

Recommended protocol for the administration of an internal teat sealant for dairy cows



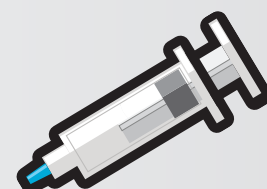
Réseau mammite
Mastitis Network

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This protocol is recommended as part of a dry-off procedure.

RECOMMENDATIONS:

1. Ensure the environment is clean. If needed, restrain the cow properly.
2. Prepare the necessary equipment: teat disinfectant, nitrile gloves, clean towels, alcohol swabs, antibiotic tubes (if needed), and internal teat sealant tubes.
3. Mark the cow visibly to identify that she is a dry cow.



TO ADMINISTER THE INTERNAL TEAT SEALANT:



Step 1

Wear nitrile gloves.



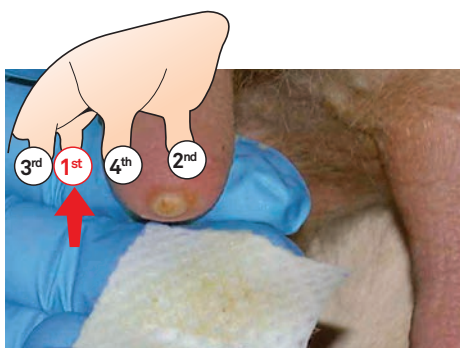
Step 2

Completely milk out the quarters.



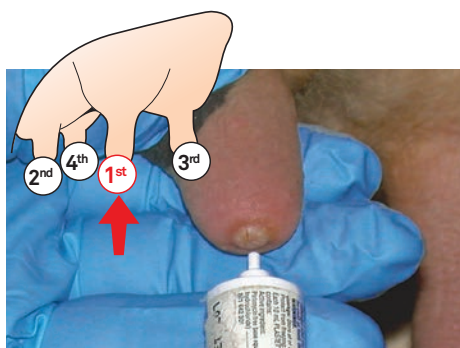
Step 3

Disinfect teats using a teat disinfectant approved by Health Canada. Allow 30 seconds of contact time to elapse. Wipe teats with a clean towel. Carefully wipe teat ends as you would when milking.



Step 4

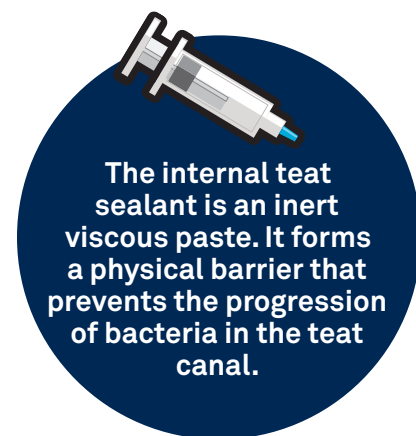
Disinfect the teat ends using an alcohol swab for each teat. Start with the teat furthest away from you and progress to the closest teat (follow the order as shown in the picture above).

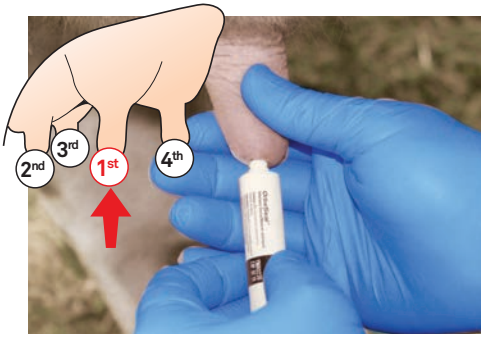


Step 5

If needed*, administer an approved intramammary antibiotic according to the directions on the label. Start with the teat nearest and finish with the furthest teat to avoid recontaminating the teat ends (follow the order as shown in the picture above).

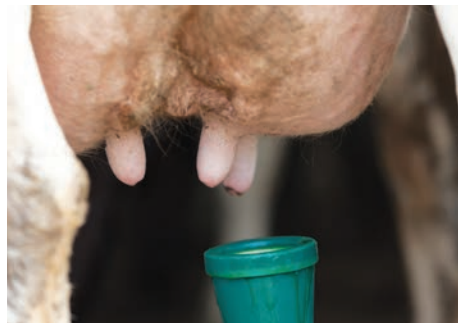
* See the Mastitis Network technical sheet on the administration of intramammary treatment in dairy cattle





Step 6

Slowly inject the sealant into the teat, starting with the teat nearest (as shown in the picture above) to avoid contaminating the teat ends. As long as it does not interfere with inserting the entire content of the syringe, compress the base of the teat during injecting the sealant to prevent it from migrating upwards into the cistern. **Do not massage the teat after injection.**



Step 7

Re-apply teat disinfectant, ensuring complete coverage.

USAGE TIPS:

- If the teat sealant tubes are cold, warm them in your pocket. Do not put the tubes in warm water.
- Use a full teat sealant syringe per teat.
- It is recommended to compress the base of the teat, so the sealant stays in the teat only.
- Do not massage the teats after injection of the internal teat sealant.

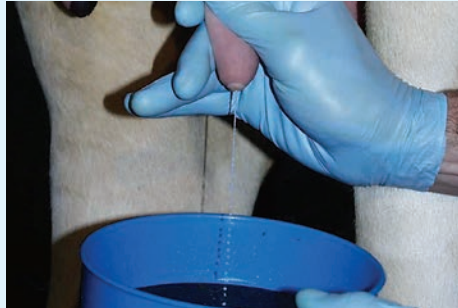
TO REMOVE THE INTERNAL TEAT SEALANT:



Step 1

After calving, remove the teat sealant manually by squeezing from the top to the bottom of the teat. Forestrip a minimum of 12 strips per teat.

Do not use the milking machine to remove the teat sealant.



Step 2

For the first week after calving, forestrip each quarter to verify whether sealant residues are still present.

Producers should always read and follow the directions on the teat sealant label for safe administration and removal. Alternatively, producers can follow written directions provided by their veterinarian.

MANAGING MILK AFTER CALVING

- Milk containing teat sealant residues must be safely discarded. Studies have shown that in 90% of cases, teat sealant residues are completely eliminated within 3 to 7 days after calving.
- Ingestion of milk with teat sealant residues by calves is safe and does not produce any adverse affects.
- Follow your provincial regulations regarding when, after calving, milk can be directed to the bulk tank for sale.



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This fact sheet was developed
in collaboration with Dairy
Farmers of Canada.

