

When to use Rapid Mastitis Test (RMT)

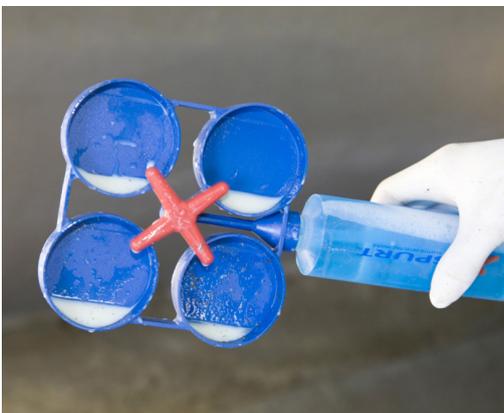
Use the rapid mastitis test (RMT) to check if cows have clinical or subclinical (high somatic cell count (SCC)) mastitis in any quarter. If you have any questions, ask your vet.



Step 1: Direct 2-3 squirts of foremilk from each quarter into the appropriate section on the paddle.



Step 2: Look at the milk against the blue background for gross changes in the milk.



Step 3: Tilt the paddle to a 45 degree angle and pour off excess milk down to line in bottom of paddle; this will leave equal amounts in each tray.



Step 4: Add equal parts of RMT reagent to milk (squeeze) and mix by swirling or rocking the paddle for 10-15 seconds.



Step 5: While swirling, watch for changes in the solution in the paddle.

- Milk from normal quarters shows no change (negative).
- A positive reaction from high somatic cell count (SCC) forms a thick "slime"/ "egg".
- The higher the SCC, the thicker the slime.



Step 6: Tip milk out of paddle and wash in a bucket of water to remove remaining residues before testing next cow.

Step 7: If positive, mark the cow with spray paint identifying the positive quarter to monitor.

