



## Mastitis control in and after wet conditions

# Countdown resource pack

- › Mastitis control in wet conditions – High cell counts and clinical cases won't fix themselves!
- › Clinical cases – reducing the headache
- › High cell count cows – what are the options?
- › Cow parking and mastitis risk
- › Drying-off – the key to a better run next lactation
- › Mastitis Focus intro page and example report
- › Everything you do to reduce the number of bacteria at the teat end and ensure teats are supple and healthy will help prevent clean cows from becoming infected. Additional protection against new infections means healthier cows, better milk quality in the months to come and peace of mind.

### Use Countdown guidelines around:

- › Having teats clean and dry before cups go on
- › Keeping teats clean for at least an hour after cows leave the shed
- › Achieving excellent teat disinfection at cups off
- › Ensuring that milking machines are operating well

**Changes from normal routines are likely to be required for the very wet, muddy periods.**

### Triggers for action on mastitis control

- › Bulk Milk Cell counts have been above 250,000 or trending up from the levels expected

**OR**

- › There have been more than 2 clinical cases of mastitis per 100 cows in the past month

### Focus on the teat end

- › Keep teat ends healthy
- › Reduce the number of bacteria at the teat end

### The basic biology

- › New infections enter at the teat end. The risk of mastitis is higher during wet, muddy conditions because the teat skin surface and ends of teats may be less healthy, and there are more bacteria present.