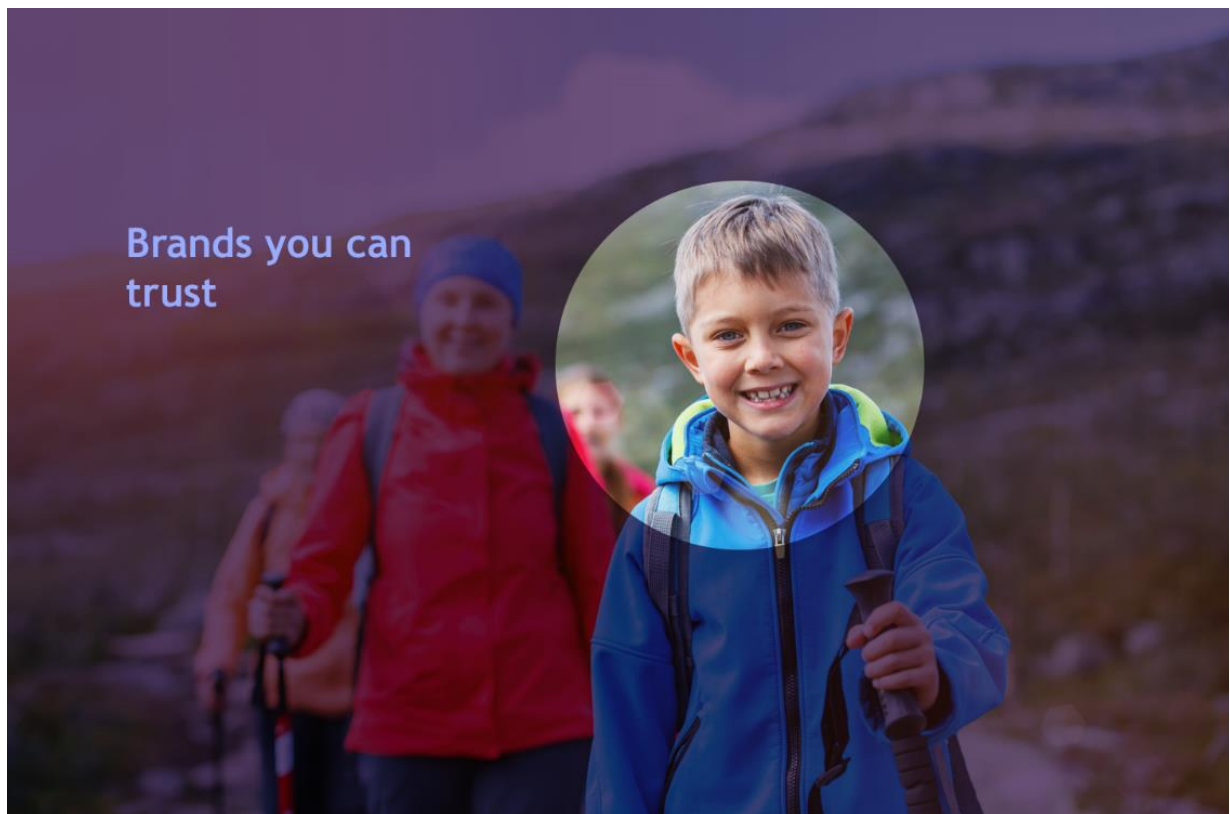


# Unils Quality Requirements to Suppliers and Product



# INTRODUCTION

This document describes Unil's Quality Claims and Recommendations to you as a supplier and it summarizes what you need to deliver on, to make sure Unil gets safe and sustainable products in our own Brands and Packers Brands.

The document is divided into internal claims (must haves) and recommendations, including food, pet-food, non-food, and packaging. One section concerns all suppliers.

**Requirement** – Policies that must comply at the time an offer is given.

**Expectations** – Policies that we strive to achieve. If not met at the time an offer is given, the supplier must provide an explanation as to why the recommendation is not met and a plan on how and when the recommendation will be complied.

In general, suppliers must comply with all applicable laws and regulations related to the specific product group(s) that we procure.

If there, from a market perspective, are reasons not to follow our internal claims, you as a supplier need to provide a written explanation as to why claims are not followed, which in turn must be approved internally by Unil.

Products in breach of laws and regulations are not acceptable.

