

Managing mastitis:

Maximising defences, minimising challenges

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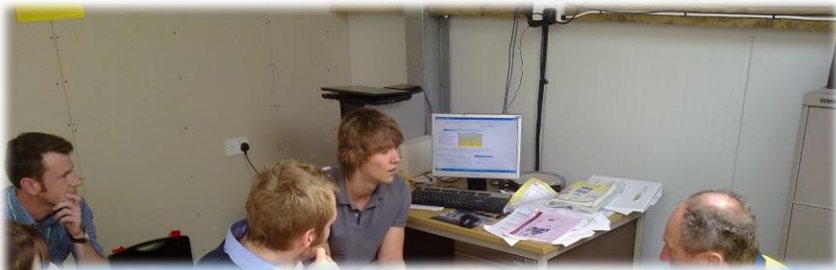


Background



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Dean Hall Dairy

- 430 cows supplying Long Clawson Dairy with 3 million litres a year.
- Spring block consisting of 150 cows
- Summer / Autumn block 280 cows

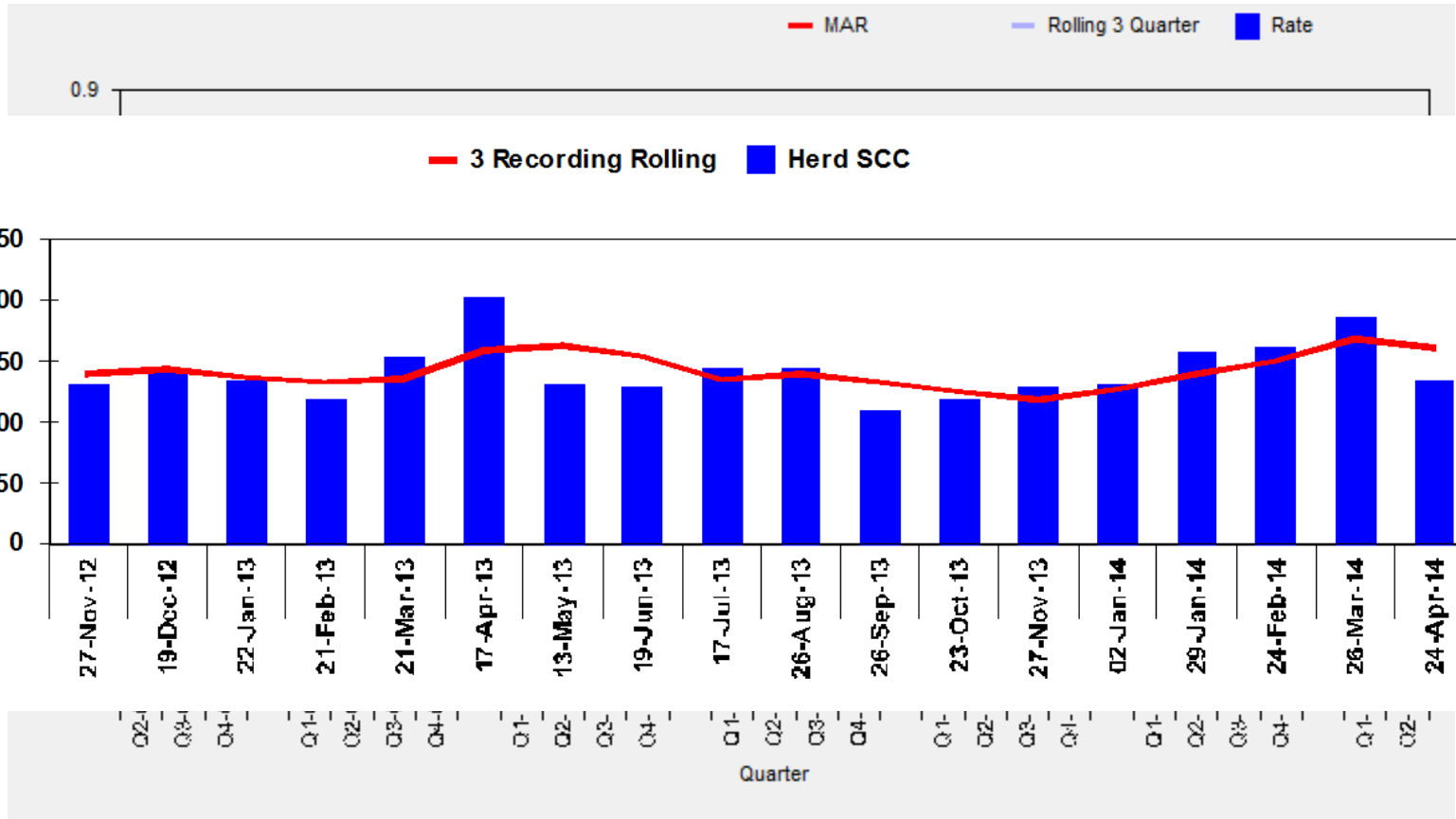


Dean Hall Dairy

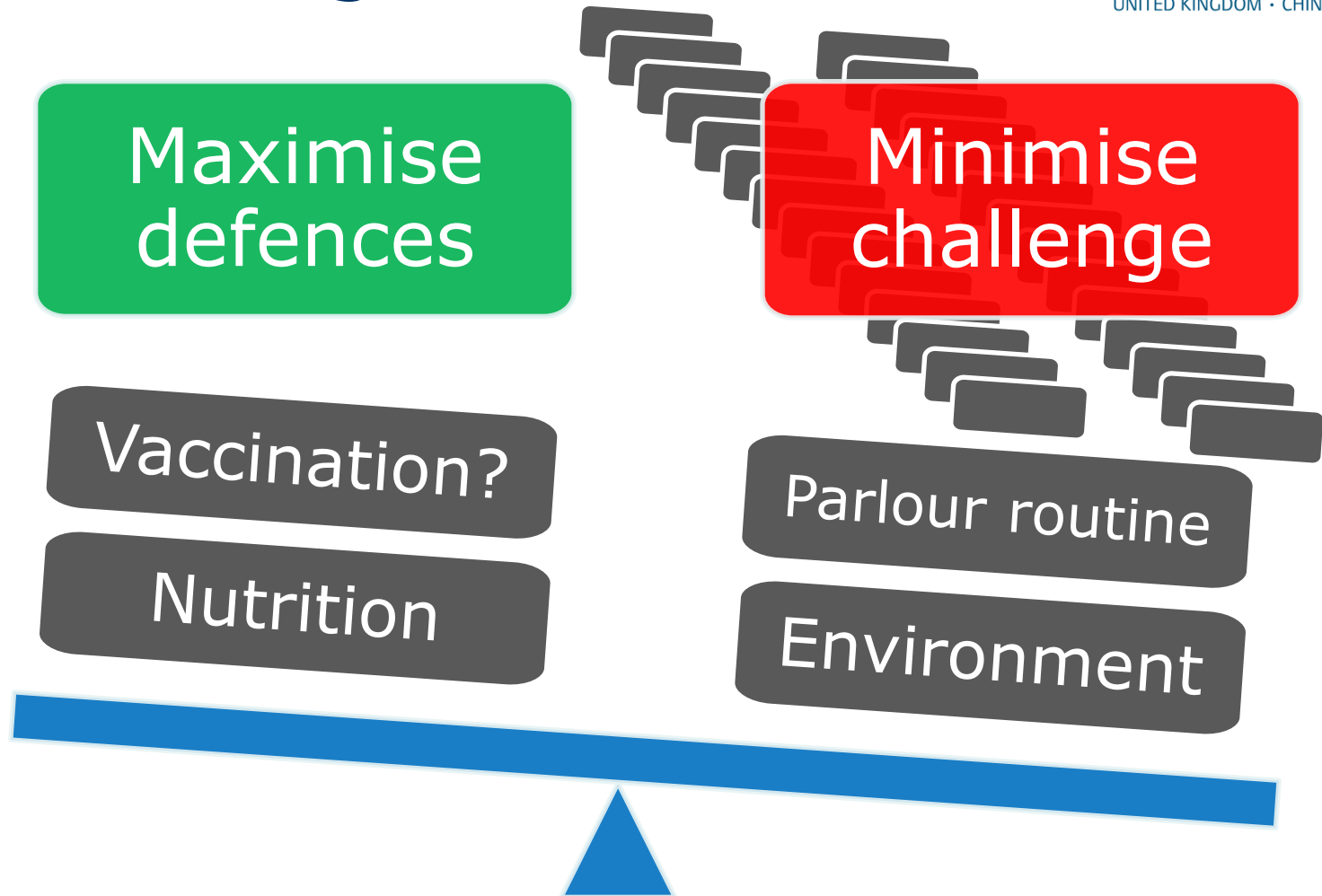
- Focus on grazing cows last winter only 6 weeks all cows were housed.
- 300 sand cubicles, 130 loose housing .
- 5 full time staff



