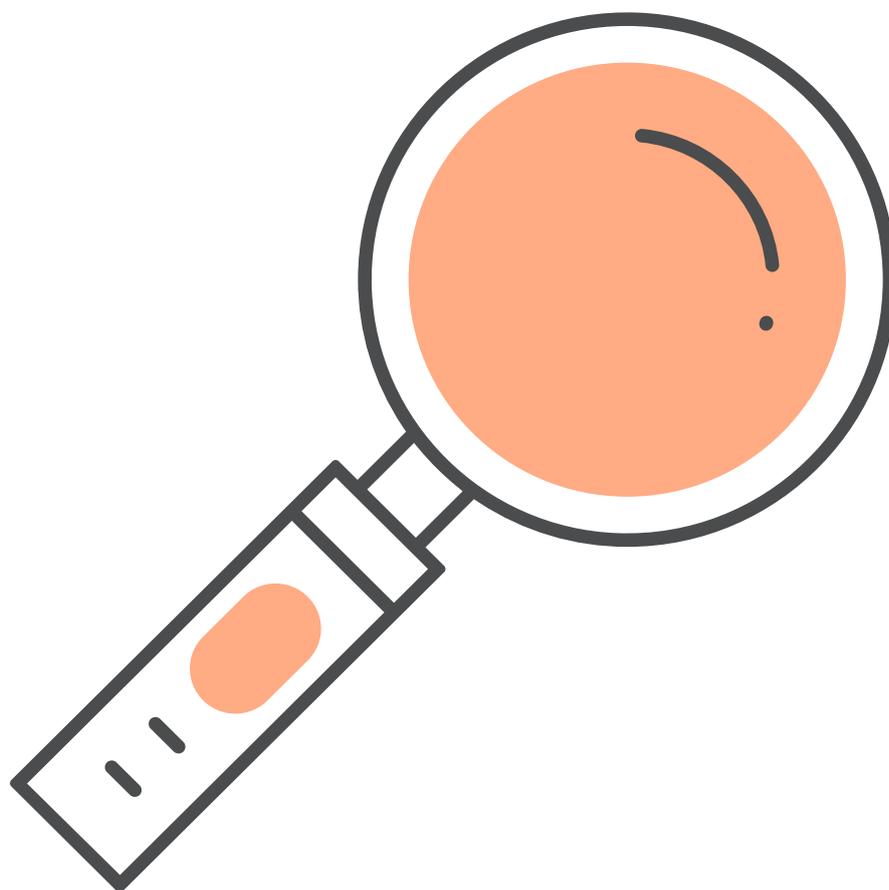


**RESPONSIBLE  
SOURCING**



# Supply chain analysis

**RABBITS**

**RSPCA** 

# Supply chain analysis

## RABBITS

**RESPONSIBLE  
SOURCING**

NOTE: RSPCA Australia believes that in all farming systems, animals must be provided with freedom of movement and the ability to satisfy their behavioural, social, and physiological preferences and needs. The housing of rabbits in cages prevents key natural behaviours such as hopping, running, stretching, hiding, and lying comfortably and exploratory behaviour such as gnawing, leading to poor physical and mental wellbeing. See our [policy on environment and housing of farm animals](#).

### Animal welfare considerations

- Cage systems
- Fear levels
- Catching and slaughter method
- Lack of space
- Lack of enrichment
- Lack of choice to socialise or withdraw



If you have specific questions or challenges arising from your supply chain analysis, get in touch with [RSPCA Australia](#).

### Product range

**Meat:** fresh, processed, offal

**Fur:** angora, felt

**By-products:** toys, pet food, pet treats

#### Step one

Where is farmed rabbit meat, fur or by-product used in your business?

- Are you using rabbit meat/by-product on site?
- Are you buying in products that contain rabbit meat?
- Are you buying in rabbit by-product?

What farmed rabbit meat is used in your business?

- Is the rabbit meat used on site fresh or value added?

#### Step two

For farmed rabbit meat, fur and/or rabbit by-product used in your business, ask your supplier:

- Is the product certified by a third party?  
If so, which certification program.
- What country/ies is the rabbit meat/by-product sourced from?
- What is the method of production of rabbit?
- Is your supplier also the producer? If not, how many suppliers are involved in the chain back to the producer?
- What husbandry practices are carried out and how?
- What is the method of slaughter?

#### Step three

Compile your findings to work out the following:

- The percentage of certified rabbit meat/by-product in your business supply chain
- The proportion of Australian rabbit meat/by-product and any imported product
- A list of all producers supplying your business
- Husbandry practices, farming methods, and slaughter methods

#### Step four

Review your organisation's current supply chain to identify the animal welfare issues using the information collected from the first three steps.

#### Step five

Implement plan within your organisation to address the identified issues. See RSPCA Australia's '[How to develop an animal welfare policy](#)' for more information.