



## KETOLAB MEASURES WHAT YOU CAN'T SEE



Your milk recording sample contains much more than just milk. It also includes a good deal of useful information that can help you to improve performance and reduce production costs.

KETOLAB measures the prevalence of ketosis using the cows' milk sample.

### What is KETOLAB?

KETOLAB measures B-hydroxybutyrate (BHB, the most predominant ketone body) in your milk recording samples.

Test results are included on your milk recording reports.

#### WHAT ARE KETONE BODIES?

When a cow uses her fat reserves as an energy source, ketone bodies are produced. In excess, their presence leads to the condition known as ketosis.

### Ketosis

Ketosis is a common disease in early lactation. On a monthly test, Canadian statistics show that 21-22%<sup>1</sup> of cows are affected by ketosis (prevalence). However, because ketosis cases last 5 to 7 days on average, it is safe to estimate that the actual prevalence in a herd could be double that, reaching approximately 45%<sup>2</sup> (incidence).

The costs of ketosis and its direct impacts such as milk loss, medication, reproductive issues, culling, and labour are estimated at \$165 per case, whereas the total costs including risks of developing other disorders (displaced abomasum and metritis) are evaluated at \$400 per case. For an average farm, this would therefore represent \$4,000<sup>3</sup>/year in direct costs and up to \$10,000<sup>4</sup> per year if overall impacts are considered<sup>5</sup>.

Ketosis is known to decrease reproductive performance, reduce milk production, and increase the risk of other metabolic diseases.

<sup>1</sup> Santschi et al., 2016 and Tatone et al., 2017 <sup>2</sup> Multiplying factor of 2.2; Oetzel, 2015 <sup>3</sup> \$165 X 40% of cows X 70 cows on average in a herd X 0.9 calvings per year = \$4,158 <sup>4</sup> \$400 X 40% of cows X 70 cows on average in a herd X 0.9 calvings per year = \$10,080 <sup>5</sup> McArt et al., 2015



### Prevention costs less!

KETOLAB is a management tool which allows you to monitor your herd's status and take the necessary steps to correct the situation.

Using your KETOLAB analysis, your advisor and veterinarian can help reduce the risk of ketosis through a revision of your herd practices.

### Transition Cow Index<sup>MD</sup> and KETOLAB: Even better together!

Do you already benefit from the Transition Cow Index? For just a few cents more per cow, KETOLAB is the perfect complement. For more information, contact your Lactanet technician or advisor.

### THE NUMBERS SPEAK FOR THEMSELVES! Cows with elevated BHB...

- Are open an extra 24 days **(154 vs 130)**
- Produce **2.4 kg** less milk on test day
- Are **27%** less likely to be pregnant at 150 DIM **(55% vs 70%)**
- Are **2x more** likely to be culled by 100 DIM **(28.8% vs 14.2%)**
- Are **1.4x more** likely to never calve again **(42.8% vs 30.3%)**



Our customer service is always there for you

## 1-800-266-5248

Lactanet can help you reduce production costs!