A.P.   |
| Flowers              | 100% Fairtrade African rose bouquets and African single stem roses.   |
| Lettuce              | UK - Red Tractor<br>Other - GLOBALG.A.P.  |
| Carrots              | Red Tractor.  |
| Tomatoes             | UK - Red Tractor.<br>Other - GLOBALG.A.P.   |
| Citrus               | GLOBALG.A.P.  |
| Potatoes             | Red Tractor.  |
| Berries              | UK - Red Tractor.<br>Other - GLOBALG.A.P.   |

## % OF FRESH PROTEIN SALES BY WELFARE STANDARD

| Own label         | Red Tractor | RSPCA Assured / Higher Welfare | Commentary  |
|-------------------|-------------|--------------------------------|---|
| Turkey            | 100%        | 0%                             |   |
| Chicken           | 25%         | 73% and 2%                     | 73% is space to thrive, 2% is RSPCA Assured   |
| Beef              | 100%        | 0%                             |   |
| Lamb              | 100%        | 0%                             |   |
| Bacon             | 0%          | 100%                           |   |
| Pork              | 0%          | 100%                           |   |
| Ham               | 0%          | 100%                           |   |
| Sausage           | 0.1%        | 99.9%                          | Co-op Frozen Sausages are Red Tractor not RSPCA   |
| Eggs              | 0%          | 96%                            | 4% is Organic so still higher welfare, so could be changed to 100%                                    |
| Milk              | 93%         | 7%                             | 7% is Organic   |
| Salmon            | 0%          | 9%                             | The other 91% is not comparable to Red Tractor as it's not certified under a land-based certification |
| Fish              | N/A         | N/A                            | Probably can remove this?   |
| Cooked meats      | 100%        | 0%                             |   |
| Continental meats | 100%        | 0%                             | All EU lines certified to equivalent Red Tractor standard   |
| Cheese            | 100%        | 0%                             | All EU lines certified to equivalent Red Tractor standard   |
| Cream             | 100%        | 0%                             | All EU lines certified to equivalent Red Tractor standard   |
| Butters and fats  | 100%        | 0%                             | All EU lines certified to equivalent Red Tractor standard   |
| Ready to cook     | 69%         | 31%                            |   |

## % OF SALES (VALUE)

| Proportion of fresh protein sales, by protein type |             |
|--|-------------|
| Turkey   | 0.11%       |
| Chicken  | 10.13%      |
| Beef   | 7.67%       |
| Lamb   | 0.49%       |
| Bacon  | 4.26%       |
| Pork   | 1.36%       |
| Ham  | 5.10%       |
| Sausage  | 4.21%       |
| Eggs   | 6.29%       |
| Milk   | 19.78%      |
| Salmon   | 5.58%       |
| Fish   | 3.95%       |
| Cooked meats                                       | 8.41%       |
| Continental meats                                  | 2.14%       |
| Cheese   | 13.02%      |
| Cream  | 2.02%       |
| Butters and fats                                   | 5.49%       |
| Ready to cook                                      | 0.42%       |
| <b>TOTAL</b>                                       | <b>100%</b> |

## PALM OIL

| Palm oil importer | % of 2024 supply | Link importer mill lists   | 2024 Co-op engagement |
|-------------------|------------------|--|-----------------------|
| Sime Darby        | 26               | <a href="#">Crosscheck</a>   | POTC Engagement       |
| AAK               | 10               | <a href="http://www.aak.com/sustainability/better-sourcing/palm/mill-list/">www.aak.com/sustainability/better-sourcing/palm/mill-list/</a> | POTC Engagement       |
| Multiple Top 10   | 12               |  | POTC Engagement       |
| Olenex            | 6                | <a href="#">Traceability - Olenex</a>  | POTC Engagement       |
| Other             | 20               |  | POTC Engagement       |
| Not attributable  | 26               |  | Supplier Engagement   |

