



Relation veterinarian and farmer

In dairy farming there is a close collaboration between the farmer and the veterinarian. They closely work together to continually improve animal health and wellbeing on the farm. One of the ways in which they do this is to draft a mandatory farm health plan and an accessory farm treatment plan.

What are the veterinarians obligations?



Each dairy farmer collaborates with a permanent Certified Veterinarian. Through this **close relation** the veterinarian knows the farmer, the cows and the farm very well and is able to adequately support and advice the farmer. Each year the farmer and veterinarian draft the farm health plan and farm treatment plan together. These plans are evaluated on a yearly basis.

What is the Farm Health Plan (FHP)?



In the Farm Health Plan (FHP) the Certified Veterinarian and farmer make an inventory of the status of animal health and wellbeing. Based on this a set of **points of improvement are formulated** for the coming year.

Factsheet Relation veterinarian and farmer

What is the Farm Treatment Plan (FTP)?



The farm treatment plan is specific for each farm: the veterinarian evaluates **which drugs** will be of most aid within the farm. The veterinarian can determine this while he or she has detailed knowledge on the farm. The farm treatment plan is a part of the farm health plan and as such is also drafted by the permanent veterinarian of the farm.



In the farm treatment plan the farmer and the veterinarian specifically state in what ways sick cows will be treated. The farm treatment plan thus provides **guidance** for the farmer in treating the sick animals. The plan for instance states which antibiotics can be administered for which disease.

Who monitors this?



Independent agencies audit both the farmer and the veterinarian. The farmer is audited **for compliance of** the farm treatment plan. For example whether or not the drugs used on the farm are listed in the farm treatment plan. This occurs during the audit of the dairy quality system. The veterinarian is audited **for substance**, for example which drugs he or she has prescribed. This occurs during the independent audit of the rules and regulations: 'certified cattle veterinarian'.



The oversight of dairy companies and farms is executed by the independent **Dutch food and drug administration** (Dutch FDA).





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Did you know ...

- ✓ ... dairy farmers and veterinarians collaborate closely to continuously improve animal health and wellbeing on the farm?

- ✓ ... the farmer and veterinarian draft a farm health plan and farm treatment plan each year together?

- ✓ ... in the farm health plan an inventory is made of animal health and wellbeing on the farm? Also points of improvement are formulated for the next year.

- ✓ ... the farm treatment plan forms a farm specific guidance for the farmer for treating the animals?