



Veterinary Centre MoozNews

Zoetis Milk Quality Awards

Hamish Newton BVSc PhD – VETERINARY CENTRE Oamaru

Below is a list of the lowest average BMSCC herds for the 2022 season up to the 5th of December. Some of the data will not be what you expect due to late dry off cows being milked through into the current season before being dried off. 30 herds had an average BMSCC less than 100 (36 last season).

To try and make the “playing field” as even as possible we decided that we would not list farms where there are two sheds, and a majority of the

heifers go through one shed.

Due to space limitations, we have not been able to list everyone who milks the cows, applies teatspray, and finds mastitis cases early, which was requested by many farmers when we rang to check details. This highlighted the importance that these farmers place on the work their milkers do to reduce the risk of new infections occurring or spreading. Well done to all the milkers that are not listed here.



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zoetis

2022 Milk Quality Awards

BUSINESS	FARM OWNER	SHED MANAGER	Avg BMSCC ('000)
1 Le Emari Trust - Willowbridge	Hugh & Darla Le Fleming	Leo Omamalin	60
2 Cantley Developments Ltd - Sunrise	Dairy Holdings Ltd	Jeremy & Louise Dyson and Ian Miranda	65
3 Eden Dairies Limited	Chris & Rebecca Eden		70
Rylock Farms	Lachlan & Roslyn McConnachie		72
Terrace Top Dairy Ltd	Dairy Holdings Ltd	Kris Nombalang	75
Tamac Farms Ltd	Tim & Deborah McKenzie	Joeli Kotoealavu	79
Willowview Pastures Ltd Ferry Road	Geoff & Katrina Taylor	Erica Hurst and Richard Macarayo	80
Palmdale Farms Limited	Jonathan & Joanna Dyson	Ronald Prasad	81
Minus One Trust	Andrew & Barbara Richardson		82
Northdairy Ltd	Ken & Brenda Mcleod	Alex McLeod	82
Steward Dairy Ltd	Dairy Holdings Ltd	Julius and Mary Caballero (San Isidro Dairy Farms Ltd)	83
Willowcreek	Paul & Sarah Smith	Stu Smith and "Scooter" Fergusson	83
Dogterom Farming - Glenmoa	Otto Dogterom	Julius Sanidad	84
Corona Farms Ltd	Corrie & Donna Smit	Matthew & Kylie Bennett	87
Waiherd Limited	Paul & Ann-Maree Henshaw		87
Cressey Dairies - Stillwater	Mark & Julie Cressey	Pablo Yanez & Francesca Contador	88
Hilderthorpe Farm	Richard & Karen Willans	Josh Cochrane	90
Otewai Holdings Ltd	Duncan McLachlan		91
Windsor Park Dairies Ltd	Callum & Twyla Kingan	Sanjay Singh	91
Blue Cliffs Dairy	Sandy & Jenny McAlwee	Stuart Johnston	91
Seven Mile Dairy Ltd	Dairy Holdings Ltd	Rodney & Kelly Herrick	92
Moffat Family Holdings Ltd	Ryan & Billie Moffat		94
Kirk Hook Shed	Jon & Merrial Kirk	Jed Haultain	94
Excel Farming Ltd Dairy #2	Michael & Amanda Williams	Flip Vermaak	97
Hoofing-It Dairies Ltd	Mark & Louise Jellyman		97
J.L.O Enterprises 2008 Ltd	John & Olivia Williams		97
Braeburn Dairies	Rogan & Michelle Borrie	Sam Sharpe	98
Conlan, Des	Des Conlan	Richard & Kirsten Powell	98
Hamilton Dairy Ltd	Gavin Herlihy	Regan Harley	99
Rotoma Farms Ltd	Grant Barber	Luke Mehring	99

Supply Interruptions Triple Combination Oral Calf Drenches

With Matrix Mini-Dose discontinued and Coopers Alliance Oral Drench under supply pressure we have added ...

**TURBO
ADVANCE**

**First Eprinomectin-
Levamisole Oral
Combination
Drench**

Actives:

- Eprinomectin
- Levamisole
- Selenium
- Cobalt

Dose Rate

1ml/10kg

**120kg Calf
Dose (excl GST)
75c**



15 Litre
\$1085.00
Incl GST

Also available
in a smaller
5 Litre Pack

5 Litre
\$459.00
Incl GST

TeatCHECK – the cow’s early warning system!



