



Winclove Probiotics

Disclosure Report

Date Submitted: June 14th, 2024



Disclosure Materials

Certified B Corporations must complete a Disclosure Questionnaire to identify potentially sensitive issues related to the company (e.g. historical fines, sanctions, material litigation, or sensitive industry practices).

This component does not affect the company's score on the B Impact Assessment. If the company answers affirmatively to any items in the Disclosure Questionnaire that B Lab deems relevant for public stakeholders, then, as a condition of their certification, the company must:

- 1) Be transparent about details of the disclosure issues identified on the company's public B Impact Report
- 2) Describe how the company has addressed this issue
- 3) Demonstrate that management practices are in place to avoid similar issues from arising in the future, when necessary.

In all cases, the Standards Advisory council reserves the right to refuse certification if the company is ultimately deemed not to uphold the spirit and integrity of the community.

In addition to the voluntary indication of sensitive issues in the Disclosure Questionnaire, companies pursuing Certification also are subject to a background check by B Lab staff. Background checks include a review of public records, news sources, and search engines for company names, brands, executives/founders, and other relevant topics.

Sensitive issues identified through background checks may or may not be within the scope of questions in the Disclosure Questionnaire, but undergo the same review process and are subject to the same possible review by the Standards Advisory Council, including ineligibility for B Corp Certification, required remediation, or disclosure.

This document contains a copy of the company's completed Disclosure Questionnaire and related disclosure documentation provided by the company



Disclosure Questionnaire

Industries and Products

	Yes	No
Please indicate if the company is involved in production or trade in any of the following. Select Yes for all options that apply.		
Animal Products or Services	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
Biodiversity Impacts	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
Chemicals	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
Disclosure Alcohol	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
Disclosure Firearms Weapons	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
Disclosure Mining	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
Disclosure Pornography	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
Disclosure Tobacco	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
Energy and Emissions Intensive Industries	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
Fossil fuels Gambling	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
Genetically Modified Organisms	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
Illegal Products or Subject to Phase Out	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
Industries at Risk of Human Rights Violations	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
Monoculture Agriculture	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
Nuclear Power or Hazardous Materials	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
Payday, Short Term, or High Interest Lending	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
Water Intensive Industries	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
Tax Advisory Services	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>

Outcomes & Penalties

	Yes	No
Please indicate if the company has had any formal complaint to a regulatory agency or been assessed any fine or sanction in the past five years for any of the following practices or policies. Check all that apply.		
Anti-Competitive Behavior	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
Breaches of Confidential Information	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
Bribery, Fraud, or Corruption	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
Company has filed for bankruptcy	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
Consumer Protection	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
Financial Reporting, Taxes, Investments, or Loans	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
Hazardous Discharges Into Air/Land/Water (Past 5 Yrs)	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
Labor Issues	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
Large Scale Land Conversion, Acquisition, or Relocation	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
Litigation or Arbitration	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
On-Site Fatality	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
Penalties Assessed For Environmental Issues	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
Political Contributions or International Affairs	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
Recalls	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
Significant Layoffs	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
Violation of Indigenous Peoples Rights	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
Other	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>



Practices

	Yes	No
Please indicate if the following statements are true regarding whether or not the company engages in the following practices. Check all that apply. If the statement is true, select "Yes." If false, select "No."		
Animal Testing	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Company/Suppliers Employ Under Age 15 (Or Other ILO Minimum Age)	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
Company prohibits freedom of association/collective bargaining	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
Company workers are prisoners	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
Conduct Business in Conflict Zones	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
Confirmation of Right to Work	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
Does not transparently report corporate financials to government	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
Employs Individuals on Zero-Hour Contracts	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
Facilities located in sensitive ecosystems	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
ID Cards Withheld or Penalties for Resignation	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
No formal Registration Under Domestic Regulations	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
No signed employment contracts for all workers	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
Overtime For Hourly Workers Is Compulsory	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
Payslips not provided to show wage calculation and deductions	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>

	Yes	No
Sale of Data	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
Tax Reduction Through Corporate Shells	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
Workers cannot leave site during non-working hours	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
Workers not Provided Clean Drinking Water or Toilets	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
Workers paid below minimum wage	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
Workers Under Bond	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
Other	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>

Supply Chain Disclosures

	Yes	No
Please indicate if any of the following statements are true regarding your company's significant suppliers.		
Business in Conflict Zones	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
Child or Forced Labor	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
Negative Environmental Impact	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
Negative Social Impact	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
Other	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>