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## 1. All Suppliers

### 1.1 REQUIREMENTS

#### 1.1.1 Legal Requirements

In general, suppliers must comply with all applicable European laws and regulations related to the specific product group(s) that we procure.

#### 1.1.2 Human rights

All producers in risk countries shall have a valid audit in BSCI (and/or Sedex or similar).  
All suppliers shall sign and work for compliance with the guidelines set out in the Code of Conduct (CoC)

#### 1.1.3 CSR-Screening - NEW

Suppliers participating in United Nordic tenders that are present in a country classified by Amfori BSCI as a high-risk country, will need to fill out United Nordics Sustainability Questionnaire and provide verifying documentation. This will be part of the selection criteria and suppliers which do not fill out and return the questionnaire will not be qualified to make an offer on United Nordics products. This is also valid for products containing >5% of an ingredient deriving from a high-risk country, as well as products containing >5% of tomatoes from Italy

## 2. Food Suppliers

### 2.1 REQUIREMENTS

#### 2.1.1 Food Safety

All suppliers to Unil shall be certified according to one of the GFSI standards (Food Safety Standards).

### 2.1.2 Salt

All suppliers who are delivering food products to Unil must deliver products within salt content according to what is defined in the Salt List.

### 2.1.3 Spirulina

None of our products shall contain spirulina as an ingredient. This is particularly relevant in smoothies. This does not apply to spirulina concentrate.

### 2.1.4 Vegetarian and vegan

When launching new products aimed at the target group of vegetarians / vegans, we will strive to ensure that it is adapted to vegans. The reason for this is that vegans often buy products that are aimed at vegetarians.

UNIL defines the term "vegetarian" as free of meat, poultry, fish, and seafood, and will ensure that products labeled "vegetarian" are not misleading to consumers. Eggs, dairy products, and honey can be used in vegetarian products, and it must then be clearly highlighted on the front which of these ingredients the product contains.

The following ingredients **cannot** be used in vegetarian products:

- meat and poultry
- fish and seafood (including shellfish, molluscs, and caviar)
- bouillon/ fund from meat / poultry, fish, and shellfish
- sauces produced from seafood (oyster sauce, fish sauce and Worcester sauce)
- fat from animal source
- insects (including E 120 (carmine), red dye produced from lice)
- gelatin
- animal rennet
- vitamin D and omega-3 fatty acids from fish oil

Products labeled "vegan" can only consist of plant-based ingredients.

### 2.1.5 Coffee

All pure coffee products shall at least be Rainforest Alliance/UTZ certified.

### 2.1.6 Cocoa

Products containing cocoa (as powder or cocoa mass) must be certified according to Fairtrade or Rainforest Alliance.

For Mainstream and Premium products, we strive for the cocoa to be certified according to Fairtrade.

### **2.1.7 Azo dyes**

None of our products shall contain azo dyes. These dyes include E102, E104, E110, E122, E124 and E129.

### **2.1.8 GMO**

To launch GMO products, it is required to apply to the Norwegian Food Safety Authority, and the products must be marked. None of our products shall contain any GMO.

### **2.1.9 Sustainable Seafood**

All risk products (e.g., surimi, tuna, whiteleg shrimps) or products caught in areas with a low degree of control of working conditions and resources shall be ASC/MSC certified commodities. The origins of commodities must always be documented.

### **2.1.10 Soy**

All soy products where soy is an ingredient, we shall make sure that the soy comes from sustainable sources or is RTRS/Pro-Terra certified

### **2.1.11 Tea**

All tea shall be Fairtrade certified.

### **2.1.12 Titanium dioxide (E171)**

None of our food products shall contain titanium dioxide (E171). This means that products with E171 shall not be launched from 2022.

### **2.1.13 Protein injection**

Unil does not accept fish and other seafood products that contain fish or seafood injected with a liquid consisting of protein combined with water and salt.

### **2.1.14 Polyphosphate**

Polyphosphate shall not be used in unprocessed frozen fish.

### **2.1.15 Enrichment**

Unhealthy products and indulgence food may not be enriched with vitamins and/or minerals to promote products as healthier than they are. Exceptions can be made for energy drinks and bars.

