CALL FOR PROPOSALS IN THE AREA OF HERBAL PRODUCTS FOR VETERINARY HEALTH CARE

The total market of animal health care products is about Rs 1500 crores in the country. Out of this about Rs 225 crores is the share of herbal products. The use of antibiotics and other chemical products are banned for animal health care in many countries and the world is looking for alternatives. Traditional Ayurvedic wisdom on veterinary health care products is already available in the country. Veterinary health care reaches only 20% of livestock owners in the country leaving a big gap between the demand and supply of animal health care products. There is a need to develop standardized herbal products for veterinary health care ensuring quality, safety, efficacy and affordability.

The Department of Biotechnology as a nodal funding agency invites collaborative multi-disciplinary proposals for development of herbal products for veterinary health care addressing the following specific problems:

I. Mastitis
II. Fertility/Reproduction
III. Deficiency Diseases

Financial support could be considered for a period of three years with flexible support extending up to five years or longer in the programmes demonstrating significant progress. Academia–Industry collaboration would receive added weightage and preference will be given to collaborative project proposals between research institutions and the industry. Preference will also be given to project proposals where leads are already available and DBT support is required to convert those leads into standardized, efficacious and safe herbal products in the above identified priority areas.

Twenty copies of the proposal in the prescribed format should be sent to Dr Mohd. Aslam, Scientist-E, Department of Biotechnology, Block-2, CGO Complex, Lodhi Road, New Delhi 110 003. The last date for the receipt of application is 25 January 2005. The format and terms and conditions can be downloaded from the DBT website www.dbtindia.nic.in (or) www.dbtindia.org