

NATIONAL BEEF HEALTHCHECK PROGRAMME BUSINESS PLAN



2023

*To contribute to an economically, socially and
environmentally sustainable farming and agri-food sector
through improved animal health and welfare*



AHI gratefully acknowledges the financial and other contributions of our stakeholders.



To contribute to an economically, socially and environmentally sustainable farming and agri-food sector through improved animal health and welfare.

Animal Health Ireland, 2-5 The Archways, Carrick-on-Shannon, Co. Leitrim, N41 WN27

Phone 071 9671928 Email ahi@animalhealthireland.ie

Programme Objective: To develop tools to assist farmers and their veterinary practitioners to control losses due to liver fluke, liver abscesses and pneumonia through capture, analysis and reporting of abattoir data; to contribute to the development by ICBF of economic breeding indexes that incorporate health and disease data.

KEY DELIVERABLES

Q1

Q2

Q3

Q4

COMMUNICATIONS

Continue to produce Beef HealthCheck quarterly newsletters and materials and distribute to stakeholders, farmers and the farming press.

•

Deliver Beef HealthCheck farmer events on-farm or as an online series in collaboration with other partners.

•

Produce quarterly programme reports for relevant stakeholders.

•

Engage with stakeholders to promote the use of ICBF breeding values for liver fluke resistance.

•

Contribute to sectoral sustainability through actions assigned to AHI within the antiparasitic resistance action plan (APRAP) established by the APR Stakeholder Group. These include the developing and promoting codes of best practice for anthelmintic use and analysis of anthelmintic sales trends.

•

Maintain and promote a list of current Irish anthelmintic products for cattle.

•

Continue to produce educational materials for farmers and veterinary practitioners on all aspects of the Beef HealthCheck programme and parasite control.

•

Present work on the Beef HealthCheck and Parasite Control programmes at national and international conferences.

•

KEY DELIVERABLES

Q1

Q2

Q3

Q4

PROGRAMME DEVELOPMENT

Progress, with DAFM and ICBF, direct messaging as a tool to communicate Beef HealthCheck results to farmers. Encourage web-based BHC dashboard awareness and use by farmers and their private veterinary practitioners, as well as progressing mobile-friendly site development.

•

Engage with processors to optimise data collection at the factory and additional processors to seek their participation in the Beef HealthCheck programme.

•

Analyse Beef HealthCheck data and other relevant datasets to identify trends according to animal- and herd-type, location and season and associated economic costs and sustainability benefits for liver fluke, liver abscesses and pneumonia. Publish as appropriate and contribute to the Irish case study with the Global Burden of Animal Disease project on these outcomes.

•

Engage with DAFM, TWG, ICBF, herdowners and veterinary practitioners to further develop and apply tools to support the Beef HealthCheck programme and reduce impacts of recorded conditions and improve efficiency of production.

•

Deliver a programme for TASAH-funded on-farm veterinary parasite control visits to encourage best practice, reduce the risk of anthelmintic resistance and investigate reduced anthelmintic efficacy. Analyse and report the programmes outcomes.

•