

CELLCHECK TIP OF THE MONTH

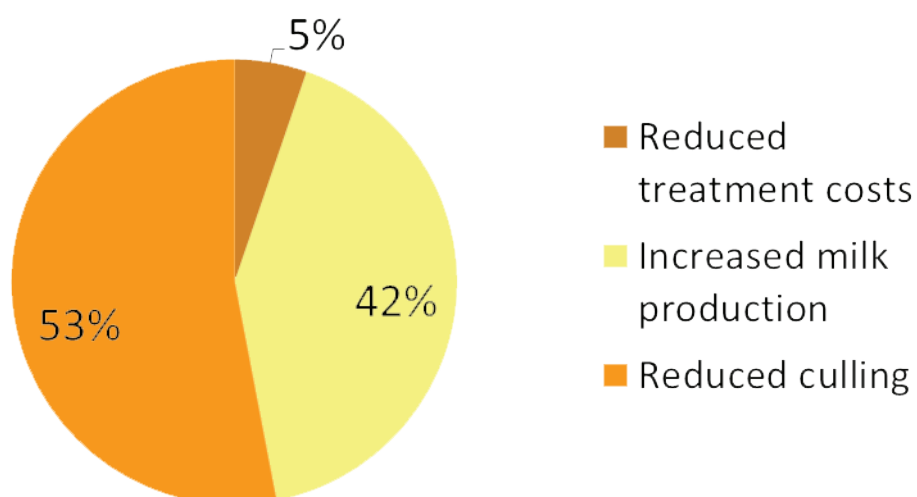


Mastitis Control Makes Cents!

EVERY extra cent counts when producing milk in a time of low prices. Reducing the incidence of mastitis on your herd, both clinical cases and high somatic cell count (SCC) is a guaranteed way to generate more profit for you. And you might be surprised how much extra profit!

The CostCheck interactive calculator has been developed, using robust economic research from Teagasc, to help you calculate how much extra profit you could earn with a lower herd SCC. You use your own farm data, as well as current milk price, cull cow price, treatment costs etc. to estimate the impact mastitis is currently having on your farm profit. You can then set a target reduction in the incidence of mastitis, and clearly see the additional profit to be gained from achieving this target.

For example, even at a milk price of 22 c/L and without a bonus for low SCC, a 100 cow herd with an annual average SCC of 150,000 cells/mL is generating an extra €7,087 in profit, compared to having an average SCC of 250,000 cells/mL. In this example, the extra profit comes from the following areas:



When calculating the true cost of mastitis, it is easy to quantify the obvious costs but the hidden ones have to be considered too. Use the CostCheck calculator to see how much extra profit could be made on your farm. This tool can be downloaded from the Animal Health Ireland website (www.animalhealthireland.ie) or the Teagasc website (www.teagasc.ie)

For practical information on reducing SCC to deliver extra farm profit, see CellCheck Farm Guidelines for Mastitis Control

