

## Rules force British organic farmers to use homeopathic remedies on their animals

British organic farmers are being forced to treat their livestock with homeopathic remedies under European Commission rules branded 'scientifically illiterate' by vets.

Although homeopathy has been branded as 'rubbish' by the government's Chief Medical Officer Dame Sally Davies, organic farmers have been told they must try it first under an EU directive which came into force last year and was extended to fish farming in January.

The regulation means that animals could be left diseased or in pain for far longer than necessary and organic meat could end up containing higher levels of bacteria, vets have warned.

John Blackwell, President of the British Veterinary Association, said: "We should always use medicines which have a strong science base and homeopathic remedies are not underpinned by any strong science.

"Disease is painful and farmers have an obligation to reduce that pain and not allow their animals to suffer so this regulation is troubling. It may lead to serious animal health and welfare detriment.

"If animals are not treated promptly it could lead to an underlying level of pathogen which could mean that the animal was no longer fit for human consumption."

**The GLP aggregated and excerpted this blog/article to reflect the diversity of news, opinion and analysis. Read full, original post: [EU orders Britain's organic farmers to treat sick animals with homeopathy](#)**