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AUSTRALIAN LOT FEEDERS' ASSOCIATION

2nd May 2013

STANDING COMMITTEE ON FINANCE AND PUBLIC ADMINISTRATION - References
Committee
Parliament House
PO Box 6100,
Canberra ACT 2600

fpa.sen@aph.gov.au

Dear Ms. McDonald,

Re; Amendment to the ALFA submission for the Inquiry into the progress in the implementation of the recommendations of the 1999 Joint Expert Technical Advisory Committee on Antibiotic Resistance (JETACAR) report

Australian Lot Feeders' Association (ALFA) would like to advise the Committee of a required amendment with respect to the antibiotic Virginiamycin in our submission to the aforementioned inquiry. While the first paragraph on page 5 of our submission reflects APVMA's Virginiamycin final report dated November 2004, it has inadvertently not taken into consideration subsequent changes made by APVMA in 2005. Accordingly, the paragraph (detailed below) is inaccurate.

"For instance, Virginiamycin is not used in human medicine but the pristinamycin antibiotics (dalfopristin and quinupristin - also members of the streptogramin group) are considered important drugs for the treatment of emerging vancomycin resistant enterococci. For this reason, the use of virginiamycin has been restricted by the APVMA. Whilst the product can be used to prevent lactic acidosis under specific circumstances, the antibiotic is rarely used in feedlots as there are preferable alternative treatments available to the industry. All uses for growth promotion have been banned."

Specifically, the paragraph is no longer accurate given that other than a veterinarian prescription requirement, no other restrictions have been imposed to virginiamycin products when used for the treatment and prevention of lactic acidosis in cattle.

We understand that submissions made in relation to this process have been made available online. Hence, ALFA would like to kindly request the Committee to make this amendment and the revised submission by ALFA available in a similar fashion.

Yours sincerely,

Fernando Mendoza
Policy and Project Analyst