

**United States Department of Agriculture
Justification for single source or brand Name
FAR 13.5 Simplified Procedures for Certain Items**

1. Identification of the agency and the contracting activity.

Requesting Agency:

United States Department of Agriculture (USDA)
Animal Plant Health Inspection Service (APHIS)
Veterinary Services (VS)
Sandra Pedraza
Administrative Officer

Contracting Activity:

USDA, APHIS, Marketing Regulatory Programs Business Services Acquisition
and Asset Management Division
Procurement Branch 250
Marquette Ave, Suite
410, Minneapolis, MN
55401

2. The nature and/or description of the action being approved.

The USDA proposes to enter a sole source, firm fixed-price indefinite delivery indefinite quantity contract with Covetrus North America LLC using the simplified procedures for certain commercial items under Federal Acquisition Regulation (FAR) Part 13.5.

3. A description of the supplies or services required to meet the agency's needs (including the estimated value).

The objective of this acquisition is to purchase Co-Ral for the purposes of dipping cattle in support of Cattle Fever Tick mitigation efforts by the Cattle Tick Fever Eradication Program (CFTEP), Texas Animal Health Commission (TAHC), and Southern Border Ports (SBP). The product to be supplied under this contract is Coumaphos Co-Ral flowable form insecticide sold with 42% Coumaphos active strength labeled for use as a 0.25 percent dip.

The USDA, APHIS, VS requires the use of Coumaphos (Co-Ral) in the specified strength for official use against cattle fever ticks as a permitted brand. Permitted brands are registered with the appropriate Federal agency and have undergone evaluation to ensure their efficacy when used in cooperative eradication and control programs, and at border ports of entry.

The period of performance for this contract includes three (3) ordering periods with each ordering period being twelve (12) months in duration. The estimated effective date of the contract is February 25, 2025. The estimated dollar value of the three-year contract is 3 million dollars. The estimated purchase amount for fiscal year 2025 is \$509,000.00.

4. The authority and supporting rationale.

41 U.S.C § 1901 - Simplified Acquisition Procedures up to \$7 million, as authorized by FAR 13.500(a) and implemented by FAR 13.501(a).

5. A statement demonstrating the unique qualifications of the proposed contractor or the nature of the action requiring the use of the authority.

9 CFR 72.13 States that, the dipping of cattle for interstate movement shall be done only with a permitted dip and at places where proper equipment is provided for dipping and for handling the cattle in a manner to prevent exposure to infestation after the final dipping. The only dip listed as permitted currently is approved proprietary brands of Coumaphos (Co-Ral ®), 25 percent wettable powder or flowable form labeled for use as a 0.25 percent dip and used at a concentration of 0.125 to 0.250.

Before a dip will be specifically approved as a permitted dip, APHIS requires the product be registered under the provisions of the 9 CFR 72.13 - Permitted dips and procedures. Federal Insecticide, Fungicide and Rodenticide Act, as amended (7 U.S.C.135et *seq.*); that its efficacy and stability have been demonstrated; that trials have been conducted to determine that its concentration can be maintained and that under actual field conditions the dipping of cattle with a solution of definite strength will effectually eradicate ticks without injury to the animals dipped.

Co-Ral with 42% Coumaphos active strength is not available commercially and is specifically formulated for usage by the Veterinary Services CTFEP. Currently the only vendor vender that can supply this product is Covetrus North America, P.O. Box 7153, Dublin, Ohio, 43017-0753.

6. A description of efforts made to ensure offers are solicited from as many potential sources as is practicable.

In accordance with FAR 5.201, this sole source justification and approval will be posted on the Contract Opportunities website.

7. A determination by the Contracting Officer that the anticipated cost to the Government will be fair and reasonable

The USDA, APHIS has purchased this product for many years so the agency has historical pricing which can be used in determining price reasonableness. No contract will be issued until the contractor price has been determined to be fair and reasonable.

8. A description of the market research conducted and the results or a statement of the reason Market Research was not conducted.

The government is fully aware of the market conditions and availability of this specially formulated product from previous purchases. Market research has been conducted on prior purchases and will be further conducted for this solicitation to establish a contract.

9. Any other facts supporting the justification.

No additional supporting facts.

10. A listing of the sources, if any, that expressed a written interest in the acquisition.

No sources have expressed an interest in the acquisition.

11. A statement of actions the agency may take to remove or overcome any barriers to competition if subsequent acquisitions are anticipated.

Until other vendors become available that are willing to manufacture this product the USDA will be required to continue purchasing the product from Covetrus North America. However, through posting of notices such as the sole source justification it will perhaps lead to an interest from other vendors.

Certifications & Approval

Supporting data which form the basis for and included in this justification are certified accurate and complete.

Troy Trevino
Management Analyst CFTEP

The information contained in this Limited Sources Justification is certified accurate and complete to the best of my knowledge and belief.

**JASON
WILKING**

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WILKING
Date: 2025.02.05 09:31:33
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Jason Wilking
Contracting Officer

Additional Reviews & Approvals

Advocate for competition for the procuring activity (if over \$750,000, but not exceeding \$15 million). I have reviewed this justification and find it to be accurate and complete to the best of my knowledge and belief. Therefore, unless additional approvals are required as prescribed below, as advocate for competition for the procuring activity/MASCO, I hereby approve this justification. If required, my approval constitutes clearance for submission to the Head of the Procuring Activity.

Larry Nelson
Title: Procuring Activity Advocate for Competition