Definition of indulgence food and unhealthy products: soft drinks, buns, biscuits, cakes and other sweet pastries, salty snacks, chocolate, candy, ice cream, sweet toppings, and desserts, other products that do not qualify for the Keyhole (e.g., jam, sweet muesli mixtures, yoghurt, and the like with a high content of fat and sugar), food with a high content of saturated fat, salt and added sugar and/or a low content of fiber or wholegrain.



### **2.1.16 Trans fatty acids**

Our products shall not contain more than 2 g of trans fat per 100 g fat. Requirement valid for trans-fat other than trans-fat naturally occurring in fat of animal origin.

### **2.1.17 Sustainable Palm oil**

All products with palm oil shall as a minimum be RSPO Identity Preserved (IP) and segregated (SG). If Packers Brands or Eurolabel products contain palm oil, they shall follow the certification rule.

### **2.1.18 BHA and BHT – NEW**

Butylated hydroxytoluene (BHT, E321) and Butylated hydroxyanisole (BHA, E320) are not allowed in any of our food products.

## **2.2 EXPECTATIONS**

### **2.2.1 Environment**

It is desirable that all suppliers to Unil should be certified according to ISO14001 or other environmental standards.

### **2.2.2 Sugar**

Our goal is a 20% reduction of sugar by 2020. Our focus shall be on the "hidden" sugar in products where consumers do not expect high sugar content.

### **2.2.3 Saturated fat**

The recommendations by the Norwegian Directorate of Health shall be followed. The content of saturated fat shall be reduced to less than 10% in the major dietary sources of fat, i.e., milk and dairy products, meat and meat products, margarine og other edible fats. Saturated fat should be replaced with monounsaturated fatty acids and polyunsaturated fatty acids.

### **2.2.4 Sucralose (E955)**

It is recommended that none of our products shall contain sucralose.

### **2.2.5 Nisin & Natamycin**

Nisin (E 234) and natamycin (E 235) should be avoided in cheese if possible.

### **2.2.6 Co-use with ascorbic additives**

If nitrite (E 249 or E 250) is used in cured meat products, the product should also contain ascorbate (E 301), or iso-ascorbate (E 316) or ascorbic acid (E 300).

### **2.2.7 E 407, E 407a, E 433 & E 466 – NEW**

The additives E407, E407a, E433 and E466 should be avoided in our food products.

## **3. PET-food Suppliers**

### **3.1 REQUIREMENTS**

#### **3.1.1 Food Safety Standard**

All suppliers to Unil shall be certified according to the GFSI or ISO 22000 standards (Food Safety Standards)

#### **3.1.2 GMO**

To launch GMO products, it is required to apply to the Norwegian Food Safety Authority, and the products must be marked. None of our products shall contain any GMO.

#### **3.1.3 Sustainable Seafood**

All risk products (e.g., surimi, tuna, whiteleg shrimps) or products caught in areas with a low degree of control of working conditions and resources shall be ASC/MSC certified commodities. The origins of commodities must always be documented.

#### **3.1.4 Soy**

All soy products where soy is an ingredient, we shall make sure that the soy comes from sustainable sources or is RTRS/Pro-Terra certified

#### **3.1.5 Sustainable Palm oil**

All products with palm oil shall as a minimum be RSPO Identity Preserved (IP) and segregated (SG). If Packers Brands or Eurolabel products contain palm oil, they shall follow the certification rule.

### **3.2 EXPECTATIONS**

#### **3.2.1 Environment standard**

It is desirable that all suppliers to Unil should be certified according to ISO14001 or other environmental standards. Non-food Suppliers

## 4. 4 Non-food

### 4.1 REQUIREMENTS FOR SUPPLIERS

#### 4.1.1 Environment standard

All Unils suppliers of non-food products shall be certified according to one of the following environment standards: ISO 14001, EMAS, Miljøfyrtårn and/or Økotex Step

The following products standards is also accepted if the product is according to these certifications:

Bra Miljøvalg, Svanen, GOTS, Blaue Ängel and/or EcoLabel

As an alternative a valid SMETA 4-pillar revision with satisfactory results can be accepted.

#### 4.1.2 Quality and product safety standards

Suppliers to Unil shall be certified according to ISO9001/BRC/IFS-HPC

#### 4.1.3 Cosmetics and body care

Suppliers of cosmetics/body care products shall also be certified according to ISO22716.

### 4.2 REQUIREMENTS FOR PRODUCTS

#### 4.2.1 Parabens

None of our products shall contain parabens.

