

**PRESS RELEASE**

**39/23**

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**Free training on antimicrobial usage ending soon**

FREE training courses on the responsible use of antimicrobials on beef and sheep farms will conclude on 31 October 2023.

It is a requirement for the Northern Ireland Beef and Lamb Farm Quality Assurance Scheme (NIBL FQAS) that 'at least one person responsible for administering animal medicines must be formally trained in the responsible use of antimicrobials'. After 31 October, this opportunity to avail of free training will end and any NIBL FQAS members who have not completed AMR training since it became a requirement in February 2020, will have to pay a training provider to undertake a training course.

The Livestock and Meat Commission (LMC) is strongly encouraging NIBL FQAS members who have not had an opportunity to partake in this free training course to date, to register for a training session in advance of the 31 October deadline.

Training sessions are organised by CAFRE in partnership with AI Services.

Over 10,000 farmers across Northern Ireland have undertaken the training with many very experienced farmers reflecting back to LMC that the knowledge gained was invaluable to their animal health planning. NIBL FQAS participants have shown tremendous leadership in building their knowledge to help address the one health approach to antimicrobial resistance, which is one of the great global challenges of the modern age.

Details on upcoming training dates can be found on the CAFRE website at [www.cafre.ac.uk/business-courses/responsible-use-of-antimicrobials-on-beef-and-sheep-farms/](http://www.cafre.ac.uk/business-courses/responsible-use-of-antimicrobials-on-beef-and-sheep-farms/) or by contacting AI Services on (028) 9083 3123.

Attendees must pre-register in order to attend a session. Attendance certificates to meet NIBL FQAS requirements will be issued on successful completion of the training. NIBL FQAS participants must retain their certificate to be shown at each inspection.

**ENDS**

**Notes to Editor**

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**Media Contacts**

Linda Surphlis, LMC Communications Manager. E: [lsurphlis@lmcni.com](mailto:lsurphlis@lmcni.com)