

# Mastitis 9 – The Milking Machine

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Please circle one answer only e.g. **A**

How does the milking machine influence mastitis occurrence on a farm?

By physically transporting bacteria between quarters and between cows, and by causing teat skin and end damage, and reverse flow of milk

By increasing the risk of mastitis after milking

By opening the teat canal allowing more bacteria in

Increasing the spread of bacteria between cows in the cubicle shed

Even a properly running machine will increase mastitis risk; you just have to accept that

Is the milking machine important for mastitis occurrence on a farm?

Yes, it is the most important reason for mastitis on a farm

Yes, it can contribute to mastitis occurrence on a farm

Very rarely as milking machines don't go wrong

No, mastitis is caused only by poor weather

No, the milking machine will never contribute to mastitis

Does the milking machine transfer mastitis-causing bacteria?

No, mastitis-causing bacteria are transferred only by flies

No, mastitis doesn't spread during milking

Yes, it can transfer mastitis-causing bacteria between quarters and cows

Yes, but only between quarters

Yes, but only between cows

Are lesions on teats important for mastitis?

No, they are only important for animal welfare

Yes, they cause incomplete milking-out and serve as reservoirs for mastitis-causing bacteria

Only ones caused by cowpox

No but they give a poor impression to visitors

No, but they can spread to the milker

Which types of teat lesions are associated with the milking machine?

Milk fever, staggers, and a circling cow

Cuts and slices

Only teat chapping and eversion

Only hyperkeratosis, teat chapping and black spot

Eversion, hyperkeratosis, haemorrhagic blisters, teat chapping and blackspot

Why should rubberware be replaced before it perishes?

Government regulations.

Manufacturers say so and they need to keep in business.

Milking will be noisier if you don't

Perished rubber can get into the milk

Because perished rubberware is admitting extra air into the milking system.

Why should liners be replaced?

Because there is a need to keep the liners manufacturers in business

Because cracked and damaged liners are difficult to clean and cause damage to the teats.

Because manufacturers say so.

Because of Government regulations.

They don't need to be – old liners fit teats better

How can proper milking machine maintenance enhance farm profitability?

By shortening the milking time, although cows are not fully milked-out

By improving labour relations

By reducing labour costs

By allowing complete milking-out of the cows and decreasing the new mastitis occurrence

By keeping milking machine testers in business

How often should you do a quick check that the milking machine is working properly?

Never

Once a month is enough

Once a week is enough

The milking machine should be checked at each milking

Twice yearly visits by an expert are enough

Why does liner slip occur?

Sudden increase in the vacuum level

Sudden pulsation failure in one liner

Sudden decrease or loss of vacuum in one liner

It just happens with all liners

Strange-shaped teats