



California Proposition 12 Certification

Ensuring Compliance to California
Animal Care Standards

What is California Proposition 12 Certification?

California's Proposition 12, the Farm Animal Confinement Initiative, sets forth essential standards aimed at enhancing the welfare of farm animals in California. As of January 1, 2024, all producers of egg-laying hens, breeding pigs, and/or veal calves, as well as distributors of covered products intended for sale in California, must possess a valid Proposition 12 Certificate of Compliance. The standard mandates specific housing conditions for the covered animals, emphasizing freedom of movement, cage-free design, and minimum floor space.

The California Department of Food and Agriculture (CDFA) Proposition 12 sets a benchmark for animal agriculture producers to prioritize the welfare and care of animals and ensures that California consumers have access to food sourced from farms adhering to these standards. The SCS Global Services Dairy and Animal Welfare Team recognizes the importance of these values and offers Proposition 12 Certification services to producers and distributors who are committed to meeting these critical standards.

Why Choose SCS?

With 40+ years of certification expertise, SCS is a trusted leader in verifying regulatory, food safety, and sustainability claims. Our experienced Dairy and Animal Welfare team offers tailored solutions with outstanding customer service. Bundle with food safety audits such as GLOBALG.A.P., SQF, PrimusGFS, BRCGS or USDA Organic or SMETA social audit to streamline processes, save time and ensure compliance with multiple standards.

Benefits

Market Access: Certification allows businesses to continue selling covered products in the California market, demonstrating commitment to animal welfare.

Consumer Confidence: Certification promotes transparency in animal agricultural practices and enhances consumer trust in your products, providing assurance that they are purchasing humanely raised meat and eggs.

Stakeholder Recognition: Gain recognition from stakeholders, including retailers, advocacy groups and government agencies for your approach to animal welfare.

Avoid Penalties for Non-Compliance: Certification ensures you meet the regulatory requirements of Proposition 12, avoiding potential fines and penalties for non-compliance.





Certification Process

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Pre-Assessment

Upon receiving your application for Proposition 12 certification, our team conducts a preliminary assessment to determine if the producer and/or distributor appears to comply or may be able to comply with Prop 12 regulations.

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On-Site Inspection

Within three months of the pre-assessment, an on-site inspection is scheduled at your facility. Each production unit, facility, and site that produces or distributes covered animals or products that are included in the operation for which certification is requested will be inspected. The inspection involves a comprehensive assessment of the facility, covered animals, covered products, and records.

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Compliance Evaluation

Following the on-site inspection, our certification team evaluates the findings to determine if the Prop 12 requirements are met. Any areas of non-compliance are identified, and corrective actions must be submitted within 30 days.

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Certification Decision

SCS conducts a final technical review of the inspection report and corrective actions documentation, then makes the final certification decision.

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Annual Inspection

To maintain certification, an on-site inspection is conducted once every 12 months following the initial inspection.



For more information contact:

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