

To Whom It May Concern

Blönduós, Iceland

Animal Welfare Declaration

This document serves as a formal guarantee regarding the ethical treatment and physical characteristics of Icelandic sheep from which our Icelandic wool is sourced.

We are committed to the highest standards of animal welfare and sustainable farming practices.

- ✓ Icelandic wool originates solely from the Northern European short-tailed Iceland breed of sheep *Ovis Aries Borealis*.
- ✓ The sheep are born and bred on Icelandic territory.
- ✓ All wool from Blönduós is 100% Icelandic wool.

Animal Welfare Is a High Priority in Iceland

Icelandic sheep welfare standards and surveillance are among the strictest in the world. This is also supported by long and strong cooperation between farmers and animal welfare institutions.

The cornerstones of the Icelandic system are the five freedoms, i.e., freedom from hunger and thirst, freedom from discomfort, freedom from pain, injury, or disease, freedom to express normal behavior, and freedom from fear and distress.

MAST, the Icelandic Food and Veterinary Authority, is responsible for monitoring and enforcing animal welfare. More information can be found at <http://www.mast.is/en>.

Freedom from Mulesing

We hereby certify that all Icelandic wool is **100% Mulesing-Free**.

The practice of mulesing is unnecessary and non-existent in Iceland due to the breed's specific genetics. The Icelandic sheep belongs to the **Northern European Short-tailed** group of sheep. Unlike breeds developed for heavy wool production in hotter climates, Icelandic sheep naturally possess short tails.

The surgical procedure known as mulesing is never performed in Iceland. Not only because of the short tail natural anatomy, but also because of the protection and isolation. The arctic climate naturally regulates insects and pests. Therefore, the harmful insects that can cause harm by flystrike in the tail area do not exist in Iceland.

Freedom from Dehorning

We further certify that our wool is sourced from sheep that are **Free from Dehorning**.

The Icelandic sheep is a heritage breed that naturally occurs in both horned and hornless varieties. We respect the natural integrity of the animals. The sheep providing our wool have not been subjected to dehorning procedures, except in rare medical cases.

Freedom from Antibiotics, Hormones, or Chemical Treatments

In Iceland, antibiotics, hormones, and other chemical treatments such as pesticides and herbicides are rarely used. All medical treatments are supervised by a licensed veterinarian and administered to one individual animal that needs medical attention.

Conclusion

Our wool is a product of centuries of adaptation to the sub-arctic climate, produced by farmers who adhere to strict animal welfare regulations. We guarantee that no surgical alterations such as mulesing or dehorning are practiced on the flocks contributing to our supply chain. Please do not hesitate to contact us if you need any further information.

Kind regards,

A handwritten signature in blue ink, reading "Sigurður Sævar Gunnarsson".

Sigurður Sævar Gunnarsson

CEO of Istex hf