

October 2013

Five-Step Plan Update: Merck Animal Health Advisory Board

As part of the five-step plan announced earlier this year, Merck Animal Health has finalized the formation of the Merck Animal Health Advisory Board, which is comprised of representatives from processors, large, medium and small cattle feeder operations, cow-calf producers, veterinarians, academia and industry consultants.

In addition to helping us maintain an open dialogue on animal well-being, beta agonist use and related matters, the objectives of the Board include:

- Review all available animal safety and well-being research data on Zilmax
- Review the Zilmax Quality Assurance program (ZQA) and make any recommendations
- Provide input on the recertification and scientific audit processes; and
- Review and provide guidance on best management practices for using Zilmax

The Board was convened earlier this month to discuss details of the five-step plan. The meeting resulted in productive conversation and valuable insights but it is too early in the process to begin communicating about the team's work. The findings and recommendations will be shared when they have been finalized.

We thank the Board members for their time, efforts and commitment to animal well-being and this important process.