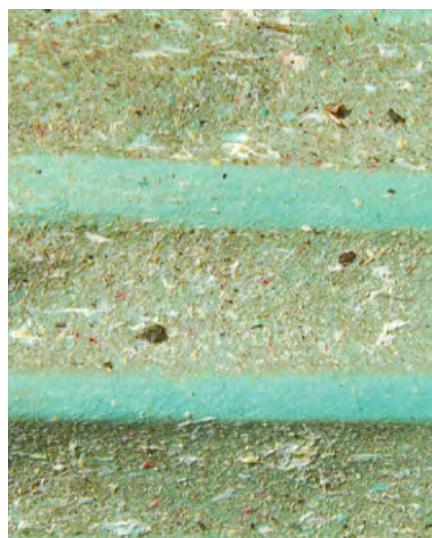


Looking for mastitis

Rapidly find, mark, treat, record and separate clinical mastitis cases.

How to find



Facts

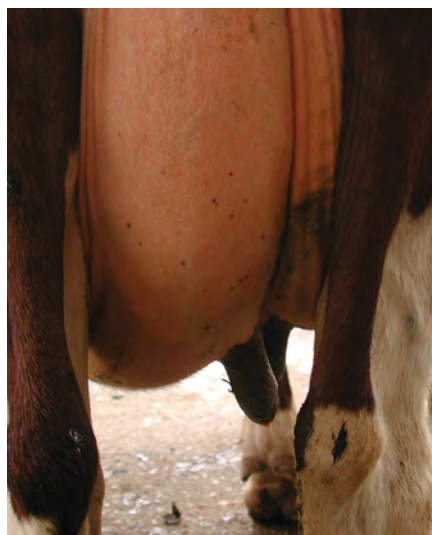


The quarter will need to be treated when there is heat, swelling or pain in the udder, or milk changes (wateriness or clots) persisting for more than 3 squirts.

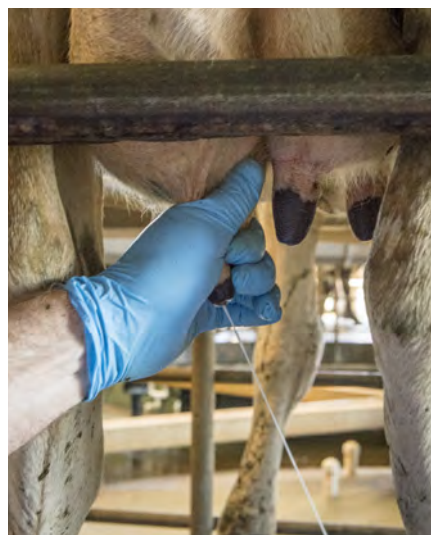
- 1 Look for clots** - on the filter after every milking. If clots are present, look more closely for mastitis during milking.



- 2 Feel for heat and swelling.**



- 3 Look for swollen quarters** - not milked out properly.



- 4 Strip the quarter** - look for clots or discoloured milk - avoid getting milk on your gloves.

Sampling

Bacterial culture aids decision making.

How to sample



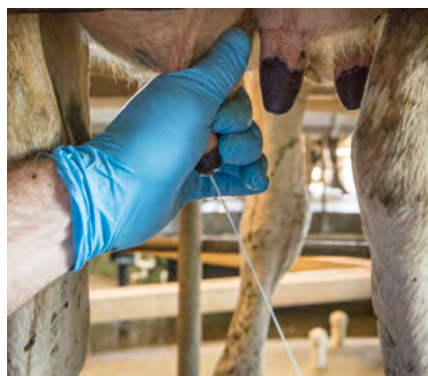
5 Rinse gloves with water then disinfect gloves with 70% alcohol.



6 Label a sterile sample bottle with cow ID, quarter and date.



7 Scrub and disinfect the teat end with 70% alcohol wipes or cotton balls soaked in 70% alcohol.



8 Discard first few squirts of milk.



9 Hold the milk sample bottle at an angle, to avoid anything falling into the sample bottle. Squirt 2-4ml of milk into bottle.



10 Replace cap quickly and cleanly. To keep the sample fresh, either refrigerate the sample if sending on the day or put in the freezer as soon as possible.

Facts



Collect milk samples before treatment for culture to identify bacteria involved.

This helps with treatment plans and identifying how mastitis is spreading.

Prevent a false diagnosis due to contaminants by using excellent hygiene when collecting a sample.

