

# Homeopathy Hike



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In the Millenium year, while writing for the New Zealand Farmer Magazine, I attended the New Zealand Dairy Conference in Invercargill.

For me one speaker really stood out – Tineke Verkade – whose specialised subject was Homeopathic Remedies for Dairy Cows.

There was a mixed reaction from the audience, but twelve years on she has won them round and now has 3000 + dairy farmers on her database.

I haven't come across many farmers in this country who practice homeopathy, so was interested to be invited to the Scottish Parliament during lambing time this year, to a Homeopathic presentation.

Veterinary Surgeons Geoff Johnson MA MRCVS RSHom PCH

VetMFHom and Nick Thompson BSc(Hons)Path Sci BVM&S MRCVS VetMFHom explained how they've successfully integrated homeopathy into veterinary practice and the growing evidence base for using homeopathy.

The EU is spending 2 million Euros researching how homeopathy can be used to treat farm animals and reduce the use of antibiotics and other drugs. The Veterinary speakers of the evening felt that Scotland should grab this opportunity with both hands.

More and more farmers across the world are discovering how homeopathy provides cost-effective health benefits for their herds.

There is a growing evidence-base supporting homeopathy as an effective medical therapy for humans

and animals.

Chris Lees, who runs courses – Homeopath at Welly Level – reckons that, “While lab research is perhaps appropriate for a company needing to prove efficacy in order to license a product and thus achieve commercial advantage, for the farmer and consumer public money (EU finding) might better be put into helping the farmer understand the system, how best to use the remedies and how to make his or her own informed decisions. Offering such support would probably do far more to achieve sustainable systems and avoid contaminations and resistances than exploring potentised substances as a commercial product.

*Antibiotic use in the Dutch agriculture sector has declined sharply in recent years, exceeding the*

*objectives set by the government. Sales have shown a drop of 32% from 2009 to 2011.*

*The total sales of antibiotics in the Netherlands dropped nearly 32%, from 495 tonnes to 338 tonnes during the period 2009-2011, according to new data relating to the veterinary use of antibiotics published by LEI Wageningen UR.*

*This far exceeds the policy objective for 2011 set by the Dutch government, which was set at a 20% reduction in antibiotic use compared with 2009.*

Im not sure how much of this reduction has been due to the use of homeopathic remedies, but I certainly think that Scottish Farmers should be weighing up their options and looking into cost cutting alternative remedies.

## Homœopathy at Wellie Level

Teaching the responsible use of homœopathy on the farm



Around 70% of antibiotics manufactured are used for farm animals

Can homœopathy help farmers improve animal health?

Farmers who have taken the HAWL course say – yes. Studies in Norway say – yes.

HAWL's message is very clear, if you want to use homœopathy you need to know what you are doing. Our course teaches farmers the responsible and effective use and makes the learning fun.



Chris Lees  
Church Cottage  
Alderton, Wiltshire  
SN14 6NL  
Tel. 01666 841213  
[www.hawl.co.uk](http://www.hawl.co.uk)