



Standard Wool's response to PETA's press release dated 7/6/2016

Standard Wool absolutely condemns the mistreatment of animals and the recent information regarding the cruelty of sheep is of great concern to our company. Our Company is in fact the only wool buying operation in Chile which actively promotes good standards on the welfare of animals. All our contracts with Chilean farmers include a clause declaring that the IWTO guidelines for wool sheep welfare are adopted and adhered to.

We have also made contact with the relevant authorities in Chile to highlight our concern, to request information and to show our support and assistance in any investigation.

Since being made aware of the allegations, Standard Wool has found no evidence to suggest that the farms in Chile that it works with are in fact abusive towards animals. PETA has currently not provided any further evidence that the farms we work with are those portraying cruelty other than the currently unidentifiable video initially provided.

We have worked with Farmers Associations and Individual Farmers and have so far taken the following steps to ensure that our suppliers meet the standards that we desire and promote:

- Standard Wool (Chile) SA has a conditional clause on the purchase of Wool with farmers declaring that the IWTO Guidelines for Wool Sheep Welfare are adopted and by signing our contract, the farmers agree to conform to these guidelines, an official Spanish translated copy of the guidelines has been circulated to farmers.
- We have been in contact with relevant Chilean Authorities explaining our concerns of these allegations. We have requested that they carry out a full investigation and offered our support and assistance.
- Standard Wool has further promoted the fact that we adhere to the IWTO Guidelines for Wool Sheep Welfare in Chile to communicate our position and stance as a responsible Wool buyer.
- Standard Wool have also opened discussion with Farmers Associations and Wool Producers within Chile in order to raise the importance of Sheep Welfare and highlight the damage to the industry this can potentially have.

Standard Wool makes a number of visits to Chilean farms each year. The next visit is scheduled later this month (June) when we will be continuing investigations with suppliers and farmers and reviewing the best practices and processes which Standard Wool require them to abide by.

PASSIONATE ABOUT WOOL

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We readily accept that we have a responsibility to promote animal welfare standards and whilst the sale of wool is not the primary income source to the typical Chilean farmer, we feel that our influence as a wool buyer could and should be used to help prevent cruelty to animals.

Standard Wool (UK) Limited are a group of companies that trades Greasy, Scoured, Top and Noil Wool globally, with processing operations in the UK and Chile, and offices in New Zealand and China. Wool in Chile is sold by private negotiation and sealed bid tender to the highest bidder. There are several hundred suppliers of wool in Chile and Standard Wool (Chile) S.A. has no partnership or long term agreement in place with any wool producer.

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