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**COMPLIMENTARY MYCOTOXIN TEST AVAILABLE FROM AB VISTA AT
UK DAIRY DAY**

A complimentary mycotoxin test has been added to AB Vista's offer of free on-the spot analysis for any silage and grass samples brought to the 3rd UK Dairy Day event, to be held in Telford on 14 September.

All maize and wholecrop forage samples tested on the company's stand (H102) using the NIR4 Farm hand-held near-infrared reflectance (NIR) spectrometer will also be sent for full mycotoxin screening using the Mycocheck service run by Micron Bio-Systems. The standard forage analysis results will be available immediately, whilst the mycotoxin test results will be emailed within 10 working days.

No charge will be made for either service, and the mycotoxin evaluation is likely to be of particular interest to those bringing maize and wholecrop cereal silages for analysis.

"A 2014-15 survey of clamp-face silage samples from across the south west of England found that mycotoxins were present in 90% of maize silages, 66% of wholecrop cereal silages and 71% of total mixed rations (TMR)," states Dr Derek McIlmoyle, AB Vista's Technical Director for GB and Ireland.

"Maize silage is particularly susceptible, with more than half of the samples that tested positive containing multiple mycotoxins, which will often combine to produce an additive effect, even at low levels."

The survey was the result of a collaboration led by Micron Bio-Systems that included University of Bristol, The University of Nottingham and Duchy College, plus key industry partners.

“Growing cereal crops are highly prone to infection by Fusarium moulds, which are the source of the most damaging mycotoxins for ruminants,” Dr McIlmoyle adds. “Grass silages are also at risk, but more typically from mycotoxins produced by the moulds which often grow on the top surface of the clamp, or even on the open clamp face if silage dry matters are high.”

The AB Vista free-of-charge forage analysis service is available to all farmers, nutritionists and consultants attending the 2016 Dairy Day event.

For more information, contact AB Vista on +44(0)1672 517 650 or info@abvista.com.

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Notes to editor:

AB Vista is an animal nutrition technology company offering pioneering products and technical services to the global animal feed industry. Since its establishment in 2004, AB Vista has grown to be a top-three player in feed enzymes and is also one of the largest suppliers of natural betaine to the global animal nutrition industry. The company invests heavily in research and development and has a growing portfolio of products and services spanning the poultry, swine, ruminant and aquaculture sectors. AB Vista is headquartered in the UK, with regional offices located in the USA, Brazil, Singapore, Spain, India, China, Germany and Finland.

AB Vista is part of AB Agri, the agricultural division of Associated British Foods, one of Europe’s largest food & retail companies with a market capitalisation of £22 billion.

For further press information please contact Nic Daley or Mike Keeler on +44 (0)20 8647 4467.