1. PURPOSE

To identify cows with infections, and treat accordingly as soon as possible.

2. RESPONSIBILITY

2.1 All milking students and staff
2.2 Dairy Herd Supervisor
2.3 Veterinarian

3. GENERAL

3.1 The monitoring is done at each milking for every cow.

4. MATERIAL

4.1 Clean gloves
4.2 Teat Dip
4.3 Stripping cup
4.4 Milk Pail, hose and lid with rubber gasket
4.5 California Mastitis Test® kit
4.6 Yellow leg bands and Milk Last Card
4.7 Red leg band and Antibiotic sign
4.8 Milker action sheet.
4.9 Materials for milk sampling:
   4.9.1 Sterile sample bottles
   4.9.2 Alcohol pads
   4.9.3 Permanent marker

5. PROCEDURES

5.1 Wear clean gloves before milking
5.2 Prepare cows for milking as per SOP DC-610: Preparing Cow for Milking.
5.3 Observe the milk for any abnormalities while the teat is stripped.
5.4 Records any abnormalities (clots, abnormal viscosity) in the Treatment Log
   5.4.1 Cow ID#
   5.4.2 Affected quarter
   5.4.3 Observation (e.g. clots, watery or creamy)
5.5 Perform a California Mastitis Test (CMT). Refer to SOP DC-609: California Mastitis Test
5.6 Sample the milk as per SOP DC-607: Milk Sampling
5.7 Culture the milk as per SOP DC-608: Milk Culturing

5.8 Refer to the Milker Action Sheet for instructions on the milking method to be used.

5.8.1 Fresh cows and cows with severe infections are milked into a pail. Refer to
DC-613: Milking Pail Cows in Tie Stalls
DC-614: Milking Pail Cows in Box Stalls

5.8.2 All other milk can be pumped into the Bulk tank (see Item 5.13).

5.9 Check that all the quarters have emptied properly when the milker retracts.

5.9.1 If a quarter is still hard – Strip the quarter to check that it is empty.

5.9.2 If the quarter is not empty – Reattach the milker on the quarter (s) that are not empty.

5.10 Record any hard and/or swollen quarters in the Treatment Log.

5.11 Take the cow’s temperature

5.12 Infections are treated in accordance to the instructions prescribed by the Lead Technician or Dairy Herd Supervisor.

5.12.1 SEVERE Infections (e.g. watery, a lot of clots, creamy):

5.12.1.1 Do not milk the cow into the bulk tank.

5.12.1.2 Milk into a pail and dump (see related sop DC-613 Milking Pail Cows in Tie Stalls, DC-614: Milking Pail Cows in Box Stalls).

5.12.1.3 Identify the cow with RED leg bands and ANTIBIOTIC sign as per the Leg Band Chart.

5.12.1.4 Record finding on the Milker Action sheet as a ANTIBIOTIC cow.

5.12.1.5 DO NOT reuse the milker on any other cow.

5.12.2 MILD infections (e.g. a few clots):

5.12.2.1 Identify the cow with YELLOW leg bands and a MILK LAST as per the Leg Band Chart.

5.12.2.2 Record the finding on the Milker Action sheet as a YELLOW BAND cow.

5.12.2.3 Do not use the contaminated milker on any other cow unless it has been disinfected.

5.13 Report findings to the lead Technician or Dairy Herd Supervisor immediately after milking and consult on the treatment plan.

6. Treatment prescribed will depend on the infection severity, presence of fever and of the Milk Culture results.

7. Refer to SOP Mastitis Treatment.

SOP REVISION HISTORY

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