

**MASTITIS: MONITORING AND DETECTION****1. PURPOSE**

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

**2. RESPONSIBILITY**

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- 2.1 Trained and qualified personnel
- 2.2 Veterinarian

**3. GENERAL**

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

**4. MATERIAL**

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- 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**

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- 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. Notify the Lead Technician.
  - 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 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. Notify the Lead Technician
- 5.11 Take the cow's temperature.
- 5.12 Infections are treated as prescribed by the veterinarian.
  - 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 [DC-A-4D: Leg Band Color Legend](#).
    - 5.12.1.4 Record finding on the Milker Action Sheet list as an ANTIBIOTIC cow.
    - 5.12.1.5 DO NOT reuse the milker on any other cow during that milking.
  - 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 [DC-A-4D: Leg Band Color Legend](#).
    - 5.12.2.2 Record the finding on the Milker Action sheet as a YELLOW BAND cow.
    - 5.12.2.3 Milk in a pail if discarding the milk.
    - 5.12.2.4 Do not use the contaminated milker on any other cow unless it has been disinfected.
- 5.13 Report findings to the Technician immediately after milking and consult on the treatment plan.
- 5.14 Treatment prescribed by the veterinarian will depend on the infection severity, presence of fever, and of the Milk Culture results.

## Document Status and Revision History

Date	Status
8-Mar-2018	(New) Version 01: Mac Campus FACC approved
11-Sept-2020	Version 02: 5.12.1.3: updated reference to Leg band Color Chart in Appendix 5.12.2.1: updated reference to Leg band Color Chart in Appendix
20-Jul-2023	Version 03: Macdonald FACC approved