Udder health - overview



Controlling mastitis



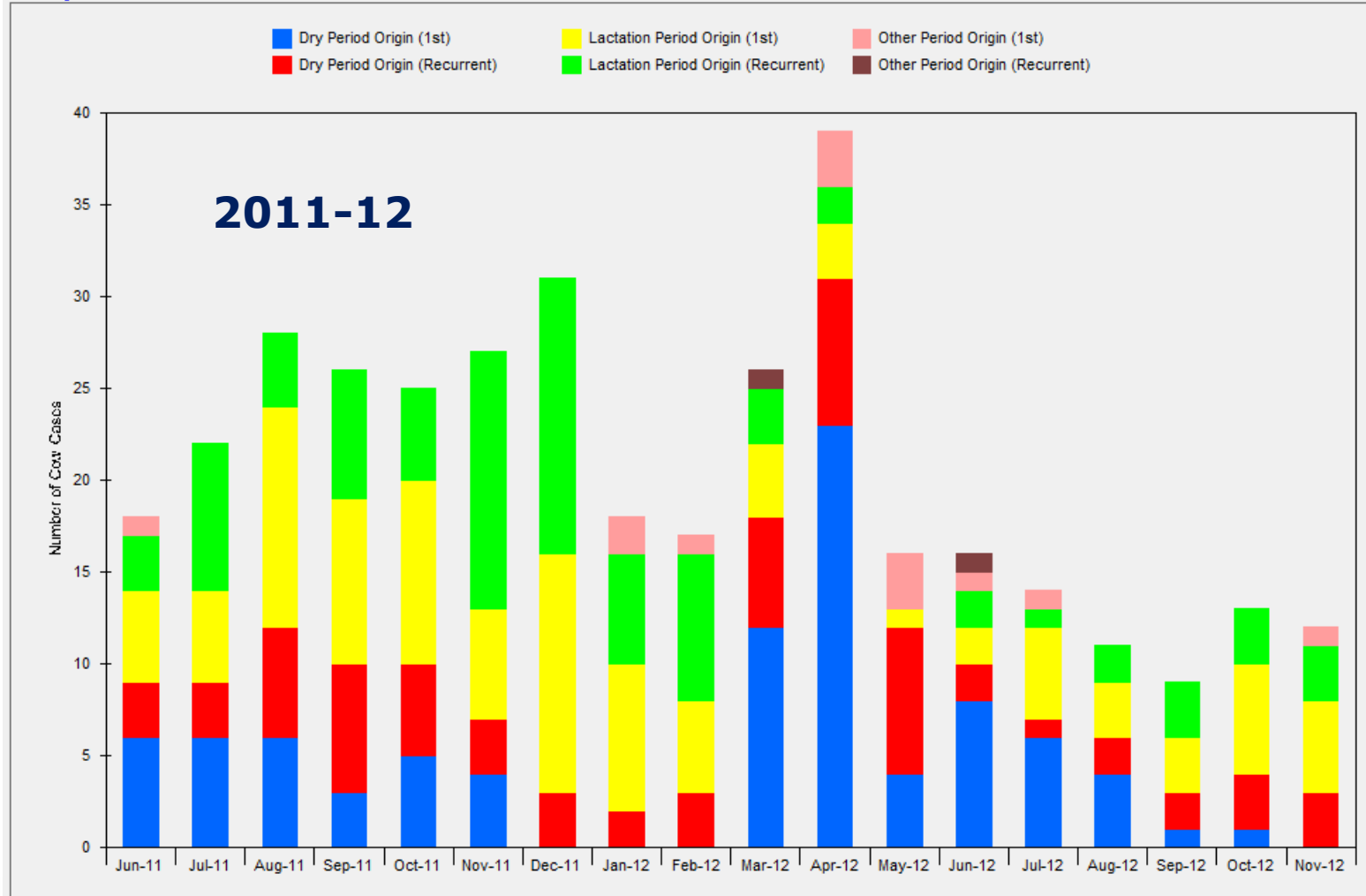
Clinical mastitis