## SOY FOOTPRINT








| Soy footprint by protein type | %  |
|-------------------------------|----|
| Beef                          | 4  |
| Dairy                         | 19 |
| Eggs                          | 11 |
| Lamb                          | 0  |
| Pork                          | 23 |
| Poultry                       | 37 |
| Seafood                       | 6  |
| Direct Soy                    | 0  |
| Other                         | 0  |


| Soy importer         | % footprint |
|----------------------|-------------|
| Cargill              | 21          |
| Cefetra              | 15          |
| ADM                  | 5           |
| Others               | 22          |
| Not yet attributable | 37          |

| Soy sourcing region  | % footprint |
|----------------------|-------------|
| Asia                 | 0.3         |
| Europe               | 0.4         |
| North America        | 11.5        |
| South America        | 49.3        |
| Multi-region         | 2.1         |
| Not yet attributable | 36.5        |



## SUSTAINABLE SOURCING DATA

 Target Achieved 
  On Track 
  Close to Target 
  Behind Schedule 
  Target not Achieved 
  Restatement 
  In-depth assurance 
 **Key Performance data icons**

| Issue           | 2024 Target | Performance against Target | KPIs  | 2021           | 2022           | 2023           | 2024           | 2025 Target | SDGs  |
|-----------------|-------------|----------------------------|---|----------------|----------------|----------------|----------------|-------------|---|
| Wood & Paper    |             |                            | Wood and paper products purchased by Co-op Food (m³)  | 47,399         | 41,762         | 31,514         | 31,415         |             |  |
|                 |             |                            | Co-op Food: sourcing of wood and paper, by origin   |                |                |                |                |             |   |
|                 |             |                            | % Post and pre-consumer recycled waste  | 0              | 1.5            | 0.5            | 0              |             |   |
|                 |             |                            | % Known legal source virgin material such as PEFC   | 5              | 0.5            | 2              | 0.9            |             |   |
|                 |             |                            | % Wood and paper purchased for Co-op Food that was (FSC certified) or recycled  | 95             | 98             | 98             | 99             |             |   |
|                 |             |                            | % Wood and paper used in products for Co-op Food is of known origin   | 100            | 100            | 100            | 100            |             |   |
|                 |             |                            | % Coffins manufactured by our funeral business made from FSC®- certified1 wood  | 95             | 97             | 98             | 97             |             |   |
|                 |             |                            | Data follows financial year, rather than calendar year  |                |                |                |                |             |   |
| Crop Protection |             |                            | Number of product samples tested  | 373            | 363            | 372            | 360            |             |   |
|                 |             |                            | Sample with zero residues   | 155 (42%)      | 152 (42%)      | 153 (41%)      | 143 (40%)      |             |   |
|                 |             |                            | Samples with 1 residue below Maximum Residue Limit - European Food Safety Authority (MRL)   | 70 (19%)       | 70 (19%)       | 66 (18%)       | 67 (19%)       |             |   |
|                 |             |                            | Samples with multiple residues all below MRL  | 138 (37%)      | 132            | 143 (38%)      | 135 (38%)      |             |   |
|                 |             |                            | Samples with at least 1 MRL exceedance  | 10 (3%)        | 9 (3%)         | 10 (3%)        | 15 (4%)        |             |   |
|                 |             |                            | Number of pesticide actives detected  | 668            | 640            | 665            | 624            |             |   |
|                 |             |                            | Average detections per sample   | 1.79           | 1.8            | 1.79           | 1.73           |             |   |
|                 |             |                            | Number of these classified by the World Health Organization Recommended Classification of Pesticides by Hazard (Categories 1A and 1B) | 0 (1A); 2 (1B) | 0 (1A); 0 (1B) | 1 (1A); 0 (1B) | 0 (1A); 0 (1B) |             |   |
|                 |             |                            | International List of Highly Hazardous Pesticides (Number of different actives)   | 141            | 138            | 211            | 176 (35)       |             |   |