



PEPTECH
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ASX / MEDIA ANNOUNCEMENT

Peptech approved to market Ovuplant in UK

Peptech Animal Health, a wholly owned subsidiary of Australian biotechnology company, Peptech Limited, today announced that its horse-breeding aid, Ovuplant[®], has been authorised for sale in the United Kingdom. The approval is the first step toward the company gaining access to a primary market of approximately 45,000 thoroughbred mares in the European Union (EU).

Ovuplant[®] is a controlled-release, synthetic hormone that stimulates ovulation in brood mares within 48 hours of implantation. The product is used widely by horse breeders in an increasing number of worldwide markets including New Zealand, Argentina, South Africa, Canada and Australia, where it achieved record sales in the 2004/05 season.

The United Kingdom's Veterinary Medicines Directorate granted the approval to Peptech Animal Health's marketing partner, Arnolds Veterinary Products, a division of listed UK company Dechra Pharmaceuticals PLC.

"We have worked hard with Arnolds over the past three years to secure this authorisation and expect to begin sales in March," said Managing Director of Peptech Animal Health, Dr Tim Trigg. "This will coincide with the beginning of breeding season in the Northern Hemisphere."

Peptech Animal Health estimates that there are approximately 10,000 thoroughbred mares bred each year in the United Kingdom, from a total population of 120,000 commercial horses. The ability to pinpoint ovulation with a high degree of accuracy allows breeders to schedule natural or artificial insemination, and maximise the chance of conception. This greatly reduces the potential need for repeats visits by stallions during one ovulation cycle. Stallion service fees, which are payable upon confirmation of pregnancy, can be as high as £50,000 in the United Kingdom.

"The marketing approval gives us access to the lucrative equine breeding industry in the United Kingdom and provides an inroad to continental European markets through the European Union's Mutual Recognition Scheme," Dr Trigg said.

Mutual Recognition means EU countries can recognise the decision made about a medicinal product by another EU member country. The Mutual Recognition process for Ovuplant[®] will begin immediately. It is expected that ensuing EU approvals gained will allow for marketing in countries including Ireland, France, Italy and Germany for the 2006 season. There are around 25,000 thoroughbred mares in these nations.

“Importantly, the experience we now have working with both United States and European regulatory bodies will help us push ahead quickly with registration of Suprelorin[®], our contraceptive product for companion animals,” Dr Trigg added.

Although sales of Ovuplant[®] have traditionally been concentrated in the thoroughbred industry, sales into the transported and particularly frozen semen industries have increased as breeders have recognised the product’s potential.

For commercial enquiries about Ovuplant[®], telephone: 1300 365 174.

Background:

Peptech Limited focuses on the research and development of peptides and proteins in the areas of human pharmaceuticals and animal health. The company is positioned to become a globally recognised leader in biopharmaceutical development. Peptech Animal Health is a wholly owned subsidiary of Peptech Limited.

Further information:

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