



# Major Food Companies Committed to Reducing Antibiotic Use

## Overview

Consumers across the United States are demanding meat and poultry sourced from producers who use antibiotics responsibly—and large restaurants, producers, and supermarkets are listening. Following is a list of some leading companies that have committed to using their purchasing policies to be part of the solution to the problem of antibiotic resistance.

Table 1  
Restaurants and Food Service Companies Offering Responsibly Raised Meat and Poultry

Antibiotic use policy announced. (See comments for implementation status.)
 No policy announced.
 The company does not serve the protein.

Restaurant or food service company	Number of U.S. locations*	Chicken	Pork	Turkey	Beef	Policy/implementation status (as stated by the company's website or news release)
Au Bon Pain	300					<b>No antibiotics ever</b> - <a href="#">chicken and turkey</a> (sandwiches and salad only, excludes hot bowl/wrap); pork (Niman Ranch sausage only, excludes ham and bacon)
Boloco	20					<b>No antibiotics ever</b>
Bon Appétit Management Co.	650					<b>No antibiotics ever</b> — <a href="#">pork and ground beef</a> (excludes <a href="#">primal cut beef</a> *) <b>Routine nontherapeutic use of antibiotics prohibited</b> chicken and turkey
BurgerFi	77					<b>No antibiotics ever</b>
Burgerville	46					<b>No antibiotics ever</b>

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  No policy announced.
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Restaurant or food service company	Number of U.S. locations*	 Chicken	 Pork	 Turkey	 Beef	Policy/implementation status (as stated by the company's website or news release)
Carl's Jr.	1,495					<a href="#">No antibiotics</a> ("All-Natural Burger" only)
Chick-fil-A	1,962	Target: 2019				<a href="#">No antibiotics ever</a> (Status: 23% of supply as of Q2 2015)
Chipotle Mexican Grill	1,931					<a href="#">Raised without antibiotics</a>
Chopt	35					<a href="#">No antibiotics ever</a>
Culver's	544					<a href="#">Raised without antibiotics</a>
Dunkin' Donuts	8,299					<a href="#">Judicious use</a>
Elevation Burger	33					<a href="#">No antibiotics ever</a> (chicken, beef, and bacon only)
Farmer Boys	79					<a href="#">Antibiotic free</a> (beef in "The Natural" burger only)
Good Times	36					<a href="#">No antibiotics ever</a> (chicken, beef, and bacon only)
Houlihan's	104					<a href="#">Antibiotic free</a> (in some locations)
McDonald's USA	14,304	Target: March 2017				<a href="#">No medically important antibiotics</a>
Noodles & Co.	330	Target: Q1 2017			Target: mid-/late 2016	<a href="#">Antibiotic free</a>
Panera Bread	1,972 (U.S. and Ontario, Canada)					<a href="#">No antibiotics ever</a>
Papa John's	3,075	Target: summer 2016				<a href="#">Antibiotic free</a>
Pret A Manger	66					<a href="#">Antibiotic free</a> (excludes prosciutto and Korean pulled pork products)

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Restaurant or food service company	Number of U.S. locations*	 Chicken	 Pork	 Turkey	 Beef	Policy/implementation status (as stated by the company's website or news release)
Restaurant Associates	100					<a href="#">Routine use of medically important antibiotics prohibited</a>
Roti	21					<a href="#">No antibiotics ever</a>
Shake Shack	49					<a href="#">No antibiotics ever</a>
Subway	27,463	Target: end of 2016	Target: 2025	Target: 2018-19	Target: 2025	<a href="#">Raised without antibiotics</a>
Sweetgreen	36					<a href="#">Organic (chicken and bacon products only)</a>
Taco Bell	6,824	Target: end of Q1 2017				<a href="#">No medically important antibiotics</a>
Wendy's	6,058					<a href="#">Judicious use</a>

\* As of Feb. 29, 2016.

† The U.S. Department of Agriculture defines primal cut beef as chuck, loin, rib, and round.

