

## 12 Steps For Representative Sample

Taking milk recording samples is quite simple, but it is essential to follow each step carefully to ensure the quality of the sample and the accuracy of the results. This document is a simple step-by-step guide to the best sampling practices so your analysis results will give a clear picture of your herd.



### Step 01

Ensure that the lactometers are clean and calibrated.  
Install them leveled (especially in the front/back axis).

## Step 02

Do a complete milking.

## Step 03

Note the quantity of milk (kg). Do not take the foam into account.

## Step 04

Ensure that the sampling bottle contains a pill.

## Step 05

### Mix the milk properly:

- Milking systems with a removable tube or container:
  - Detach the tube or the container.
  - Transfer all the milk in a separate tube or container.
  - Repeat 3 times.
- Milking systems with fixed tubes:
  - Mix the milk thoroughly by bubbling it. Start slowly (especially if the milking was greater than 15 kg) then increase the air flow rate and mix for 1 second per kilogram of milk (at least 10 seconds).

## Step 06

Transfer an aliquot of milk to the bottle:

- If it's the first milking of a 24 hour sampling or a 3X program, fill the bottle half way between the bottom and the line.
- In all other cases fill to the line. Please leave the space between the line and the cap empty.

## Step 07

Cap the bottle and ensure it is properly closed.

## Step 08

Identify the bottle with a bar code.

## Step 09

Dissolve and disperse the pill as soon as possible after milking by inverting and shaking the bottle a couple of times.



## Step 10

Minimize transfer of milk residues between cows by ensuring that the lactometer tube or container is completely empty.

Note: Milk tends to stick to the walls of the tube or container. For removable tubes or containers the best way to ensure that they are empty is to invert them in a bucket.

## Step 11

Protect the sample against extreme temperatures (hot and cold).  
Refrigerate them as much as possible.

## Step 12

Ship the samples to the laboratory as soon as possible.

## Share



## WARNING

The pills present in the vials contain bronopol (antibacterial agent) and natamycin (antifungal agent). Keep out of the reach of children.

