



westpoint veterinary group

Dawes Farm, Bognor Road, Warnham, West Sussex RH12 3SH
Telephone: 01306 628086 Fax: 01306 628080

DAIRY CO MASTITIS CONTROL PLAN

As we are all well aware the national incidence of mastitis is constantly rising with a recent survey estimating the national average between 47 and 65 cases per 100 cows per year; with 25% of farms averaging over 100 cases per 100 cows per year. This led Dairy Co to formulating the Mastitis control Plan in conjunction with Nottingham University and Quality Milk Management Services. Dairy Co are aiming to have enrolled 750 farms to participate in the plan over the next 3 years with over 100 vets being trained to carry out the plans.

The Mastitis Control Plan involves a farm visit to complete a questionnaire then a parlour inspection whilst milking. We also collect 18 months of mastitis records and carry out bulk tank bacteriology as well as bacteriology on individual cases of mastitis. The aim of this is to identify which pathogens are causing the majority of the new clinical cases and where the cows are being exposed to these pathogens. A farm plan is then generated which will consist of a list of "musts", "shoulds" and "coulds". Once the changes are implemented the effects are then closely monitored and reviewed as necessary. During the initial tests of the plan they found an overall 22% reduction in mastitis and in the farms that carried out over 66% of the recommendation a drop of 35% in cases of mastitis.

In the usual Westpoint spirit we felt that it was important to be part of the initiative and would complement the extensive mastitis advisory services already undertaken by the vets and backed up by the expertise and knowledge of Rob and Keith. If you would like to find out more or be part of the Mastitis Control Plan then please contact myself for a chat.

Kind regards

Phil