MILKING AND MASTITIS MANAGEMENT FUNDAMENTALS

The fundamentals of animal handling, milking procedures and mastitis detection

Improving the efficiency of moving and milking cows makes everyone’s work more enjoyable.

Dairy Australia’s introductory on-farm training program, Milking and Mastitis Management (Fundamentals), is available to help new or less experienced staff develop their skills in animal handling, milking procedures and the detection of mastitis.

It includes five modules for an effective, low-stress milking:

• Bringing the cows into the dairy  
• Putting cups on  
• Taking cups off  
• Post-milking teat disinfection, and  
• Identification of mastitis.

The program consists of 1) online learning and 2) skills training in the yard or dairy with an on-farm coach.

Who can be an on-farm coach?

Anyone supervising or managing staff in the dairy can be an on-farm coach. The most important thing for an on-farm coach is that they are patient and willing to work with the participant to put their learnings into practice.

What does it involve for coaches?

On-farm coaches are required to support their staff through the training program, signing off as they demonstrate key competencies in each of the modules.

Coaches are provided with resources and checklists to guide them through the training. They will also have access to the online modules to familiarise themselves with what the participant is learning. Our extension team will be available if you have any queries along the way.

How long does it take?

The course is made up of five modules. It is recommended that one module is completed per day (5 days total). You can commence at any time that suits you.

Who is the program for?

The program is designed for new or less experienced milking staff and perfect to integrate in on-farm training and induction programs.

What does it involve for participants?

Participants will complete five short online modules on Dairy Australia’s Enlight learning platform. Following each module, participants will practise their skills in the dairy or the yard with the support of their on-farm coach. To complete the program participants will be required to demonstrate essential competencies and complete a short quiz.

Get started

This course is free and open to any dairy farming businesses and their staff. It is accessible on computer, tablet or smartphone.

Start by registering your interest with your local extension team who will be in touch with log-in details and course materials to help you get started.

Please note: registrations in the program are staggered so that our staff are readily available to provide support. Please give us some time to get back to you.

For more information contact your regional team or visit dairyaustralia.com.au