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Table 2  
Food Producers Offering Responsibly Raised Meat and Poultry

Food producer	 Chicken	 Pork	 Turkey	 Beef	Policy/implementation status (as stated by the company's website or news release)
Applegate					<a href="#">Antibiotic free</a>
Bell & Evans					<a href="#">No antibiotics ever</a>
DaBecca Natural Foods					<a href="#">No antibiotics ever</a> (with the exception of bacon for food service and some retail outlets)
Estancia Beef					<a href="#">No growth-promoting antibiotics</a>
Evol Foods					<a href="#">No antibiotics</a>
Foster Farms					<a href="#">Judicious use</a> (for disease treatment and control, and no use of antibiotics critical to human medicine) <a href="#">No antibiotics ever</a> (Foster Farms Certified Organic and Simply Raised brands)
FreeBird					<a href="#">No antibiotics ever</a>
Hormel					<a href="#">Judicious use</a>
Luvo					<a href="#">Raised without antibiotics</a>
MamaMancini's					<a href="#">Raised without antibiotics</a> (meats with "antibiotic free" label only)
Meyer Natural Angus					<a href="#">No antibiotics ever</a>
Miller Poultry					<a href="#">Raised without antibiotics/antibiotic free</a>
Mom Made Foods					<a href="#">Raised without antibiotics</a>
Murray's					<a href="#">Antibiotic free</a>

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Food producer	 Chicken	 Pork	 Turkey	 Beef	Policy/implementation status (as stated by the company's website or news release)
Niman Ranch					<a href="#">No antibiotics ever</a>
Perdue Farms Inc.					<a href="#">No antibiotics ever</a> (Simply Smart chicken, Harvestland poultry and pork)  <a href="#">Judicious use</a>
Ranch Foods Direct					<a href="#">No subtherapeutic antibiotics/routine use prohibited</a>
Red Bird Farms					<a href="#">Antibiotic free/raised without antibiotics</a> (98% of retail chicken, except 50% dark/50% white ground chicken)
Saffron Road					<a href="#">Raised without antibiotics</a>
Smart Chicken					<a href="#">Raised without antibiotics</a> (applies to entire production—egg and life of chicken)
Smithfield					<a href="#">Judicious use</a>
Springer Mountain Farms					<a href="#">No antibiotics ever</a>
Thousand Hills Cattle Co.					<a href="#">No antibiotics ever</a>
Tyson Foods					<a href="#">No antibiotics ever</a> (hatcheries; Nature Raised Farms, Open Prairie Natural Angus brands)  <a href="#">Judicious use</a> (reduced use of human antibiotics in broiler flocks more than 80%; target: end of September 2017—no medically important antibiotics in U.S. broilers)
White Oak Pastures					<a href="#">No antibiotics</a>

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Table 3  
Supermarkets Offering Responsibly Raised Meat and Poultry

Supermarket	Number of U.S. locations*	 Chicken	 Pork	 Turkey	 Beef	Policy/implementation status (as stated by the company's website or news release)
Ahold USA (Giant Food, Giant Food Stores, Martin's Food, Peapod, Stop & Shop)	Giant Food: 213 Giant Food Stores: 196 Martin's Food: 51 Stop & Shop: 395					<b>No antibiotics ever</b> ( <a href="#">Nature's Promise</a> brand and USDA Organic labels only)
ALDI	1,500					<b>No antibiotics</b> (Kirkwood Never Any! chicken, SimplyNature Organic beef brands only)
Delhaize America (Food Lion, Hannaford)	Food Lion: 1,103 Hannaford: 227					<b>Antibiotic free</b> (Nature's Place label only)
H-E-B	294					<b>Antibiotic free/no antibiotics ever</b> (H-E-B Fresh Local Chicken, H-E-B Organics labels only)
Kroger	3,934 (includes subsidiaries)					<b>Antibiotic free/no antibiotics ever</b> (Simple Truth and Simple Truth Organic labels only)
Publix	1,115					<b>Antibiotic free</b> (Publix GreenWise brand only)
Safeway	1,270					<b>No antibiotics ever</b> ( <a href="#">Open Nature</a> and <a href="#">O Organics</a> brands only)
Supervalu (Cub Foods, Farm Fresh, Hornbacher's, Shop 'n Save, and Shoppers Food & Pharmacy)	1,363					<b>Raised without antibiotics</b> (Wild Harvest brand only)
Trader Joe's	456					<b>Raised without antibiotics</b> (Trader Joe's Organic brands, "antibiotic free" labels only)
Walmart (Sam's Club)	5,310 retail stores 3,466 supercenters 449 discount stores 699 neighborhood markets 41 small formats 655 Sam's Clubs					<b>Judicious use</b> (including compliance agreement to suppliers)

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Supermarket	Number of U.S. locations*	Chicken	Pork	Turkey	Beef	Policy/implementation status (as stated by the company's website or news release)
Wegmans	88					<a href="#">No antibiotics ever</a> (Food You Feel Good About brand and USDA Organic labels only)
Whole Foods Markets	433					<a href="#">No antibiotics ever</a>

\* As of Feb. 29, 2016.