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Monthly Cow Cases

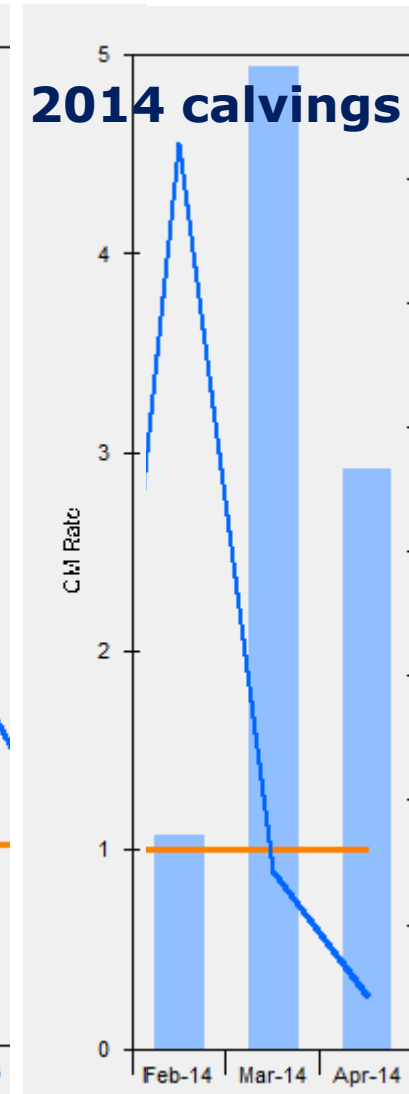