Ryan Luckman BVSc (Dist) MANZCVS (Epidemiology) – VETERINARY CENTRE Waimate

Anyone who has ever dealt with grades from cracked milk liners will know the importance of having smooth, well maintained rubberware to reduce the risk of bacto grades. In this situation the grades arise from the inability to properly clean the surface of the rubberware, meaning the cracks harbour bacteria that eventually lead to bacto issues.

The same concept applies to the cow itself;

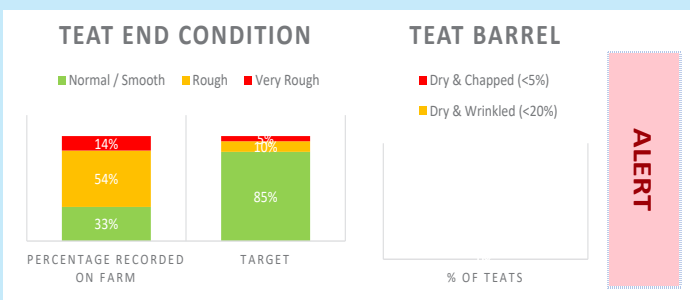
- ▶ The teat end of the cow closes off and creates a physical barrier preventing the entry of bacteria into the gland (where it could cause mastitis).
- ▶ However, IF bacteria can travel up into the gland BEFORE the teat end closes (which takes a bit of time after milking) then they can bypass this protection mechanism.

- ▶ Teatspray acts like the plant wash, sanitising the surface of the teat end meaning there are no bacteria present on the teat end that can invade the gland BEFORE the teat end closes.
- ▶ However if the teat end is cracked and broken (like the old rubberware), then the bacteria can hide from the teat spray, AND the teat end struggles to form a good seal. This means more bacteria enter the gland via an open teat canal leading to **higher SCC and mastitis**.

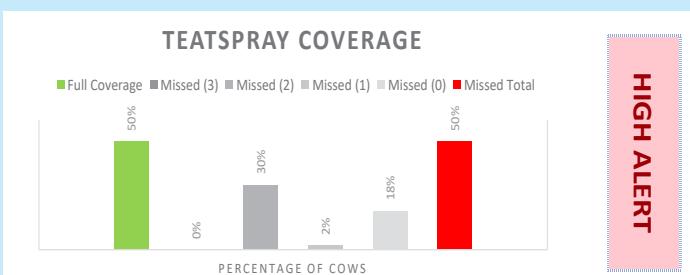
What is TeatCHECK?

TeatCHECK is a service we are offering this season via our tech team. As part of the service the team will come out during an afternoon milking and record;

- ▶ The teat condition of 80 teats (40 cows - 1x front and 1x back teat)
 - This includes the condition of the teat end itself (normal/smooth vs rough/very rough), plus other factors such as wedging, haemorrhage, black pox, and barrel skin suppleness

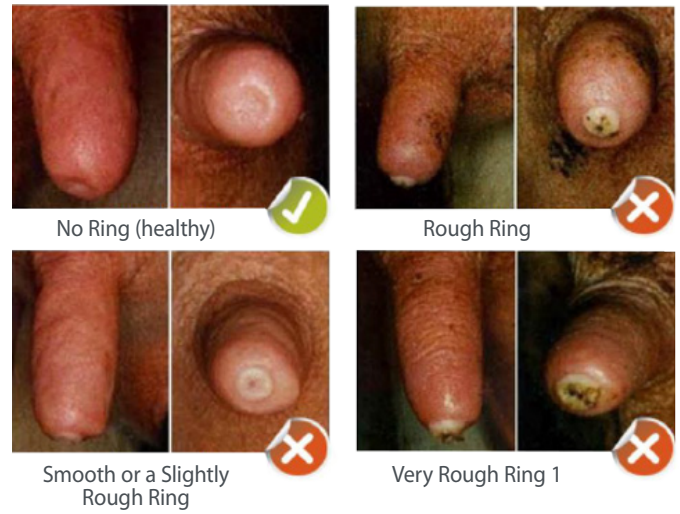


- ▶ Teat Spray coverage of 50 cows (0 – 4 teats covered) plus Teat Spray concentration and mixing rates.



We will also record some common risk factors (such as vacuum, milking time, mastitis rate, SCC trends etc) to allow future analysis of these risk factors within our farms.

Rough Skin or Cracking around Teat Orifice – also known as “Teat-end Hyperkeratosis”



Why does this matter?

