



Good machine-milking practices for prevention of mastitis

Need/issue: Clinical and subclinical mastitis

Aim: Guidelines aimed to prevent and control bacterial mastitis in sheep.

How to implement:

- Milking routine: clean environment, avoid stress and strip test the milk to detect any abnormalities.
- Post dipping: Disinfecting teats post milking prevents bacterial contamination and udder infections.
- Milking machine management and hygiene: check the water temperature in the pipeline.
- Environmental hygiene



Description:

- When mastitis outbreaks occur, it is important to isolate the infected animals as soon as possible.
- Culling is recommended for animals with chronic and/or antibiotic-resistance mastitis.
- Milking is a critical phase in dairy farms for the onset and spread of mastitis; hence, it is necessary to pay attention on milking hygiene, including a proper milking routine and the cleanliness of the milking parlour and machine.



Expected benefits:

- Standardized approach for mastitis control and eradication, which allows for promoting optimal well-being of animals and economic benefits.

Prerequisites and/or limits:

Recommendations for post dipping:

- Use the dilutions indicated on the manufacturer's instructions.
- Alternate the type of disinfectant to avoid the selection of resistant bacteria.
- Store the product in well-closed containers.
- Clean the dispensers after each milking or during, when necessary.
- Observe the expiry date indicated on the label.

Country: Italy

Dairy or/and meat sheep: Dairy sheep

Category of Animal (ewe, replacement, lamb):

Ewe

Topic:

- Health
- Nutrition
- Management

Level of solution:

- Knowledge
- Practical

Source of information:

[https://www.izs-sardegna.it/quaderni/Mastitis in small ruminant.pdf](https://www.izs-sardegna.it/quaderni/Mastitis%20in%20small%20ruminant.pdf)

