

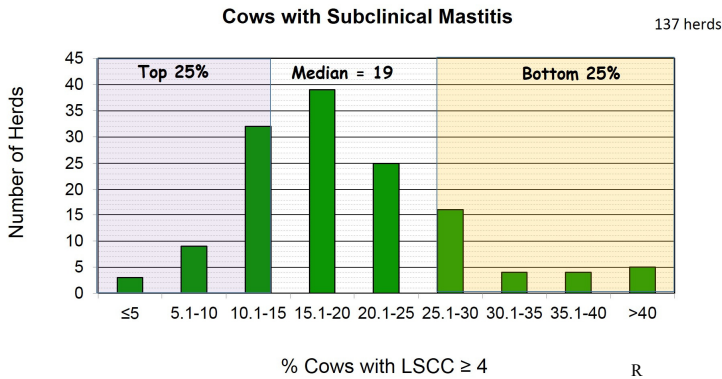


From the desk of Dr. Michelle Borek-Stine
November 1st, 2015

Milk Quality in a Few Minutes:

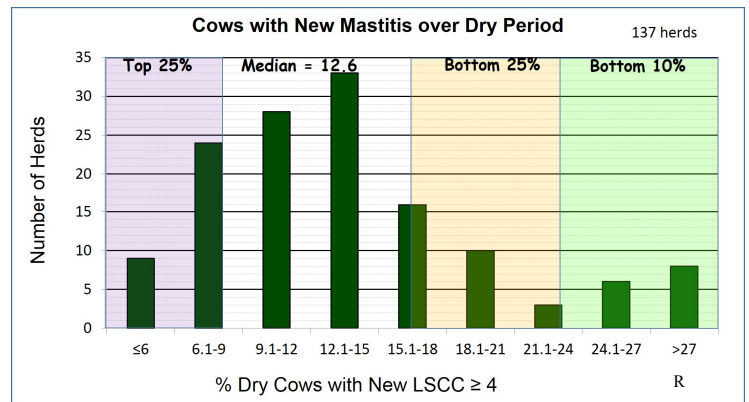
This year we are participating in a multi-state mastitis and milk quality research project with the USDA and MSU. Some of you are enrolled and actively participating in the study. We are all in learning mode trying achieve maximum performance out of the animals in your herd. There are many aspects of the study including records analysis, parlor evaluations using a tool called Vadia, and on farm education.

The following graph is taken from DHIA test results in 2015 from Michigan herds as provided by this study. Where is your herd now? Where do you want to be?



Note: if your herd is at 300,000 Bulk Tank Somatic Cell, 30% of your cows are losing 5lbs of milk EVERY day.

Bulk Tank SCC	% of Herd Infected
200,000	20%
300,000	30%
400,000	40%



Using tools such as DHIA monthly testing, or at least 2 months in a row, will get you the information you need to determine what is your new infection rate ^R, what is your cure rate ^R, how many are chronically infected and much more. Check out www.dairyalliance.com for more up to date info. Talk with your veterinarian about areas of opportunity in your herd. The rent is the same, get the most out of your tenants!

Remember when a cow's somatic cell count is above 100,000, she begins losing milk production. How much can you afford to lose?

SCC (individual cow)	Loss of production
200,000	3%
400,000	5%
800,000	8%
1,600,000	10%

Now if your bulk tank begins to increase, we can determine the number of infected cows on your herd. Remember infected cows are possible sources for further contamination and spread of mastitis.

References: Kirkpatrick, M. 2015. Somatic Cell Counts at First Test: More than a Number. 54th Ann. Proc. Natl. Mastitis Council, Memphis, TN. Pp. 53-56

Herdsman & Calf Crew Meetings!

Meetings have started again for fall of 2015 and winter 2016.

Herdsman 1st Wednesday of each month
Calf Personnel 3rd Wednesday of each month

November 4th—Calving Part 2, Manipulations and Corrections—this will be hands on!

November 18th—Winterizing your calf operation—preparations and preventatives.
If possible please RSVP to Carrie at carriea@thumbvets.com or 810-376-2425