

## **Defra Bovine TB Consultation**

As we are sure all members are aware there have been considerable developments upon a move to deal once and for all with bovine TB. Defra have issued a very good and thought-provoking consultation which gives an excellent overview of both the background to this nasty disease and a very fair assessment of the current situation and the difficulties that it is causing. For those interested a full copy of the consultation can be downloaded from the Defra website ([www.defra.gov.uk/corporate/consult/tb-control-measures](http://www.defra.gov.uk/corporate/consult/tb-control-measures)) or the RABDF can supply a hard copy to any member if that is more convenient.

Clearly there will be considerable opposition from wildlife groups and others to any attempt to change the status quo and it is essential that as many members express their own thoughts upon this consultation to Government otherwise no progress will be made.

Obviously RABDF along with all the other relevant farming bodies will be responding to this Defra consultation and indeed a similar one put out by the Welsh Assembly Government but for progress to be made we badly need individual members to respond direct to Defra. There are eight questions posed in the consultation and these can be answered in full or in part but even if you do not have the time to respond fully then a suitable letter or email (tbbc@defra.gsi.gov.uk) just giving support to the overall approach which Defra are proposing would be enormously helpful.

We thank you for your support and hope that you will have time to complete the task before the deadline of 8th December 2010.