1. PURPOSE

To describe the teat removal procedure performed on calves. Teat removal is performed after the disbudding or dehorning procedures to avoid repeat anesthesia.

2. RESPONSIBILITY

2.1 Trained and qualified personnel.
2.2 Veterinarian

3. MATERIALS

3.1 Sharp surgical scissors or large scalpel blade
3.2 Alcohol towelette
3.3 Aluspray®

4. GENERAL

4.1 Appropriate standards of cleanliness and hygiene must always be observed: hands, the calf's environment and the dehorning instruments.
4.2 Never leave a sedated or anesthetized animal unattended.
4.3 Removal of extra teats eliminates a possible site of infection, since any unused cavity is ideal for bacterial growth and may interfere with the function of milking machines.

5. PROCEDURE

5.1 Immediately after dehorning or disbudding (refer to SOPs DC-308: Dehorning), lift the calf's hind leg that is exposed to identify any extra teats. If in doubt, consult with the Technician or Veterinarian.
5.2 If an extra teat is observed pre- or post-dehorning/disbudding, inform the veterinarian.
5.3 Carefully inspect the mammary area for any extra teats. (See Figures 4a and b).
5.4 After you identify it, roll the teat between your fingers to be sure again; supernumerary teats feel firmer and have very little or no teat cistern.
5.5 Clean and disinfect surgical instrument with alcohol towelette or use a sterile surgical blade.
5.6 Using sharp scissors cut the teat at the base.
5.7 Spray the area with Aluspray.
5.8 Record the dehorning procedure, and teat removal, extra teats that required removal by veterinarian, and all associated medications/quantities administered, in the treatment logbook.

5.9 Calves must be regularly monitored until they have regained full consciousness. (Stable on their feet).

5.10 Dispose of needles in the "sharps container" and syringes in the bio-box.

5.11 Clean and disinfect all necessary tools and return all medication and instruments to their proper location in the pharmacy.

5.12 Ensure that the personnel on the next shift have been informed of the procedure.

5.13 Regularly monitor the animal for 1-2 weeks following the procedure for a decrease in appetite, bleeding and infections of their wounds that require treatment.

5.14 Report any abnormalities to the Technician/ Herd Manager.

5.15 Consult with Veterinarian for any complications.

**IMPORTANT**
Be sure to remove only extra teats. Removal of a normal teat by mistake would be harmful to the animal.

6. REFERENCES

### Document Status and Revision History

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>DATE</th>
<th>STATUS</th>
</tr>
</thead>
</table>
| 23-06-01   | VERSION 02:  
5.1 added: Immediately after dehorning or disbudding (refer to SOPs 308: Dehorning and 309: Disbudding), |
| 20-Jul-2023| VERSION 03: (Separated from Original SOP: 308 Dehorning and Teat Removal) approved MAC FACC |