You can think of the teat condition like the canary in the coalmine. Poor teat condition is the cows way of telling us that something about HOW they are getting milked is causing damage. Often this may be related to vacuum pressure, overmilking, cup size etc.

If we assess cows in Jan/Feb/Mar and they are already showing signs of teat end damage, then it likely that this will only get worse by the end of the season, increasing the risk of higher cell counts and mastitis rates. Furthermore this is likely to follow into the 2023/24 season as the cows will carry this damage over when they calve in the new lactation. This means they’ll hit Spring with poor teat end defences, leading to a vicious cycle of higher cell counts and more mastitis.....

BUT – We have the opportunity to break the cycle now!!! On farms where teat condition is an issue WE CAN MAKE CHANGES NOW (before it’s too late) and help improve the teat end condition at dry-off.

How do you sign up?

We will be in touch with all farms in the next 3 months to find out if you would like to sign up for a TeatCHECK visit, however if you want to find out your score ASAP then please get in touch. We will be charging \$165 (incl) + travel per farm, which will include the visit itself, a comprehensive report, and some practice wide benchmarking. Some farms may require a further visit from one of our trained mastitis advisors if we need to help diagnose the underlying cause of teat issues – note this would be a separate offering/charge.

As part of this benchmarking project we are hoping to get at least 100 farms enrolled this Autumn. This will give us a true sense of the state of teat condition within the practice, plus give us some real clarity on what is achievable (and what is unacceptable). So if you’re keen to CHECK your Teats then get in touch with the clinic!



Correctly Identifying the Lame Claw



Mat O'Sullivan BVSc – VETERINARY CENTRE Oamaru

Over the years I have had witnessed multiple occasions where farm staff have attacked hooves with knives, grinders and hoof trimmers before correctly determining the site of lameness. This will have frequently resulted in an exacerbation of the overall lameness in the cow.

Before putting any lame cows into the crush, it is important to determine which leg is affected. Our vets tend to record these on a recording sheet. Look for:

- obvious swelling (and hoof shape)
- weight bearing while standing still (the lame foot will be positioned so not to carry as much load)
- a head nod while walking in the case of front leg lameness
- the stride length and speed (the lame leg will have a short stride

before taking weight, then the sound leg swings through with a longer stride and is weight loaded for longer.

Once you have determined the lame leg, have tied it up, washed it down and checked for footrot, use hoof testers to confirm where the lameness is located. This simple tool works by squeezing and putting pressure on the claw. Watch for a repeatable pain response which is easy to recognise in the hind legs by a tensing of the 'hamstring' muscles and the front legs by a tensing of the shoulders. Cows with sole bruising will often have very soft hooves and you will see that the testers easily depress the sole. If there is no response to either claw to hoof testers, then chances are you either have the wrong foot or the cause of lameness is located further up the leg.

Lameness is painful –

Get them off the painful claw as quickly as possible. Cow slips and hoof blocks are ideal. The use of anti-inflammatories to reduce pain, swelling and speed recovery should be routine. Ketomax can be used once daily for 2-4 days and has no milk-withhold period.



Lameness



**Andrew Muir BVSc BSc (Hons)
VETERINARY CENTRE Oamaru**

The summer period is often a time when lame cow numbers increase which has been made worse this year with all the rain.

- It is worth taking the time to improve track drainage. Take a spade and open up the grass, a spades width wide at regular intervals to allow water to drain off the track.
- If you have an underpass, keep it free of water and slurry. Make sure that sump pumps are working properly, sumps are cleaned out and pumps are turned on when it rains.
- If you have a section of lane that is chronically wet, especially just prior to the yard, consider scrapping the surface. Wet areas slow cow flow which means that more pressure has to be put on cows to get them on the yard and the moisture increases foot problems. Scrapping lanes can damage the top surface of the lane, but these are often damaged when you get to this stage anyway, however it can allow them to dry out faster and improve cow flow. Look at a more permanent fix over the dry period.
- Have someone treat lame cows every day, or every other day. Cows get worse if they are left and it becomes a much harder job psychologically when there is a large mob.
- Make sure that staff are being careful with the backing gate and walking them to the shed (no heads up) and that the yard is hosed out properly (no stones). Cows with soft feet can't tolerate extra pressure being put on them.
- Consider using 3 in 2 milkings to reduce walking if the weather stays really wet and you are getting lots of lames cows. Dairy NZ flexible milking work has shown a herd on 3-in-2 from December had 3% lameness for the season compared to 12% if the herd was milked twice a day. 30 days of 3-in-2 milking will cost about 3kg of milk solids. There can be a lift in BMSCC but this tends to happen after the short milking period (12hours). Work with Fonterra or Oceania so that milk isn't picked up after only a short milking interval.



