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Sent: 29 January 2009 14:24

Subject: RE: RFI 2454

Thank you for providing me with figures for 1998 to 2001.

I was hoping that you would be able to send to me figures as requested which cover 01Nov07 to 31Oct08 for 2008. Indeed I see in the spreadsheet which DARDNI sent to me, they state the following, "Estimate based on figures for the 12 month period 01/11/2007 to 31/10/2008". If you are unable to supply such an estimate, I will wait until the figures for Nov 2008 and Dec 2008 are available.

Regarding the total number of herds from 1998 to 2008 you appear to have sent to me a set of figures which although different from the figures which you sent to me on 26Jan09 (Total2 in the tables shown below) are still at least 10% larger than figures (Total1 in the tables shown below) for years 2000 to 2007 displayed on your web site in the Low-level Agricultural Survey Datasets at

http://www.defra.gov.uk/esg/work_htm/publications/cs/farmstats_web/2_SURVEY_DATA_SEARCH/COMPLETE_DATASETS/regional_level_datasets.htm

The following shows figures for Devon

Year	Total1	Total2	Total3
2002	5541	6087	6233
2003	5369	5737	5806
2004	5522	5686	5695
2005	5518	5641	5651
2006	5342	5522	5552
2007	5114	5418	5432

The following shows figures for England

Year	Total1	Total2	Total3
2002	56978	66537	68543
2003	54651	64247	65706
2004	56737	62597	63380
2005	56133	61219	61887
2006	54499	60097	60743
2007	52707	58279	58542

If you can, please confirm whether or not the latest figures exclude herds for which all cattle have been sold off.

I was hoping that you would be able to send to me figures which exclude sold-off herds as supplied by Wales. The following is an extract from the reply I received from wales.gsi.gov.uk

"With regard to the total number of herds registered, the figures below include populated herds; herds that have been sold/dispersed have been excluded. This is on the condition that Animal Health staff were notified by owners that they no longer keep livestock. It

should be noted that this is not always the case. Additionally, the figures cannot account for any temporary measures i.e. livestock owners dispersing herds and restocking some months later."

Are you not able to do the same?

I apologise if I have missed any data which you have sent to me.