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**Grass Point Animal & Grass Fed Program Standards:
 A Comparison of Leading Industry and Independent Labels**

Common Practices	Description regarding the well-being of farm animals	Grass Point Label	Industry Guidelines	National Organic Program (USDA)	Animal Welfare Institute	Certified Humane Program (Humane Farm Animal Care)	Free Farmed (American Humane Association)
Outdoor access for cows	Helps prevent abnormal behaviors and enhances vigor, health and overall Immune system	Mandatory	Not required	Yes; but with debate on definition	Mandatory	Not required	Not required
Pasture Management requirements	Helps insure proper diet, healthy soils and grasses	Mandatory	Not required	Not required	Mandatory	Not required	Not required
Dual Production (different standards of care are applied to different groups of animals)	Allows industrial agribusiness to raise some animals with higher standards and the rest under cruel conditions while out-competing humane family farmers	Prohibited	Permitted	Permitted	Prohibited	Permitted	Permitted
Independent family farmers (family owns the farm, participates in the majority daily labor, and the farm provides a meaningful livelihood)	Higher assurance that animals will be cared for as individuals and that a humane ethic will be passed on to future generations	Mandatory, with a minimum of 50% family farm labor requirement	Not required	Not required	Mandatory, but amount not defined	Not required	Not required
Comprehensive Farm Management Plan	Requires a written farm management plan considering environmental stewardship practices	Mandatory	Not required	Mandatory	Not required	Not required	Not required
Carbon Footprinting Standards	Helps reduce the impact human and animal activities have on the environment in terms of green house gases produced	Mandatory	Not required	Not required	Not required	Not required	Not required
Farm inspections	Assurance that standard claims are being followed	Mandatory	Not required	Mandatory	Mandatory	Mandatory	Mandatory
Farmer participation in cooperatives or other Farmer controlled entities	Ability for farmers to unite, organize and collectively bargain	Acceptable	Acceptable	Acceptable	Acceptable	Prohibited	Acceptable
Unified Grass, Animal Care and environmental standards	Ability to address and comply to a complete list of standards impacting the health and well being of dairy cows, family farmers, land, air and water	Yes	No	No	No	No	No