Milk samples



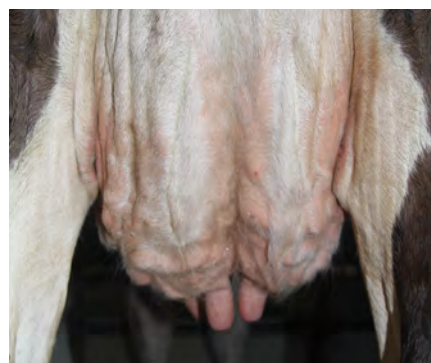
Milk samples can be collected from clinical cases before starting treatments, and stored frozen. A selection of these samples can be sent to the laboratory at a later date if:

- Cows are not responding to treatment eg. >20% of cases are receiving a second course of treatment.
- If you have more than 3 clinical cases in freshly calved cows from the last 50 calvings.
- If you have a high number of clinical cases during lactation eg. more than 2 clinical cases per 100 cows per month of lactation.

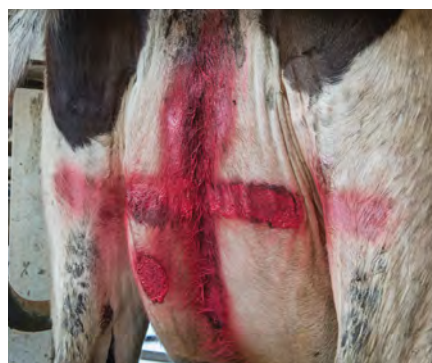
Marking and treatment

Appropriate treatment is necessary to maximise treatment success and minimise the risk of antibiotic residues.

How to treat



1 Milk the cow out as completely as you can.

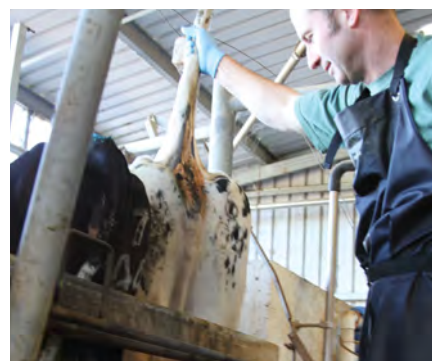


2 Mark the cow before treatment; it's better to mark and not treat the cow than to treat and not mark her.

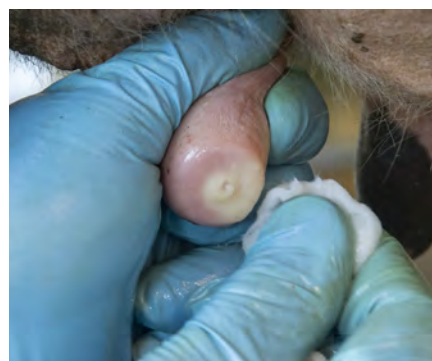
Discard milk from all quarters of cows that receive treatment and minimise spread of bacteria from infected cows.



- Draft out clinical cases and milk last.
- Run a separate mastitis herd if you can.
- Use test buckets and rinse clusters before using on the next cow. Do this by removing the long milk tube and running water through cups and claw bowl for 30 seconds.
- Rinse gloves with water and disinfect gloves with 70% alcohol.



3 Restrain the cow safely - sometimes another person may be needed to do a tail jack.



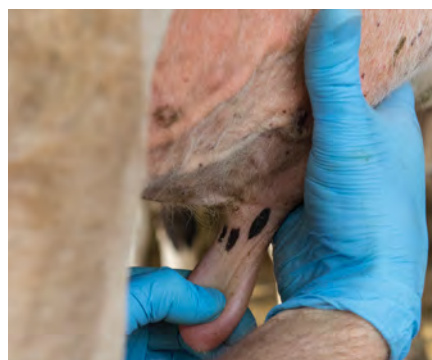
4 Scrub and disinfect the teat end with 70% alcohol wipes or cotton balls soaked in 70% alcohol to remove bacteria.



5 Remove cap carefully - nothing should touch the tip of the tube.



6 Insert tube only partially into teat end to avoid introducing bacteria or damaging the teat.

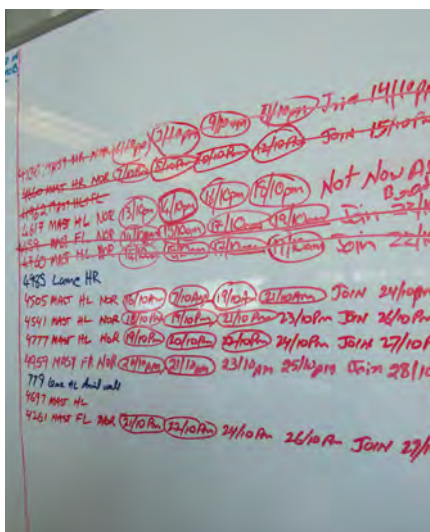


7 Massage the udder to disperse contents of tube into quarter.



8 Disinfect the teat with a registered teat disinfectant.

Record



- 9 Record the treatment on whiteboard, computer and in the QA book. Complete the full course of treatment, following the label directions. Observe milk, meat and Export Slaughter Interval (ESI) withhold periods.



Watch a video
on treatment of
clinical mastitis



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