

Smithfield Foods Showcases Continued Leadership and Transparency in New Sustainability Report, Launches Unique Tool for Today's Conscious Consumer

SMITHFIELD, Va., May 21, 2019 (GLOBE NEWSWIRE) -- [Smithfield Foods, Inc.](#) is pleased to announce the release of its [2018 Sustainability Report](#), highlighting key milestones and ongoing efforts to feed the world's growing population in a responsible way. Smithfield's robust sustainability program drives all aspects of its business, creating value in the following areas: animal care, environment, food safety and quality, helping communities, and people.

"Our people work hard every day to maintain our position as a leader in sustainability, ensuring that we are fulfilling our mission to produce good food the right way. It is extremely gratifying to lead a team that is so passionate about meeting this responsibility," said Kenneth M. Sullivan, president and chief executive officer for Smithfield Foods. "Sustainability is part of our culture. We have seen first-hand how investing in sustainability by setting bold goals and hard targets—and achieving them—is a win-win for our company and our stakeholders, including our animals, employees, neighbors, and planet."

As part of Smithfield's ongoing commitment to transparency, the company also has launched an interactive tool that brings to life each stage of its supply chain—from farm to facility to fork—to show where its food comes from and how it gets to consumers' tables. The virtual tour, which includes videos and case studies on sustainability initiatives that have driven Smithfield to the forefront of its industry, is available at sustainability.smithfieldfoods.com.

"We take a comprehensive approach to sustainability throughout our entire supply chain," said Stewart Leeth, vice president of regulatory affairs and chief sustainability officer for Smithfield. "We are always innovating and looking for new opportunities to push beyond the status quo. Our groundbreaking efforts are making a real difference in the lives of our animals, employees, suppliers, customers, and consumers, and we will continue to take bold steps to deliver on our promise to produce good food in a responsible way."

Smithfield's 2018 Sustainability Report highlights performance metrics, accomplishments, case studies, and progress toward a number of sustainability goals and targets, including:

Animal Care:

- [Maintaining group housing for all pregnant sows on company-owned farms, a goal achieved in 2017;](#)
- [Advancing innovative vaccine research through the company's laboratory on the Raleigh campus of North Carolina State University College of Veterinary Medicine to develop better strategies for animal disease prevention;](#)

Environment:

- [Exceeding the company's target to source sustainable grain with 80% of grain purchases originating from farms where efficient fertilizer and soil health practices](#)

were implemented;

- Expanding the company's efforts to reduce greenhouse (GHG) emissions with an ambitious, 10-year plan to convert hog manure into clean, renewable energy at hog farms in North Carolina, Missouri, Utah, and Virginia;
- Achieving an 8.7% reduction in solid waste (normalized) sent to landfills across the company's U.S. operations, reducing its environmental impact while simultaneously growing and increasing food production;
- Certifying 12 U.S. facilities to the company's zero-waste-to-landfill standard;
- Establishing a new goal to reduce the company's solid waste to landfill by 75% and achieve zero-waste-to-landfill certification at 75% of its U.S. facilities by 2025;

Food Safety and Quality:

- Investing approximately \$130 million on capital projects across the company that continue to advance industry-leading food safety and quality standards;

Helping Communities:

- Donating nearly \$30 million in cash, product, and in-kind contributions during 2018, including donations to food banks to celebrate the company's 10-year anniversary of Helping Hungry Homes®;

People:

- Completing the global implementation of the company's industry-leading injury prevention system for employee safety, enhancing its efforts to continuously improve performance beyond industry averages; and
- Exceeding the company's inaugural diversity goal by 30% for its U.S. internship program.

To read the company's 2018 Sustainability Report, visit smithfieldfoods.com/sustainability.

About Smithfield Foods

Smithfield Foods is a \$15 billion global food company and the world's largest pork processor and hog producer. In the United States, the company is also the leader in numerous packaged meats categories with popular brands including Smithfield®, Eckrich®, Nathan's Famous®, Farmland®, Armour®, Farmer John®, Kretschmar®, John Morrell®, Cook's®, Gwaltney®, Carando®, Margherita®, Curly's®, Healthy Ones®, Morlino®, Krakus®, and Berlinki®. Smithfield Foods is committed to providing good food in a responsible way and maintains robust animal care, community involvement, employee safety, environmental, and food safety

and quality programs. For more information, visit www.smithfieldfoods.com, and connect with us on [Facebook](#), [Twitter](#), [LinkedIn](#), and [Instagram](#).

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A photo accompanying this announcement is available

at <https://www.globenewswire.com/NewsRoom/AttachmentNg/75bffd5e-f812-4606-8216-7dc4a4fed40a>

<https://Investors.smithfieldfoods.com/2019-05-21-Smithfield-Foods-Showcases-Continued-Leadership-and-Transparency-in-New-Sustainability-Report-Launches-Unique-Tool-for-Todays-Conscious-Consumer>