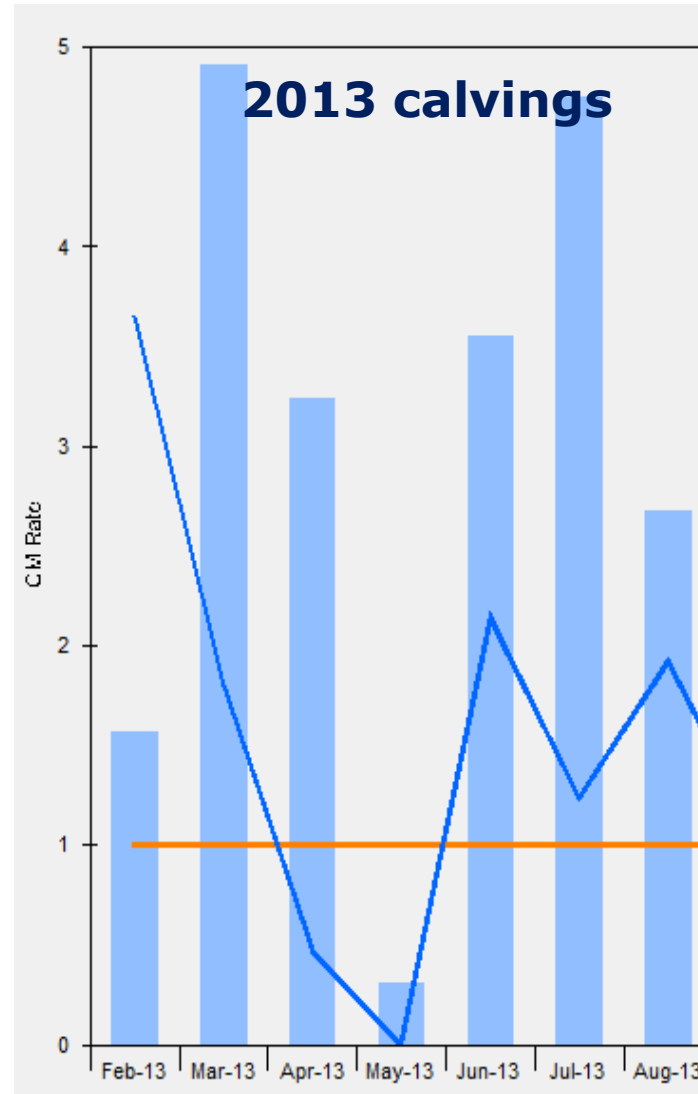
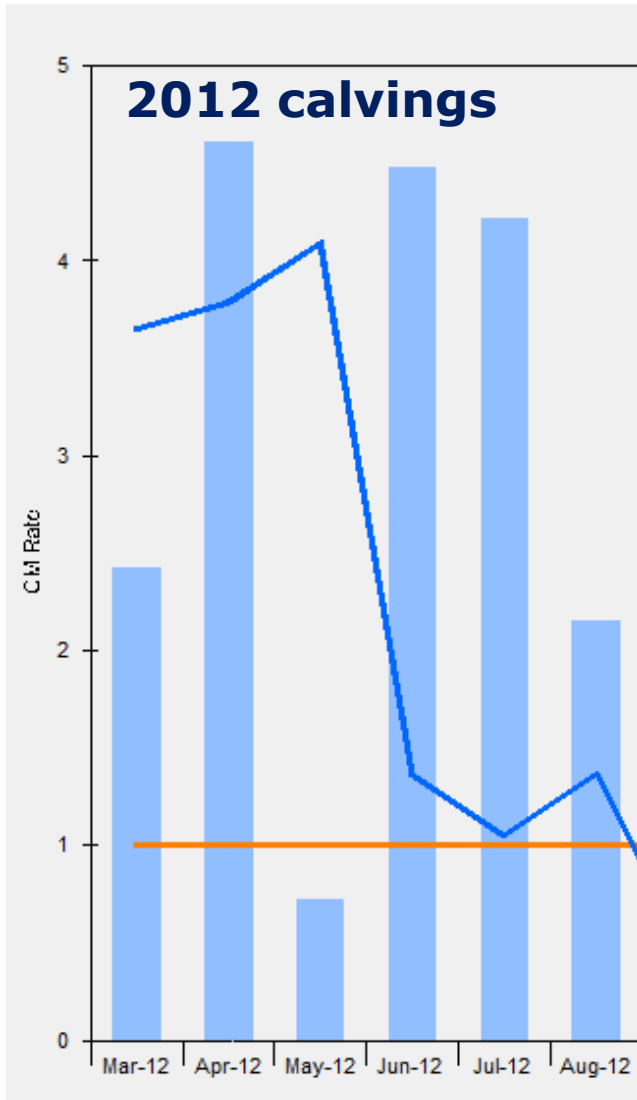


