



The
**Co-operative
Difference**



Teat Spray Fact Sheet

Regular testing of milk has identified that some residues from teat sprays can be found in milk if the concentration of the teat spray, or the volume applied to teats, is not actively managed.

At the same time, we recognise that teat spraying after milking with an approved teat sanitiser reduces the risk of new mastitis cases by around 50%.

Studies have shown:

- A consistent reduction of mastitis bacteria on teats when using teat sprays with iodine levels of 2,000 parts/million [0.2%] or chlorhexidine levels of 3,500 parts/million [0.35%].
- Concentrations below this will likely be much less effective at killing bacteria.

Using a sufficient amount of emollient in teat spray helps to reduce weather-related teat damage, which is another important aspect of mastitis prevention.





Teat spray recommendations

1. Make up teat spray concentration according to the products label.
2. Add extra emollient during times of harsh weather conditions to maintain teat condition
3. Apply 15 to 20mls per cow per milking of the mixed product
4. Adjust your automatic spray equipment to optimise teat spray application
5. Ensure farm staff are trained in correct mixing and application procedures

Do not use a teat spray outside its Agricultural Compounds & Veterinary Medicines (ACVM) label concentrations.

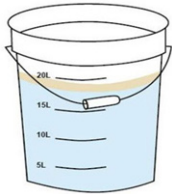
These are general recommendations. Users should consult with their teat spray provider or milk quality consultant to confirm that the dilution and application rates are suitable for controlling mastitis, maintaining teat health and minimising the risk to milk quality.

Examples of iodine teat spray mixes

Standard Mix

No emollient added. Teats in good condition. Risk of damage low.

1:9 inc. 3-5% emollient

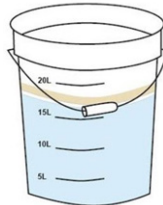


20L Teat spray =
18L water + 2L concentrate

Low emollient mix Standard + Low emollient

Extra emollient added. Teats in moderate condition. Risk of teat damage moderate.

1:9 inc. 8-10% emollient

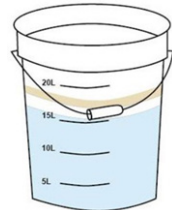


20L Teat spray = 17L water + 2L
concentrate + 1L emollient

High emollient mix Standard + High emollient

More emollient added. Teats in poor condition. Risk of teat damage high.

1:9 inc. 13-15% emollient



20L Teat spray = 16L water + 2L
concentrate + 2L emollient

Most teat spray concentrates already contain some emollient but often this is not enough to keep teat condition at an optimum with New Zealand weather conditions.

1:9 means: 1 part concentrate to 9 parts water.

It is the same as: 1 in 10 or 10% by volume.

When adding extra emollient, replace some of the water volume with emollient.

Note that emollient levels above 20% may block spray nozzles.



How much to apply?

Apply **15 to 20ml** to each cow at every milking.

This applies to hand-held wands or pump dispensers. Automatic teat sprays may deliver more spray per cow, up to 30 mls per cow, to achieve good teat coverage.

Use this formula to work out how much you are delivering through your spray system:

Step 1: Mix up a fresh batch of teatspray and use until empty. Note how many milkings it takes to use it up

Step 2: Total volume made up (litres) / number of milkings it takes to use it up = litres used per milking

Step 3: Litres used per milking/number of cows milked × 1000 = mls per cow

For example:

Step 1: 20 litres took 5 milkings to use up

Step 2: 20 litres/5 milkings = 4 litres/milking

Step 3: 4 litres/milking/300 cows = 0.0133 litres per cow × 1000 = 13.3 mls per cow

Note:

- Only use teat sanitisers approved by MPI at approved concentrations
- Always use dedicated measuring jugs and containers
- Make up using potable or compliant water. Very hard water can affect teat sprays

Additional Resources

You can contact your Regional Food Safety and Assurance Manager on 0800 65 65 68.