1. PURPOSE

To terminate lactation and start the dry period.

2. RESPONSIBILITY

All trained and qualified personnel.

3. MATERIAL

3.1 Teat dip
3.2 A box of rubber gloves
3.3 Stripping cup
3.4 California Mastitis Test® (CMT) : Diluted solution and paddle
3.5 Alcohol wipes
3.6 Antibiotic Intramammary Infusion for Dry Cows (e.g., Novodry Plus® or Cefa-Dri)
3.7 Uddergold Dry®
3.8 Clean, empty creamer cup
3.9 Non-Antibiotic Intramammary Teat sealant (e.g., Orbeseal® or Lock Out)
3.10 Top Vac (E. coli and S. aureus bacterin)
3.11 20g 1½” needle
3.12 2cc syringe
3.13 Halter
3.14 Livestock crayon
3.15 DRY card
3.16 Lactanet SCC (Somatic Cell Count) Report
3.17 Lactanet Udder Health Report

4. PROCEDURES

4.1 The Technician or Herd Manager will determine when a cow is due to be dried off and if antibiotic infusion will be used.

4.1.1 The Lactanet SCC report and Udder Health reports, as well as the environment in which the cow will be housed during her dry-off period will determine if a cow is a candidate for selective dry cow therapy.

4.2 Reduce milk production:

4.2.1.1 Feed cows a shovel of Group 2 (G2) ration with minerals and first cut hay and place a “Shovel full of G2 + Minerals and Hay Only” feed instruction card above her.

4.2.1.2 Milk production is <15L:

- place a “Milk AM only” card on the name card.
- Add the milking instructions sheet to the milk cart sheet.
- Milk cow in the morning only.

4.2.1.3 Milk production drops to <10-15 L/d (higher-producing breeds, e.g., Holsteins) or <10 L/d (lower-producing breeds, e.g., Jerseys) for 3 consecutive days:

- Discontinue milking and Dry Off as per Section 4.3
4.3 DRYOFF PROCEDURE:

4.3.1 Dry off IMMEDIATELY after milking and before she has the chance to lie down.

4.3.2 Ensure the cow is emptied of any milk before starting.

4.3.3 Check the Observation Sheet on the milk cart to see if she had shown signs of clinical mastitis in recent milking.

4.3.4 For any suspected cases of infection, perform a California Mastitis Test ®.
   - Positive quarters:
   - Consult with the Technician for corrective action.
   - Treatment plan will depend on the severity of the infection. (2 tubes of antibiotic intramammary Infusion for dry cows).

4.3.5 All quarters that have been tested negative are treated with 1 tube of Intra mammary infusion.

4.3.6 Attach the cow’s tail tie to an overhead bar so it does not interfere with your work.

4.3.7 Wearing clean gloves, strip out each quarter until the udder is empty.

4.3.8 Change your gloves.

4.3.9 Starting with the teat furthest away, thoroughly clean the teat end and surrounding area with an alcohol swab, moving to clean areas of the swab.

4.3.10 Carefully remove the cap from the antibiotic intramammary infusion nozzle, ensuring it doesn’t come into contact with anything.

4.3.11 Without touching the teat end with your gloves, insert only the tip of the nozzle (¼ of the way) into the teat.

4.3.12 Once the tube has been emptied, leave it in the teat and gently squeeze the infusion up the teat canal with your free hand.

**IMPORTANT**

- Never push the nozzle all the way into the teat because you risk damaging the teat canal if the cow moves a lot.

4.3.13 Proceed with the other quarters, using a new alcohol swab before inserting the infusion to each teat, finishing with the teat closest to you.

4.3.14 Massage the udder especially at the base, close to the teat.

4.3.15 Change your gloves again.

4.3.16 Starting with the teat furthest away, thoroughly clean the teat end and surrounding area with an alcohol swab, moving to clean areas of the swab.

4.3.17 Carefully remove the cap from the teat sealant nozzle, making sure it doesn’t come into contact with anything.

4.3.18 Without touching the teat end with your gloves, infuse 1 tube of sealant by inserting only the tip of nozzle (¼ of the way) into the teat.

**IMPORTANT**

- Never push the nozzle all the way into the teat because you risk damaging the teat canal if the cow moves a lot.
- Never push the sealant up into the canal. It is meant to plug the teat end only.

4.3.19 Wearing the same gloves, fill ¾ of the plastic cup with the Udder Gold sealant.
4.3.20 Dip the teats, covering as high up the teat as you can get. Just covering the end is not sufficient.
4.3.21 Using a livestock crayon, write “DRY” on both sides of the rump in large letters and a large “X” on both hind legs.
4.3.22 Place a “DRY” card label above the cow and for tie-stall cows, and for cows in tie-stalls, attach an orange leg band.
4.3.23 Detach the cow's tail.
4.3.24 Using a halter, restrain the cow’s head very securely.
4.3.25 Administer 2cc Top Vac intramuscularly in the neck. (Refer to SOP DC-701: Substance Administration).
4.3.26 Complete out the “Tarissement” section of the log sheet and record all treatments. (vaccinations and CMT results, even if all 4 quarters were negative). Be sure to indicate if more than 1 tube of intramammary infusion was necessary for any of the quarters)

4.4 Record the TopVac administration in the Dry Cow Vaccination log in the blue binder in the dairy office and highlight any cows that were not dried off with antibiotics with a red star next to their name and number.
4.5 Return all materials to their designated places in the refrigerator, cupboard, or shelves.
4.6 Put needles in the SHARPS container and dispose of the empty infusion and sealant tubes in the BIO WASTE box.
4.7 If used, Wash the stripping cup and CMT paddle in hot soapy water, dry, and store.

Document Status and Revision History

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