

Exclusion criteria

The Dutch Society for the Protection of Animals reserves the right to refuse the right of certain companies to use the Better Life label, or to revoke this right. The Dutch Society for the Protection of Animals shall apply its own policy to this end, including but not limited to, the following criteria:

Farms

- Several activities of a farmer/entrepreneur incompatible with the policy of the Dutch Society for the Protection of Animals, such as fur farming or colony housing (poultry).
- A farm with multiple activities including non-BLL certified houses
- Farms with animals that have been genetically manipulated.
- Abattoir that applies unstunned slaughter methods.
- **Mega-houses**
A mega-house is a house with a very high number of animals in a single location (it concerns a single location, not one UBN or one roof).
A mega-house is understood to mean a house with:
7,500 finishers, 1,200 breeding pigs, closed pig farm of 3,800 finishers plus 600 breeding pigs, 120,000 laying hens, 220,000 broilers, 2,500 veal calves, or more.

(not to be confused with a mega-farm, which is a livestock farm with livestock houses in multiple locations. The farm as a whole has a very high number of animals. However, the number of animals kept at the various locations is comparable to the numbers kept on regular farms). The discussion about mega-houses concerns the consequences for the economy, landscape, nature, environment, public health and animal welfare. Many of those discussion points are invalid or become less important when it comes to multiple locations.

- **Multilevel houses**
Animals kept in a house with more than one storey/floor/level. With the exception of aviary and free-range houses for laying hens, where a maximum of two storeys may be used. This criterion will come into effect on 01/09/2016.

This does not apply to existing houses that were Better Life label participants before 01/09/2016. However, no new multilevel houses can be built or added to these houses after 01/09/2016.

Processed products

Additives are used in the preparation of meat and meat products. When processing Better Life products, the Dutch Society for the Protection of Animals allows 5% of other animal products that may be necessary for processing. However, not all animal products are allowed; excluded, even within the 5% non-Better Life animal products are:

- foie gras from ducks
- foie gras from geese
- animal products for which it is not 100% certain that the animal was slaughtered stunned (especially sheep, calf and lamb products)
- horse meat
- poultry/game obtained from hunting or kept (including guinea fowl, pheasant, wild boar, red deer, fallow deer, duck, pigeon, goose, partridge, wild rabbit)

Exclusion criteria

- endangered species such as eel
- products from animals that have been genetically manipulated, cloned or otherwise have come into direct contact with biotechnology
- other animal products that (may) be in conflict with the policy of the Dutch Society for the Protection of Animals.