#### 4.2.2 Microplastics - UPDATED

Intentionally added microplastics\* are not allowed in any of our cosmetic and chemical products.

\* Definition according to ECHA: Particles containing solid polymer in size  $1 \text{ nm} < x < 5 \text{ mm}$  or has a length of  $3 \text{ nm} < x < 15 \text{ mm}$  and length to diameter ratio  $< 3$ .

#### 4.2.3 Siloxanes D4, D5, D6 og M3T

None of our products shall contain siloxanes D4, D5, D6 or M3T. Note: In the authorities' priority list.

#### 4.2.4 Preservative Phenoxyethanol

None of our products used in the diaper area shall contain preservative phenoxyethanol.

#### **4.2.5 Perfume allergens**

None of our products shall contain perfume allergens in a concentration that must be declared on the label. Relevant in cleaning products, dishwashing detergents, laundry detergents, chemicals, and cosmetics / personal care.

#### **4.2.6 Triclosan**

None of our products shall contain triclosan.

#### **4.2.7 Flame retardants (brominated and organic phosphorous)**

None of our products shall contain flame retardants (brominated and organic phosphorous). This includes all solid products, especially electronics, textiles, and toys. In the authorities' priority list including bans and regulations regarding a lot of products.

#### **4.2.8 Formaldehyde and formaldehyde releasers**

Formaldehyde and formaldehyde releasers (such as Bronopol) are not allowed in cosmetics products.

#### **4.2.9 Paper/carton/wood**

All wood containing products where we are the first import link in the European market shall comply with the EU timber regulation.

#### **4.2.10 Bisphenols and Bisphenols A**

None of our products shall contain bisphenols/bisphenols A.

#### **4.2.11 PVC**

None of our products or packaging shall contain PVC.

#### **4.2.12 Perfluorised substances**

None of our products shall contain perfluorised substances. Relevant in all fat, dirt, and water repellent products, e.g., baking paper, popcorn bags and textiles. Note: Not allowed in a lot of products.

#### **4.2.13 Phthalates**

None of our products shall contain phthalates. This includes all product types. On the authorities' priority list including bans and regulations regarding a lot of products.

#### **4.2.14 Food contact materials**

All suppliers of food contact materials shall supply food contact certificates or conformity declarations for all packaging and non-food products in contact with food.

#### **4.2.15 Wood and paper products**

By the end of 2022, all our new and existing paper and wood products must be certified in accordance with FSC, PEFC or Svanen, or consist of recycled material. Raw materials from tropical timber shall not be used in any of our products.

#### **4.2.16 CMR - NEW**

CMR substances classified according to CLP, in Category code 1A, 1B & 2, are not allowed in any of our products. United Nordic can decide if exceptions can be made for specific use products.

#### **4.2.17 Endocrine disruptors - NEW**

Endocrine disruptors and substances under suspicion to be endocrine disruptors [1] are not allowed in any of our products. [1] Endocrine disruptors and substances under suspicion to be endocrine disruptors: all substances on list I, II & III at [www.EDLists.org](http://www.EDLists.org).

#### **4.2.18 EDTA – NEW**

EDTA and its salts shall not be used in any cosmetic and detergent product.

#### **4.2.19 Sustainable Palm oil – NEW**

Palm oil-based ingredients must origin from RSPO certified production according to the Segregation or Identify Preserved supply chain model.

Exceptions can be made for products such as detergents and cosmetics containing palm derivatives, where RSPO Mass Balance can be accepted

#### **4.2.20 Mineral oil and MOSH & MOAH - NEW**

Intended use of mineral oils are not allowed in any food contact material product or in cosmetic product for lips and/or mouth.

#### **4.2.21 Natural mica – NEW**

Natural mica (CI 77019) is not allowed in any of our products.

#### **4.2.22 LAS – NEW**

Lauryl Alkylbenzene Sulfonates (LAS) are not allowed in any of our products.

The table indicates the most applicable product group as a guidance, but note that requirements in principle are valid for all products.

#### **4.2.23 Preservatives – Isothiazolinones & Phenylphenol – UPDATED**

The following preservatives are not allowed in any of our products: Phenylphenol and its salts (such as Sodium o-phenylphenate, Potassium o-phenylphenate and MEA o-phenylphenate). Formaldehyde and formaldehyde releasers (such as Bronopol). Isothiazolinones (such as Kathon, MI, MCI and BIT) are not allowed in any of our cosmetic or detergent products.

