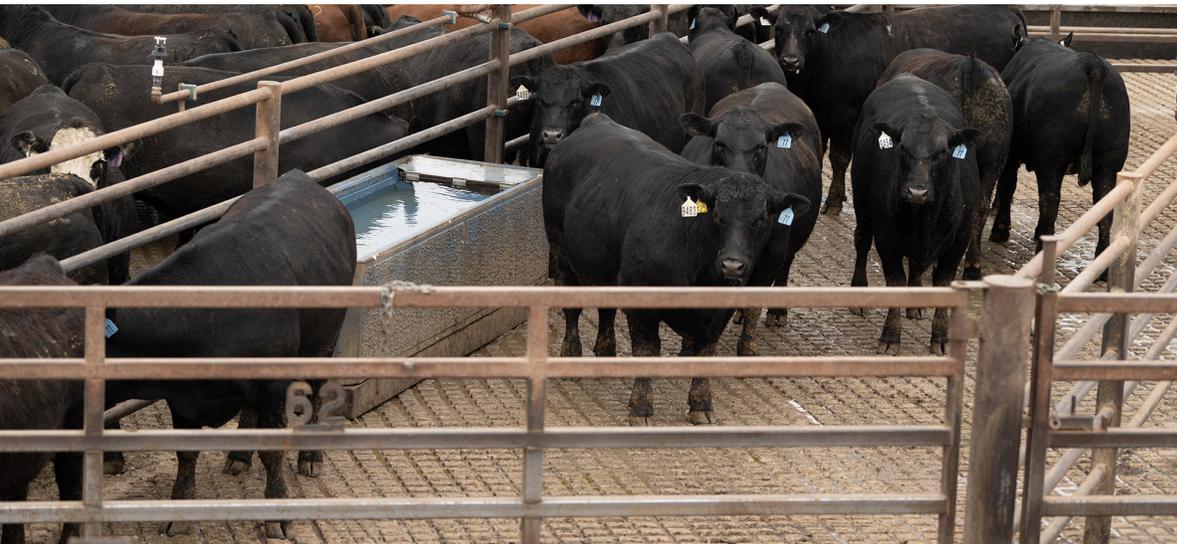




# Animal Welfare and Humane Handling on a National Scale



*Humane treatment of cattle has always been a core value of National Beef.*

## Commitment to Humane Care

The humane treatment of cattle has always been a core value of National Beef. We believe in treating every animal in our care with dignity. Humane handling is not only the moral and right thing to do, it's key to keeping our employees safe and the quality of our beef high.

## Raising the Bar

Our animal welfare philosophy is the foundation for all our designs and processes. We document our best practices so everyone's on the same page. Our Animal Welfare program is backed by documentation, training protocols, and oversight. We're committed to being at the forefront of animal welfare and proactively incorporating the best, most updated science, guidance, and practices. We find ways to improve humane handling, employee safety, and business efficiency.



Our Animal Welfare team of Technical Services employees write programs, follow up on third-party audits, conduct due

diligence on suppliers, and train employees. Our Animal Welfare program was written with consultation from experts with Iowa State University and Kansas State University. By standardizing our processes across all facilities, we strive to exceed industry standards through uniform care and transparency.

## A Crucial Foundation

Understanding cattle behavior is crucial to our success. We train our team to move cattle with calm, low-stress techniques specific to our three plants' systems and equipment. For example, the Dodge City facility uses a Bud Box with a rectangular pen and an alleyway leading to the chute at a right angle. This gives cattle a path that makes them feel like they're going where they want. It's safer and lower stress for both employees and cattle.

## A Steadfast Dedication

National Beef is dedicated to humane care of the animals. Animal welfare isn't just a box to check. We consider it a moral obligation. A cornerstone of our company. And the path to a sustainable future for agriculture. The Animal Welfare team will continue their pursuit of first-class conditions for its cattle, its people, and the future of the industry.