Viv Tribble, Waimate Large Animal Vet Tech – during a national lameness trial the Veterinary Centre is involved in.

LeptoCred
Veterinary Centre
Lepto Assurance Programme



The annual reaccreditation consult is an essential part of this process. All existing Leptocred officers will need to sit down with one of our vets for their 2022 audit and accreditation for 2023. This needs to occur before February 28th 2023.

UdderNews

Hamish Newton BVSc PhD
VETERINARY CENTRE Oamaru



10-in-7 Milking

I hope you have all had a good Christmas and New Year period and got off farm for a few days. Hopefully no one is in a feed situation that requires a switch away from twice a day (TAD) milking just yet but switching to a reduced milking frequency can make a difference to staff rosters and the walking distances for the herds with associated benefits for lameness. We are all familiar with once a day (OAD) milking and 3 in 2 but don't forget about 10 in 7 which is becoming increasingly popular. It seems that if you speak to farmers in mid-Canterbury they are far more aware of 10 in 7 and

are comfortable with it compared to us a bit further south. 10 in 7 results in the cows being milked once a day four times a week. It does seem important that the Saturday milking is delayed until late morning so no interval between milkings is longer than 22 hours to keep a lid in the BMSCC.

A suggested regime is to milk once a day on Saturday at 11.30am and at 8.30 am on Sunday, Tuesday, and Thursday. On Monday, Wednesday, and Friday milk TAD (5am and 2.30pm) as normal.

Yersinia in Calves

Jess McKenzie BVSc
VETERINARY CENTRE Waimate



In December we start to see outbreaks of Yersinia in weaned calves, typically from post-weaning through to about May. Yersinia bacteria are found in the intestines of most calves – 85% of herds (calves) have Yersinia as a normal gut resident. Stress/immunosuppression associated with parasites, nutrition, trace element deficiencies and BVD may result in an overgrowth of this bug in the intestines. Overgrowth results in a severe scour. Because of a constantly irritated bowel, faeces are often seen dribbling down on to the back legs.

As infection spreads, so does infection pressure and faecal-oral transmission then occurs. Large percentages of a mob are often affected severely checking growth rates. Mortality rates of 5-10% are not uncommon. Faecal culture confirms the diagnosis; however, a presumptive diagnosis can often be made on history and clinical signs. Isolation of affected animals to reduce the spread and treatment with oxytetracycline antibiotic for 3-5 days is an effective treatment/ control.



St John's School Ranfurly, Pet Day.
Donated calves are auctioned for school camp.

Product of the Month

Turbo Initial



ACTIVES: 2g/L Eprinomectin, 80g/L Levamisole HCl, 10g/L Diclazuril, 4.4g/L Cobalt (min. 33.6g/L Cobalt disodium EDTA), 1g/L Selenium (2.4g/L Sodium selenate).

Turbo® Initial is an oral drench specifically designed for weaned calves. It provides broad worm parasite coverage as well as helping to protect against coccidiosis. This bridges the 'susceptibility' gap after calves come off coccidiostat-treated meal and before they develop natural coccidiosis immunity.

2.5 Litre
\$789.00
Incl GST

Dose Rate: 1ml/10kg

Pricing **\$2.74** per 100kg (Excl GST)



**MORE
COVERAGE
LESS EFFORT**

**35
MEAT**
Withhold

NOT FOR USE ON BOBBY CALVES

Polioencephalomalacia

We are once again seeing several cases of P.E. (polioencephalomalacia), a nervous disease seen primarily in calves and younger stock. P.E. is caused by a lack of vitamin B1 (not to be confused with a cobalt deficiency, which is associated with a vitamin B12 deficiency). P.E. is thought to be nutritionally induced, when there is a sudden change in diet from stinky, higher DM diet, to a lush, low fibre diet. A high dietary sulphur intake, especially with brassicas, has also been incriminated as a cause of P.E.

Calves with P.E. appear blind, may walk aimlessly, appear wobbly, have muscle tremors and head press. If calves are treated early in the disease process with a series of vitamin B1 injections, survival rates are good. In an outbreak situation we have had good success, by prophylactically treating the remaining, unaffected calves, in the group with an oral vitamin B1 drench. This has proved a very cost effective preventative measure.



Fluorescence

The brain of a calf with PE, fluoresces under a UV light.