Disclosure Questionnaire Statement

Disclosure Questionnaire Category: Animal Testing

Topic	In collaboration with external partners, Winclove Probiotics is involved in studies that include animal testing experiments.
Summary of Issue	Winclove Probiotics is committed to ensuring the welfare of animals used in research & development and considers the use of animals to be ethically appropriate only when no alternative methods are available, or when legal or regulatory requirements mandate the use.
Size/Scope of Issue (e.g. \$ financial implication, # of individuals affected)	On average, <5% of the studies conducted per year are animal studies and this percentage has been reduced with the implementation of animal testing policy over the past years. Due to the change in strategy towards only performing animal studies only when there is no alternative, it is foreseen that the percentage of animal studies performed by Winclove Probiotics will decrease in the coming years.
Impact on Stakeholders	Animal experiments are widely used in food & drug research to evaluate the quality, safety and efficacy of new products. Many of these experiments can result in suffering to the animals involved or reduce their quality of life in other ways.
Implemented Management Practices	<p>Winclove Probiotics is committed to ensuring the welfare of animals used in research & development, and considers the use of animals to be ethically appropriate only when no alternative methods are available, or when the use is mandated by legal or regulatory requirements. Winclove Probiotics is committed to developing and implementing non-animal methods and clinical research studies instead of animal studies whenever possible. As a result of that policy, the percentage of animal studies in which Winclove Probiotics is actively involved, is low compared to the percentage of non-animal studies (incl. in vitro and human clinical trials).</p> <p>For research involving animals, Winclove Probiotics fully adheres to the 3Rs: Replacement, Reduction and Refinement of animal use in research & development. Based on those principles, Winclove Probiotics only authorizes animal use when a non-animal method is unsuited for the required use (replacement), the number of animals used is kept to a minimum (reduction), and practices are implemented to promote animal welfare and prevent animal pain and distress in housing and procedure conditions as much as possible in an experimental</p>

	<p>research setting (refinement). Moreover, Winclove Probiotics authorizes animal use only when the regulatory and scientific merit is established and the experiments are performed under strict ethical oversight by a local or national animal ethical and welfare committee. In addition, Winclove Probiotics actively invests in research projects to aim to develop alternatives to animal experiments.</p> <p>A relevant example of this commitment is the company's involvement in the development of the 'intestine-on-a-chip' (Project INIMINI health). These chips containing human intestinal cells, immune cells and a microbiome are developed to accurately mimic the complex interactions in the intestine. By the development of new animal-free models like this intestine-on-a-chip model, Winclove Probiotics has taken a step further to develop and study the effectiveness of new food supplements without the need for undesirable animal testing.</p> <p>Winclove Probiotics have now formalized an Animal Testing Policy in which it asks its collaborators involved in animal testing to confirm their adherence to the policy regarding animal testing by signing that they will comply with the animal testing prerequisites set by Winclove Probiotics.</p> <p>Among the requirements set are the scientific merit, legal and ethical rationale to conducting animal testings, experiments needs to be approved with relevant authorities and committees and comply with all legal requirements, to adhere to the 3Rs, all animal programs to be led by qualified experts, all animal care and use staff will be appropriately trained and participate in continuous education in relevant areas, qualified and experienced staff will help ensure humane care and appropriate use of animals on a daily basis and that facilities for animal research, testing and production will be designed and maintained to reliably provide animals with species-specific environmental conditions and meet their behavioral and social needs.</p>
Report	https://www.wincloveprobiotics.com/en/nieuws/working-together-towards-a-healthy-and-sustainable-future/
Management Comments	<p>"Winclove Probiotics is morally and legally obligated to ensure the quality, safety and efficacy of its products. Winclove Probiotics acknowledges that in some cases animal testing is inevitable in its research & development processes to ensure the quality, safety and efficacy of its ingredients and finished products. Therefore the responsible use of animals remains a</p>



	<p>small but an integral part of a comprehensive research and testing strategy. Animals are living, thus sentient creatures, which obviously have intrinsic value and Winclove Probiotics is of the opinion this must be deeply respected. In addition, the ethical concerns of the general public regarding the use of animals in research, must be respected as well. However, the worldwide scientific community agrees that, despite the fact that it is desirable to replace the use of animals in research & development processes by other methods, the use of animals continues to be necessary to protect human and animal health. For this reason, animal testing is performed only when non-animal alternatives are unavailable.</p>
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