DP origin mastitis



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Dry period management

- 2012 – outwintered springs on kale, dry summer with paddock rotation (graze 2, rest 4)
- 2013 – Outwintered again in wet winter and wet summer.
- 2014 – housed spring calvers, challenging conditions to manage but improved performance vs outwintered
 - Cleaner cows but also improved control of nutrition
 - Less Man time
 - Plenty of straw to allow us to chop twice daily.



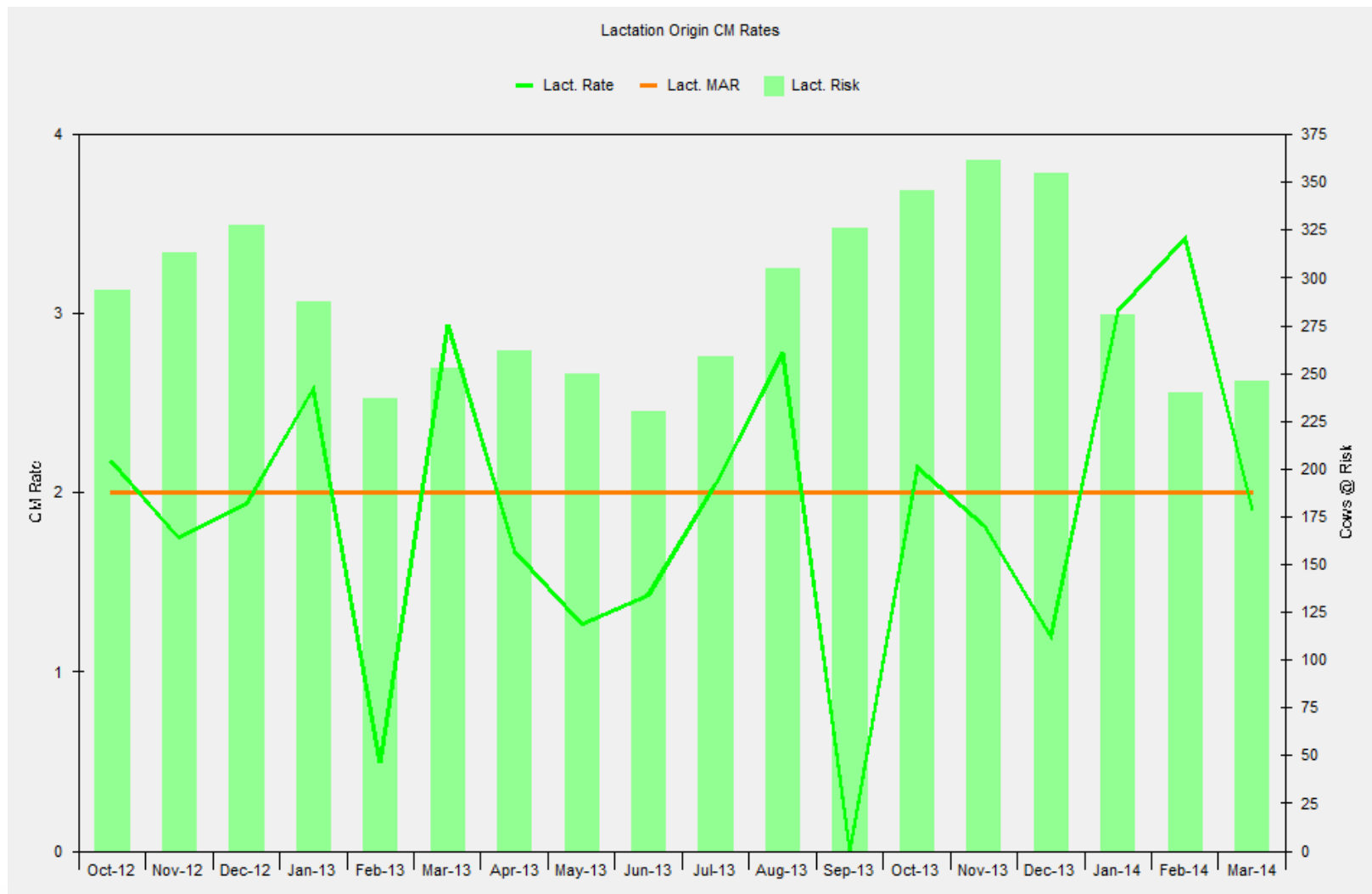


Lactation origin mastitis



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Lactation management

- Summer
 - Grazing all cows, track management
 - Good infrastructure, water troughs, extra gateways in paddocks
- Winter
 - Well managed deep bed sand cubicles!
 - Simple parlour routine
 - Straw yards for springs, growing kale to extend grazing season.
- All year
 - Good team in the parlour, training, attending monthly herdsman meetings, Most important **Attention to detail**.