	Chemical products	Cosmetics	Food Contact Materials	Candles	EE	Toys	Textiles	Misc
Parabens	x	x						
Microplastics	x	x						
Preservatives - Isothiazolinones & Phenylphenol	x	x						
Siloxanes D4, D5, D6 og M3T	x	x						
Preservative Phenoxyethanol								x
Perfume allergens	x	x						
Triclosan		x						
Flame retardants (brominated and organic phosphorous)					x	x	x	x
Formaldehyde and formaldehyde releasers	x	x						
Paper/carton/wood			x					x
Bisphenols and Bisphenols A			x		x	x		
PVC			x		x	x		x
Perfluorised substances			x				x	
Phthalates			x		x	x		
Food contact materials			x					
Wood and paper products			x			x		x
CMR - NEW	x	x						
Endocrine disruptors	x	x						
EDTA	x	x						
Sustainable Palm oil	x	x		x				
Mineral oil and MOSH & MOAH		x	x					
Natural mica	x	x						
LAS	x	x						

## 5. Packaging Materials

### 5.1 REQUIREMENTS

#### 5.1.1 Bisphenols and Bisphenols A

None of our packaging materials shall contain bisphenols/bisphenols A.

#### 5.1.2 Perfluorised substances

None of our packaging materials shall contain perfluorised substances.

#### 5.1.3 Phthalates – UPDATED

Intended use of phthalates are not allowed in the packaging for any product.

#### 5.1.4 Food contact materials

All suppliers of food contact materials shall supply food contact certificates or conformity declarations for all packaging and non-food products in contact with food.

#### 5.1.5 Plastic

Biodegradable/industrial compostable materials are not allowed. Applies to packaging CU and TU. None of our packaging materials shall contain PVC or PVDC. Applies to packaging CU and TU.

#### 5.1.6 Metal

PVC and PVDC is not allowed as coating/sealing. Applies to packaging CU.

#### 5.1.7 Mineral oil and MOSH & MOAH - NEW

Intended use of mineral oils are not allowed in the packaging for any food product.

#### 5.1.8 PFAS – NEW

PFAS (per- and polyfluoroalkyl substances) \* are not allowed in the packaging for any product.  
\*Definition according to OECD: PFASs consist of a fully (per) or partly (poly) fluorinated carbon chain connected to different functional groups.

#### 5.1.9 Natural mica – NEW

Natural mica (CI 77019) is not allowed in any of our packaging.

## 5.2 EXPECTATIONS

### 5.2.1 All materials

Plastic types that can easily be recycled and can be made also from renewable resources. Use monomaterial as first choice where possible. Applies to packaging CU and TU.

### 5.2.2 Fiber-based packaging

When paper or cardboard is used, Unil shall always ask and strive to use packaging material that are certified according to FSC, PEFC or Svanemerket if possible. Applies to packaging CU and TU.

To endorse a circular economy, we encourage the use of recycled material. Recycled paper material is not allowed in direct contact with food stuff, as of today. The re-cycled packaging material should also be certified according to PEFC, FSC or Svanemerket if possible. Applies to packaging CU and TU.

#### **Composite materials:**

Avoid composite materials, if possible. Exception: aseptic cartons. Applies to packaging CU.

Bleaching methods must be TCF (Totally Chlorine Free) for virgin fibers and at least PCF (Processed Chlorine Free) for recycled pulp. The bleaching method ECF (Elementary Chlorine Free) can be accepted only for consumer unit for products with the Nordic Swan Ecolabel. Applies to packaging CU and TU.

#### **Recycled materials:**

To increase the use of recycled material we want to ensure that the packaging can be material recyclable. E.g.: avoid plastic windows on cartons. Applies to packaging CU and TU.

### 5.2.3 Plastic

#### **Styrene- NEW**

Styrene and it's polymers should not be used in packaging for direct food contact

#### **Types of plastic:**

HDPE, LDPE, PP and PET are preferred types of plastic. Applies to packaging CU and TU.

Minimize the use of virgin fossil plastic, when possible, either by:

- a) use recycled plastic, or
- b) use plastic from renewable material.



Applies to packaging CU and TU.

