## Advice on specific fields of Sheet 2

Please make sure that every month the top three lines – '**Data input for the month of…**', '**Year**', '**Farmer**' and '**Code No**' - are completed to avoid confusion.

The '**Code No.**' is for data storage and retrieval purposes. The online version of the Sheet 2 will not let you submit the form unless all of a set of required fields are filled in (this is to ensure that we get the minimum amount of information so that we can produce the report and also identify who the Sheet 2 has come from.)

The right hand side of the page down to and including the somatic cell count must be completed so that a Quarterly Herd Health Report can be produced (containing the information necessary for the veterinary assessment and Action Plan part of Superior Stockmanship programmes).

Continuity is essential. If one month's data is not received, the report cannot be produced. If a report is not received within a reasonable time, please ring the DHHPS office so that we can tell you what, if anything, is missing.

'**Number of Cows in Milk**' incl. '**Heifers at End of Month**':  Enter this figure precisely as indicated

'**Number of Cows Dry at End of Month**': Enter this figure precisely as indicated as well. Do not include heifers which have not yet calved for the first time.  It is from these two numbers that the herd size is calculated which is essential for the production of averages for the Quarterly Report.

'**Number of Cows SOLD Because of**':  If a cow is sold suffering from more than one condition, e.g. infertile and lame, enter one reason only, having judged which was the primary problem.  Under 'Other', please specify if possible and include if particular disposal necessary because of injury.  Enter deaths under 'Other' and indicate cause if known.

**Number of Cows treated for/with:** Enter each case only once, even if treated by vet and farmer three days running for the same disease. It is the incidence of disease we are looking for - not the incidence of treatments.

'**Fertility:**' Make entries for whites (metritis, endometritis), vaginitis, prolapse, retained placenta, ovarian cysts, unobserved heat, abortion, repeat breeder.  Do not include treatments for routine synchronisation of oestrus.

'**Assisted calving**': Make an entry if the veterinary surgeon's assistance was required including caesarean section.  Include cases where traction was applied by farm staff for more than a few moments, i.e. exercise judgement as far as possible over whether the assistance had been necessary for the delivery of the calf and only include such cases.

'**Mastitis**': Enter all clinical cases including summer mastitis. Where treatment is carried out for several days, ensure that this counts as only one case of mastitis. If

mastitis recurs within four weeks in the same quarter, do not enter it again. Do not enter dry cow therapy.

**'Digestive disease/upset'**: Enter all conditions apparently of digestive origin such as diarrhoea, rumen acidosis, rumen atony/stasis, displaced abomasum.

**'Hypomagnesaemia (staggers')'**: Clinical cases should be recorded only once even if treatment is carried out for several days.

**'Hypocalcaemia (milk fever)'**: Clinical cases only should be recorded. Do not record routine preventive treatment with calcium or vitamin D products as cases of milk fever. Do not include recurrence of milk fever if within one week.

**'Ketosis (acetonaemia, slow fever)'**: Only record primary cases; i.e. leave out secondary cases such as those which occur as a consequence of cows suffering from another condition like metritis, lameness or displaced abomasum.

**'Lameness'**: Enter each incident of lameness once even if treatment is carried out for several days or has to be started again a week or two later. If another foot is affected later, that counts as a one case. Do not enter routine trimming/dressing of feet as lameness.

**'Injury'**: All occurrence of injury should be recorded including damage to teats, injury from buildings, equipment or protruding objects and injury sustained at calving.

**'Other'**: Enter any other conditions/diseases which are not covered by one of the previous categories such as stillbirth, post partum recumbency not caused by injury etc. Specify beside the box or in the 'Comments' section at the bottom of the input form.

**'Mastitis Cell Count ('000 cells/ml.) from Previous Month'**: It may be best to enter the previous month's average figure each time as the figure for the month just ended may not be available when the form is completed.

If this approach is to be adopted, it must be persisted with on every form so that the 6 monthly and annual rates are correct.

The left hand side of the page may be used as a means of record and communication. e.g. **'Herd Assessment'**: This section can be of value in that it shows to those involved what the farmer is currently concerned about and therefore currently perhaps needing support with. The scoring, 1 - poor, 2 - average and 3 - good, is entirely within farm, so representing that farm's views about itself.

The right hand side of the page below the somatic cell count collects the data for a superficial look at fertility efficiency.

**'Number of Cows Served':** First Time - AI - means the cow's first service after calving. If it returns and is served by the bull, it is the cow's second service and should be counted as a Second Time service.

**'Bull services'**: - if a bull is run with the herd, stockmen should still record services for their own purposes as well as for the report and they should record observed heats as services during this period too. If natural services are not recorded the analysis figures on the Report will be inaccurate.

**'Pregnancy Diagnosis by – Milk'**:  Note whether sampled 19, 24 or 45+ days after service and always enter negatives as well as positives.  Do not enter pregnancy diagnosis by scanning.

**'Pregnancy Diagnosis by – Vet'**:  Note whether by scanning or rectal palpation. Always enter negatives as well as positives.

**'Comments'**:  Any observations, comments, questions can be entered here. Edinburgh staff will attempt to provide answers.

**Submit:** If you are sending the data electronically, check that you have entered your data correctly and then click on the submit button.

**Reset:**  To enter another month's data select the reset button to clear the previous values.