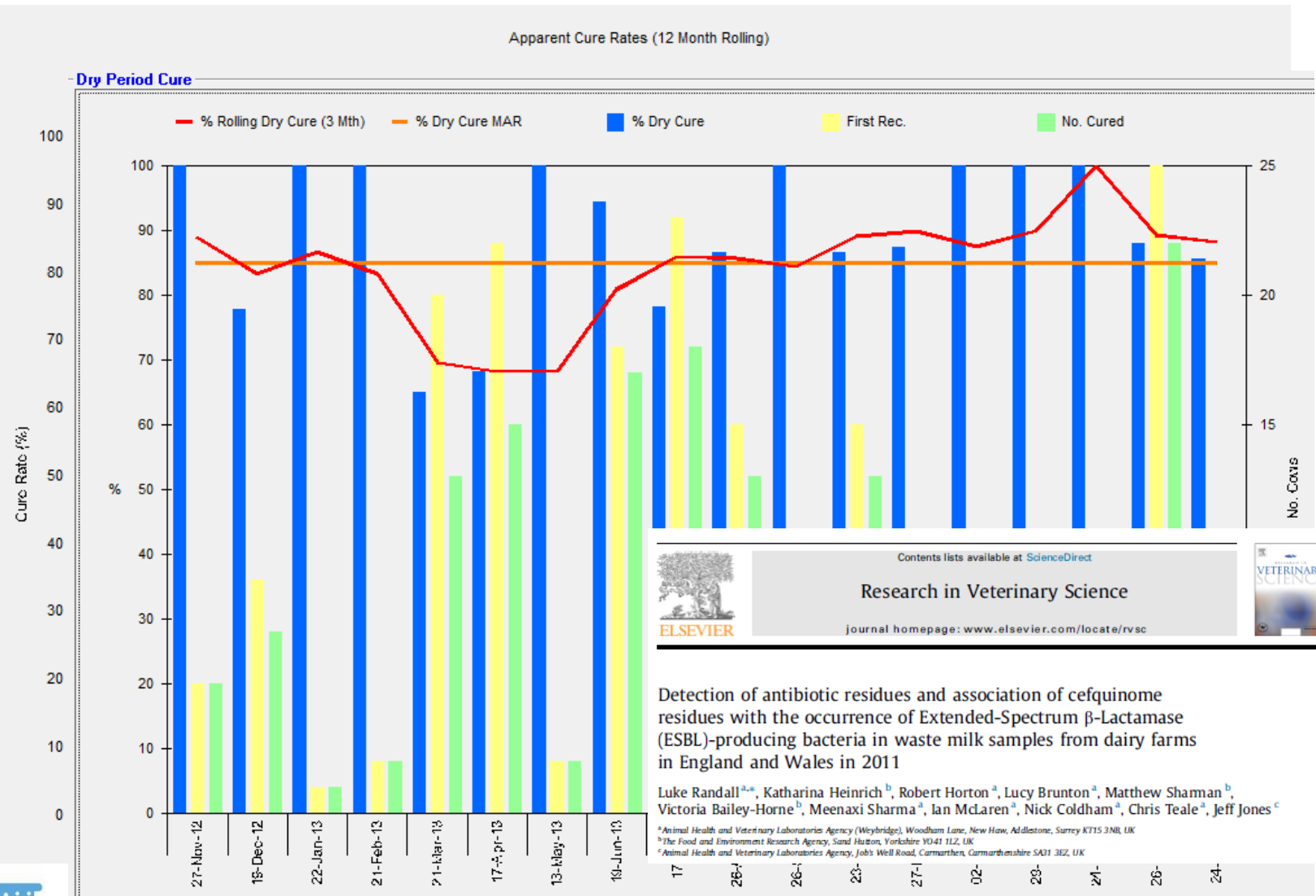


Mastitis cure rates



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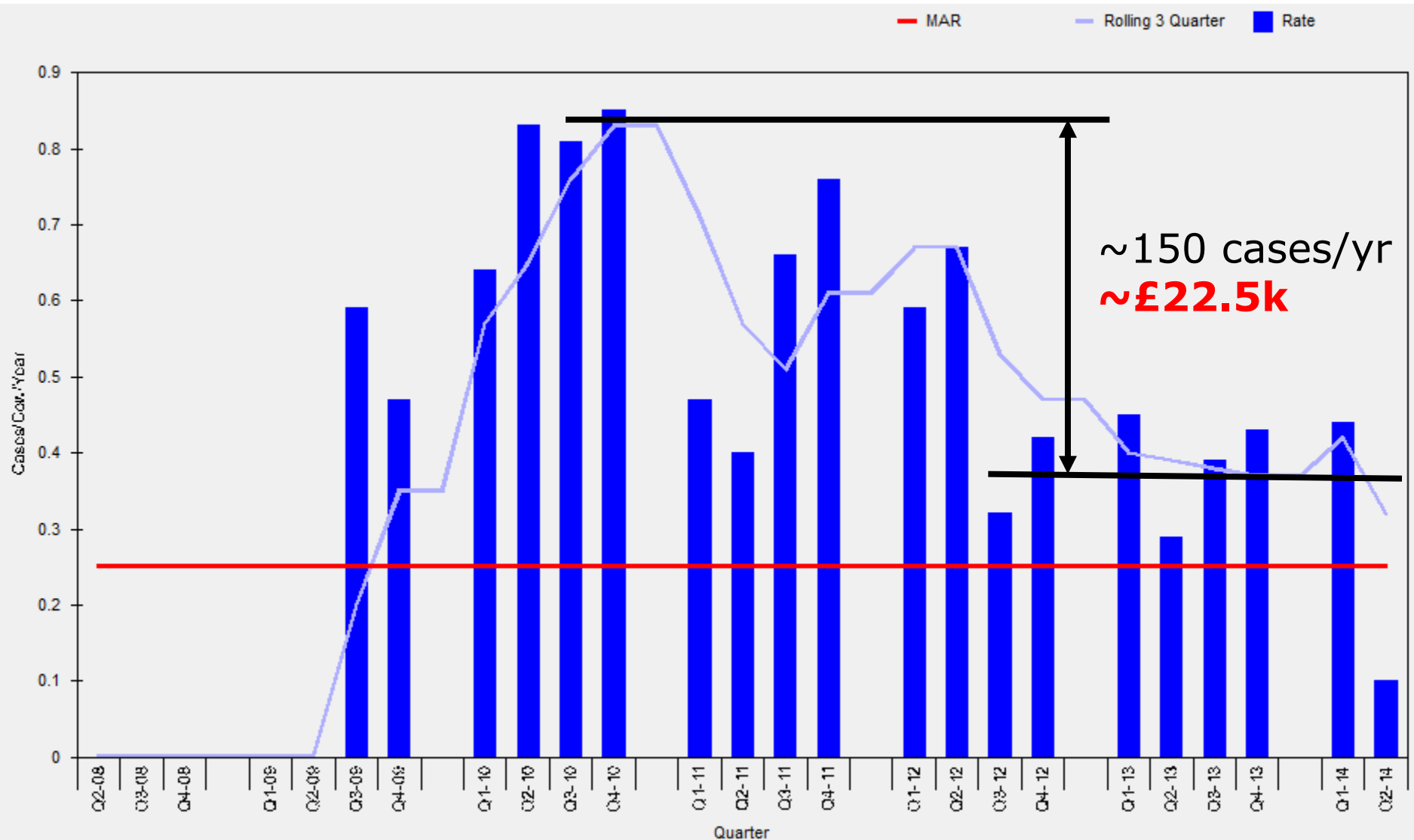
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The story so far...



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Conclusions

Team approach
vital

Substantial cost-
benefit potential

Secret not in a
bottle/ tube!

DairyCo
Mastitis
Control Plan

For me, the most important element of mastitis control is...

- a) good parlour routine
- b) keeping dry cows in a clean environment
- c) good drying off technique
- d) keeping milkers in a clean environment
- e) understanding mastitis patterns so I know where to target changes

Three families of antibiotic commonly used in UK cows are considered "critically important" to human health. Which of the following do you think is true?

- a) These are already banned in some EU countries and there is pressure to do more in UK
- b) The European Parliament has resolved to phase out preventive antibiotics in farming
- c) The UK currently has a fixed target for total annual antibiotic use in cattle

Any questions?

