



Farm Information Sheet

Teat Condition and Teat Disinfection



A healthy teat ensures good flow at milking and prevents mastitis.

A damaged teat may harbour many bacteria which can cause mastitis.

Teats are particularly affected by:

- Cold and wet weather
- Contact with caustic agents
- Milking machines
- Viral infections

The rate of new udder infections can be related to the number of mastitis causing bacteria on the teat. Disinfecting the teat reduces these bacteria.

PRE - DIPPING

- Here the teat is disinfected before milking to reduce bacteria, picked up from the environment, especially E.coli
- By reducing the bacteria load, milk quality is improved
- Use a specific pre-dip, allowing for at least 30 seconds contact.
- Wipe off thoroughly to prevent contamination of the bulk tank with disinfectant

Pre-milking routine,
including foremilk stripping.

STRIP – DIP – DRY – APPLY



POST- MILKING TEAT DISINFECTATION

- Most effective against Staphylococcus aureus and Streptococcus agalactiae
- Kills bacteria that get on the teat during milking, before they colonise the teat end
- Infections reduced by 50%
- Apply a suitable disinfectant to the teat immediately after every milking
- Dip cup – 10ml of disinfectant per cow per milking
- Spray – 2 rotations around the udder, clockwise and anti-clockwise. Uses approx. 15ml of disinfectant
- Always ensure the whole teat is covered
- Always follow label instructions.
- If pre-mixing is needed always use clean water