**Colour pigments:**

Avoid the use of strong and dark color pigments and use transparent plastic as first choice, where possible. Applies to packaging CU and TU.

The use of the color pigment "carbon black" is not allowed. Applies to packaging CU and TU.

**Deposit scheme:**

National regulation for deposit system should always apply. But to promote circularity, use the deposit system also on products not required by law - if possible. Applies to packaging CU.

**5.2.4 Metal**

Minimize the use of metal cans in favor of aseptic paper carton. We are working on phasing out metal cans from our product portfolio with more environmentally friendly packaging. Our goal is to phase out by 2022. Applies to packaging CU.

Avoid composite materials like tin, aluminium, iron mixes. It makes it difficult to recycle. Composite materials make it more difficult to recycle the packaging. Applies to packaging CU.

**5.2.5 Glass**

Glass is very heavy in transportation and has a high climate footprint. Minimize the thickness of glass (use light-weight glass) where possible. Applies to packaging CU.

**Material recycling:**

Blend materials are hard to recycle. Avoid the use of porcelain and ceramics with glass as it makes the recycling much harder. Applies to packaging CU.

Transparent glass is a cleaner fraction and is easier to recycle into new glass material. If UV protection is needed darker colour is accepted, e.g., for Olive oil. Minimize the use of dark colored glass and use transparent glass as first choice. Applies to packaging CU.

## 6. Animal welfare

### 6.1 REQUIREMENTS

#### 6.1.1 Laws and rules

Our suppliers and manufacturers shall follow national, and as a minimum EU's, animal welfare laws, guidelines, and standards.

#### 6.1.2 Slaughter methods

Animals always must be anesthetized before slaughter.

#### 6.1.3 Antibiotics

Antibiotics shall only be used on sick animals when necessary. Use of antibiotics must be prescribed and documented by a veterinarian.

Antibiotics and hormone preparations shall not be used as growth enhancers.

#### 6.1.4 Wool

Wool must not originate from animals that have been subject to mulesing. Mulesing is surgical removal of skin from the sheep's tail area, so that the skin will be tight and wrinkle free. This to avoid that urine and feces will create moist pockets in the skin where flies accumulate and lay their eggs.

#### 6.1.5 Use of wild animals

Viltlevende dyr skal ikke fanges og benyttes i produksjon i forbindelse med innhøsting e.l. Eks. aper som høster kokosnøtter.

#### 6.1.6 Surgical procedures

Surgical procedures of non-medical reasons must be avoided, i.e., tail cutting of pigs.

If there is a medical reason, the procedure must be performed by a veterinarian/medical professional, with properly anaesthesia and pain relief.

#### 6.1.7 Forced feeding

Forced feeding of animals is unacceptable. I.e., forced feeding of goose and duck in production of foie gras/duck liver.

#### 6.1.8 Animals unable to give birth naturally

Products from animals where breeding lead to birth difficulties, is unacceptable. I.e., breeding of Belgian Blue cattle.

### **6.1.9 Eggs**

UNIL must not include eggs from caged hens in production of our brands. Also, we will phase out usage of eggs from caged hens as an ingredient in our own brands. Our goal is to phase out eggs from caged hens as an ingredient by the end of 2025.

### **6.1.10 Testing on animals**

Cosmetics and cleaning agents cannot be tested on animals.

### **6.1.11 Bobby calf production**

Raw material from Bobby calf production or from the breed Belgian Blue must not be used.

## **6.2 EXPECTATIONS**

### **6.2.1 Traceability**

Suppliers should be in control of their animals' origin and keep track of exactly where they come from, when used in their supply chain.

### **6.2.2 Follow-up and improvement**

Suppliers who directly distribute livestock from producers, must have effective systems for following up, and continually work to improve animal health and welfare in their supply chain.

### **6.2.3 Follow-up by subcontractors**

Suppliers of products with animal origin as main ingredients must communicate with their subcontractors and follow-up animal welfare demands and use of antibiotics. This also include suppliers of products that use animals in their supply chain, without including them in the raw material.

### **6.2.4 Enrichment of environment, space**

Environmental enrichment and enabling of natural behaviour according to specific needs for the species, shall be prioritized.

### **6.2.5 Housing of animals**

Stuffy and tight housing of animals with restrained moving abilities, must be avoided.