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These companies' antibiotic use policies, for major food animal species<sup>1</sup> and associated labels, are defined by the U.S. Department of Agriculture (USDA) or the Food and Drug Administration (FDA) as follows:

- **Organic:**<sup>2</sup> A standard that includes no use of antibiotics during production stages.
- **No antibiotics ever/no antibiotics/raised without antibiotics:**<sup>3</sup> A label used when sufficient documentation demonstrates that no antibiotics were used during the food animal's life.
- **No medically important antibiotics:**<sup>4</sup> A label indicating that antibiotic drugs important for therapeutic use in humans cannot be used; some antibiotics with no relevance in human medicine can be used.
- **Judicious use:**<sup>5</sup> A standard that follows the judicious use principles outlined by FDA and the American Veterinary Medical Association; unnecessary or inappropriate use of antibiotics should be avoided.

Other antibiotic policies and company labels may have variations of the descriptions above:<sup>6</sup>

- **Antibiotic free**
- **Routine use prohibited**
- **No growth-promoting antibiotics**<sup>7</sup>

Policies/offerings are subject to change. Unless otherwise noted, a company's specifications on disease treatment, prevention, and/or control may not be articulated in its policies.

This guide is not intended to represent all companies encouraging the responsible use of antibiotics in meat and poultry production. Restaurants and food service companies listed are limited to those with at least 20 locations. The list provides examples of companies with an antibiotic policy found on their website or in a news release. Additionally, some companies provided clarification to their antibiotic policies via direct email correspondence with The Pew Charitable Trusts prior to Feb. 29, 2016. To add your company's name to this list, please contact [saveantibiotics@pewtrusts.org](mailto:saveantibiotics@pewtrusts.org).

## Endnotes

- 1 Defining “Small Number of Animals” for Minor Use Designation, 74 Fed. Reg. 43043 (Aug. 26, 2009), <https://www.gpo.gov/fdsys/pkg/FR-2009-08-26/html/E9-20553.htm>.
- 2 U.S. Department of Agriculture, “Organic Livestock Requirements” (July 2013), [https://www.ams.usda.gov/sites/default/files/media/Organic Livestock Requirements.pdf](https://www.ams.usda.gov/sites/default/files/media/Organic_Livestock_Requirements.pdf).
- 3 No antibiotics ever/no antibiotics/raised without antibiotics are company-defined labels that follow that company’s standards on antibiotic use. The labels may be independently verified through the USDA Process Verified Program. U.S. Department of Agriculture, “Meat and Poultry Labeling Terms,” last modified Aug. 10, 2015, <http://www.fsis.usda.gov/wps/portal/fsis/topics/food-safety-education/get-answers/food-safety-fact-sheets/food-labeling/meat-and-poultry-labeling-terms/meat-and-poultry-labeling-terms>.
- 4 U.S. Food and Drug Administration, “Guidance for Industry #209—The Judicious Use of Medically Important Antimicrobial Drugs in Food-Producing Animals,” last modified April 13, 2012, <http://www.fda.gov/downloads/AnimalVeterinary/GuidanceComplianceEnforcement/GuidanceforIndustry/UCM216936.pdf>.
- 5 Ibid. and U.S. Food and Drug Administration, “Guidance for Industry #213—New Animal Drugs and New Animal Drug Combination Products Administered in or on Medicated Feed or Drinking Water of Food-Producing Animals: Recommendations for Drug Sponsors for Voluntarily Aligning Product Use Conditions With GFI #209,” last modified December 2013, <http://www.fda.gov/downloads/AnimalVeterinary/GuidanceComplianceEnforcement/GuidanceforIndustry/UCM299624.pdf>.
- 6 The labels listed are claims that adhere to company antibiotic policies but are not approved and/or verified by the USDA.
- 7 FDA has offered guidance to facilitate the phasing out of medically important antibiotics for production purposes in “Guidance for Industry #213,” a follow-up to “Guidance for Industry #209” that will take effect Jan. 1, 2017.

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## For further information, please visit:

[pewtrusts.org](http://pewtrusts.org)

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