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Records to keep on clinical cases of mastitis

Keep a temporary record of all current clinical cases of mastitis. The record should be clear and easy to see and located in the milking parlour for quick reference during milking. A whiteboard, for example, displays information about cows for special handling (such as withholding milk).

It is also essential to keep permanent records of clinical mastitis cases. This record should include information about the cow and the drug used. This record allows you:

- To make better decisions for individual cows at drying-off and culling times.
- To assess numbers of cases and responses to treatment for the whole herd. This is an important part of monitoring udder health and mastitis control.

ICBF has a section for recording details of mastitis cases in its database. This means it is possible to permanently record details of clinical cases and treatments, and reports can be generated which combine this with individual cow SCC data. Further information is available from ICBF (phone 1850 600 900; www.icbf.com).

Use the CellCheck recording chart in the milking parlour, and/or the ICBF CellCheck mastitis record page to record the following for each case

- Cow ID.
- Date.
- Quarter (or quarters) affected.
- Treatment (drug used).
- Number of tubes given (mark a stroke for each as given e.g. III).
- Comment (e.g. severity/sample taken (yes or no)).



Mastitis Recording Chart

Cow ID	Date	Quarter Affected	Drug Treatment	Num of Tubes	Comments
E.G. 93	19/05/11	LB	Drug xyz	III	Clots - Cow sick & back in milk

Record these details on-farm when you first detect a case of clinical mastitis

If you are milk recording, record cases and details regularly on the ICBF system to help monitor and analyse udder health on your farm