



2nd January 2013

Dear Sainsbury's Supplier

Use of Pharmaceuticals on Farm Survey

With implications for both human and animal health, the use of pharmaceuticals on farm has developed an increasingly high profile over recent years. Consumers have a growing awareness of the source of the food that they purchase and concern over a potential long term impact on human and animal health is growing. Whilst it is now generally recognised that action needs to be taken to address this situation there is currently very little industry-scale information available on which to base such strategic decisions. Working with EBVC Limited, Sainsbury's has therefore commissioned a survey of pharmaceutical use on farm across its supply chain to take place early in the New Year.

The principal purpose of the survey will be to gather information that illustrates the current nature and scale of pharmaceutical use on farm. Pharmaceuticals in their broadest sense will be assessed on farm using information that may be recorded in the medicine book, electronically in farm software or obtained from the records of your veterinary surgeon. All treatments administered by both farm staff and the farm's practice vet will be covered. In all over 100 farms will be surveyed, each nominated by their processor. All information recorded will be held in the strictest confidence, governed by a confidentiality agreement signed by participating farmers. No farm specific information will be passed on to or reported to either Sainsbury's, their suppliers, farm assurance schemes or DEFRA. Farm visits, where necessary, will be as least disruptive as possible and will observe strict bio-security protocols.

Once completed, information gathered from the surveys will be analysed. Collated, anonymised data will be reported back to the Sainsbury's Agriculture Team and to Steering Groups. Participating farmers will also receive a summary report which will be presented at regional farmer meetings. Ultimately the results of the survey will inform the development of a Policy governing responsible use of pharmaceuticals on farm.

Important In order to make the survey as meaningful as possible, where there is more than one livestock type on farm it must be possible to distinguish pharmaceutical use for each type.

Your participation in this survey would be very much appreciated. Matthew Noble from EBVC will be in touch shortly to confirm your involvement but in the meantime if you have any questions about the survey itself please feel free to contact him at matthewnoble@ebvc.eu or on 07746 295291.

Yours sincerely,

Jim Blease
EBVC Ltd