

## CELLCHECK TIP OF THE MONTH

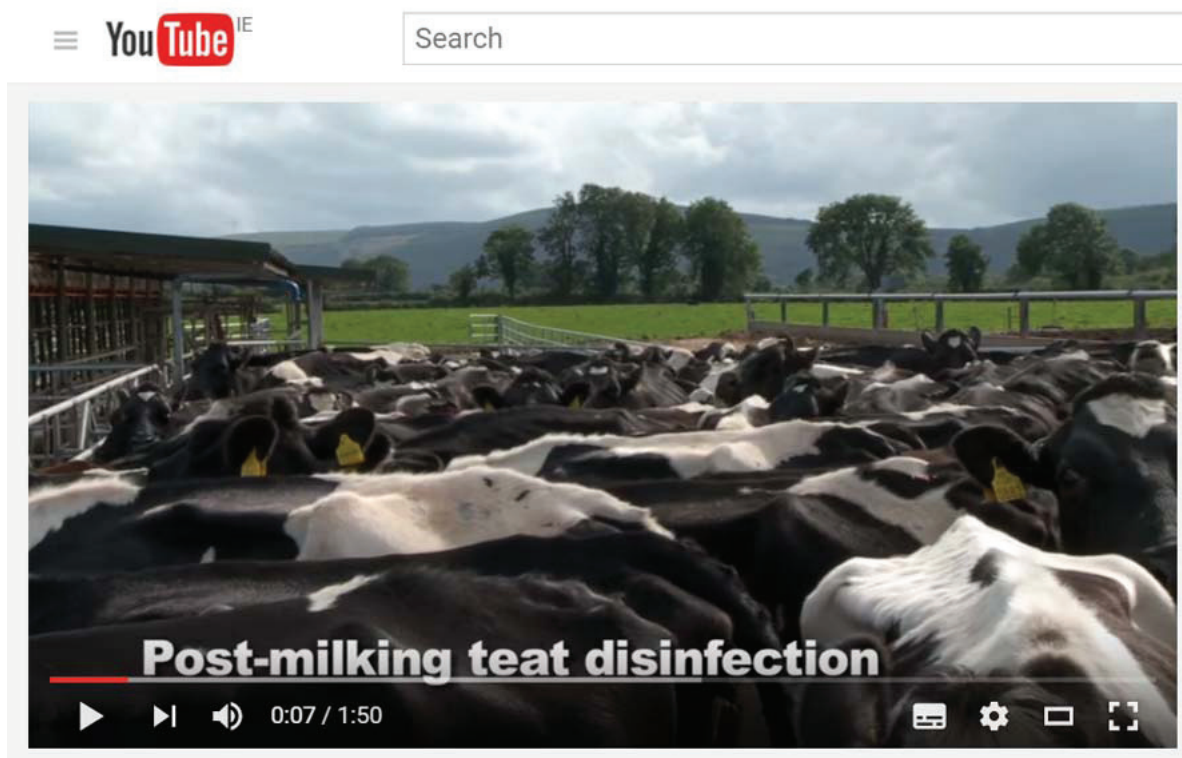


### Teat disinfection-don't cut it out!

**AFTER** a long, busy spring you may be tempted to skip some of the 'routine' jobs that take a bit of time. Some people also consider cutting out some of these practices in order to save money. But very often, this cost 'cutting' is not cost 'saving' in the long run. Post-milking teat disinfection is a perfect example. Good teat disinfection after milking reduces new mastitis infections by 50%. It does this by killing the bacteria that are left behind after milking, and by maintaining the teat skin in good condition. By not teat disinfecting, you will save some money in the short term on product, but very quickly it will lead to an increase in the number of new mastitis infections. Not all of these new infections will be obvious, clinical ones; many will be subclinical infections, which only present as a high SCC, but still have a significant effect on the cow's production and are a continued source of infection for other cows.



Mastitis happens when bacteria get into the quarter through an open teat end. These bacteria are everywhere in the cow's environment, both indoors and at grass. Cows with chronically infected quarters can also spread mastitis bacteria to other cows. So just because cows are outside, they're still being exposed to bacteria that could cause mastitis.



<https://youtu.be/1-4kuE3Y4wQ>