Ensuring effective teat disinfection

Why?

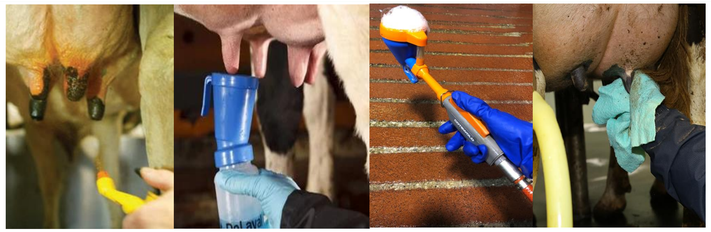
- Post-milking disinfectant will reduce mastitis by 50%
- Staphylococcus accounts for 49% of bacteria on teat skin
- Promote good skin condition

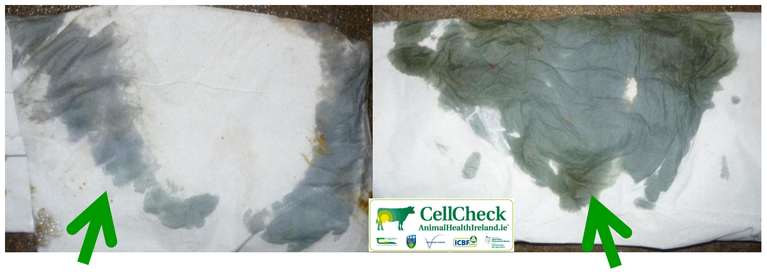
Guidelines for choosing products

- Ensure product is registered
- Observe expiry dates
- Follow label recommendations
- Avoid adding emollient
- RTU products may be more beneficial if water quality is an issue

Good Practice

- Always dry teats if pre-milking teat disinfection is used
  - Residues
- Ensure effective coverage of teats post-milking
  - 15 mL/cow (spraying)
  - 10 mL/cow (dipping)

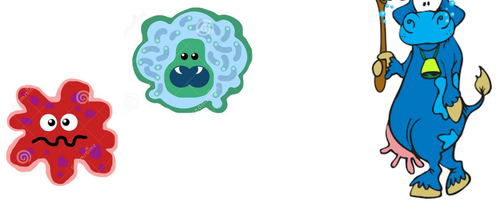




Poor coverage Good coverage

Teagasc Moorepark studies

- Evaluation of approx. 100 teat disinfectant products
  - Chlorhexidine or lactic acid & chlorhexidine combination most effective



Take home messages

- Teat disinfection will reduce mastitis by 50%
- Products containing chlorhexidine most effective
- Use products as recommended