# PERFORMANCE ENHANCING PARLOUR PRACTICES

Andrew King Barrington - Organic Farm Alastair Hayton MRCVS -

#### FARM OUTLINE - BARRINGTON ORGANIC PARTNERSHIP



- 230 cows AYR calving organic production
- 7980 litres per cow, 115 SCC, 12 Bactoscan
- Twice daily milked through 10 point auto tandem
  - Milked as one group
  - Single person Milking from Team of 3
- 2 main milking people (up to 2 more for relief cover)

#### **BASIC MILKING ROUTINE**



- Cow Auto identification and feeding (to yield)
  - Pre Spray (Iodine and Lanolin)
- Medicated individual paper towels (dry wiped)
- Option of warm water for excessively soiled teats
  - Cluster attachment
  - Automatic cluster removal
  - Post Milking spray (Iodine and Lanolin)



#### **BASIC MILKING PARLOUR**





#### MILKING IMPLICATIONS FOR HERD



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- 7980 litres per cow, 115 SCC, 12 Bactoscan
- Twice daily milked through 10 point auto tandem
  - Milked as one group
  - Single person Milking
  - 2 main people (up to 2 more relief) who milk



#### WHAT WE STRIVE FOR

Consistency, Repeatability

Continuity

Standard operating procedures (SOP's)

All who milk know the drill

• KPI's

Results feedback



#### **Aims of Teat Preparation**

To clean teats
Extract foremilk
Check for abnormalities
Avoid transfer of pathogens
Stimulate milk ejection

# Q1. What is your Standard Teat Preparation Practice in the Housing Period?

- **Teat Preparation**
- 1. Nothing
- 2. Dry wiping
- 3. Wet Wiping



4. Pre-milking teat disinfection.

#### NO ABSOLUTES – DEPENDS ON PERFORMANCE



# SUMMARY OF BEST PRACTICE FOR PRE MILKING ROUTINE

- Can best be summarised as: 'Strip, Dip, Dry and Apply'
- Strip: Wipe loose dirt from each teat and pre-strip (foremilk)
- Dip: Pre-dip and wait for at least 15 sec, preferably 20-30 sec
- Dry: Wipe each teat with a single-use paper towel
- Apply: Apply teat cups 60-90 sec after the first touch of each udder.

## Fore-milking CONTENTIOUS!!!!

Aids removal of bacteria and high cell count milk from the teat canal and sinus
 Allows a thorough mastitis detection
 Stimulates milk ejection



WR/cow 60 seconds =60 cows/hr WR/cow 40 seconds = 90 cows/hr

## **Fore-milking**

- Value in herds with raised clinical / subclinical mastitis?
- Depends on clinical mastitis rate
- If average number of cases is 45 cases/100cows/year then will need to strip 5,500 teats to detect one case..
- However early identification critical to treatment success.
- May contribute to spread of infection





## **PreDips**

- Need to have high speed of action
   Not be rendered useless by organic material
- Not damage teat skin



## **Teat preparation method**

Method	SPC (cfu/ml)	Spores (cfu/ml)
No udder prep	9317	561
Dry paper towel	3673	257
Wet and dry	3005	144
Cotton towel (6 sec)	2222	208
Pre-spray	ZZJZ	200
Cotton towel (20		
secs)	956	118
Pre-spray		

M D Rasmussen JDS 2001

# The Impact of Teat Preparation on Milk Quality



### If dip must wipe dry!



Process of preparing the teat must avoid spread of infection between cows - Avoid the "common cloth or paper".

Avoid contamination of tank

**Reduce liner slip** 

Prevent risk of droplets of fluid accumulating at teat end

### **Cluster Attachment**



Q 2: What is the effect of the observed milk flow?

- Reduced yield
   Slower milking ti
- 2. Slower milking time
- 3. Poor teat ends
- 4. All of the above

#### Good timing is everything



### Good timing is everything

#### If curs do go on too early.



longer

#### Impact of Teat Preparation on 'Milk Letdown'



Time (min.sec)

## Effects of poor timing -Hyperkeratosis



If apparent on more than 10% of the herd then investigate the problem

# Effects of poor timing – Reduced Yield



#### Take Home Message

No right or wrong answer to teat preparation but does depends on farm circumstances It should however always include thought about the effect on the timing of unit attachment