

Implementation of selective dry cow therapy in Irish dairy herds

Milk Quality Workshop 2023

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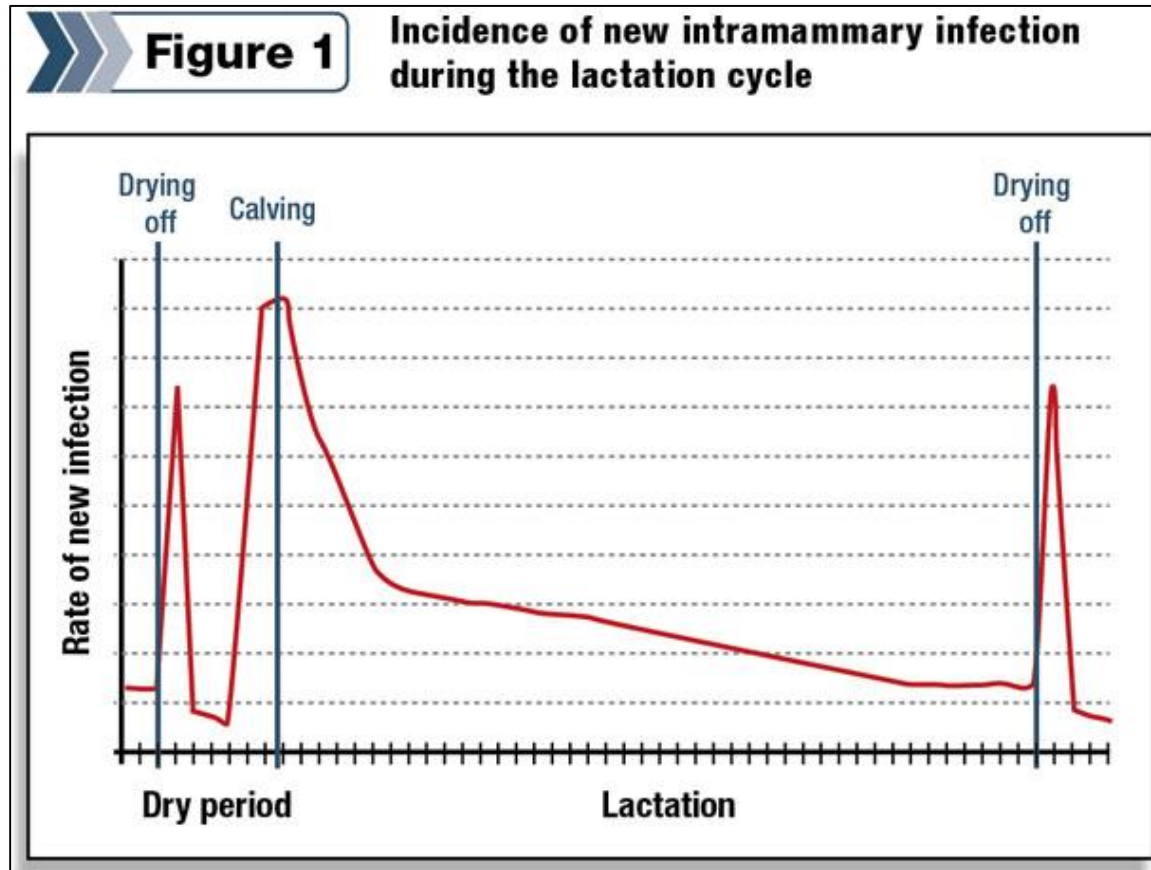
Dry cow therapy

REGULATION (EU) 2019/6 OF THE EUROPEAN PARLIAMENT AND OF THE COUNCIL
of 11 December 2018
on veterinary medicinal products and repealing Directive 2001/82/EC

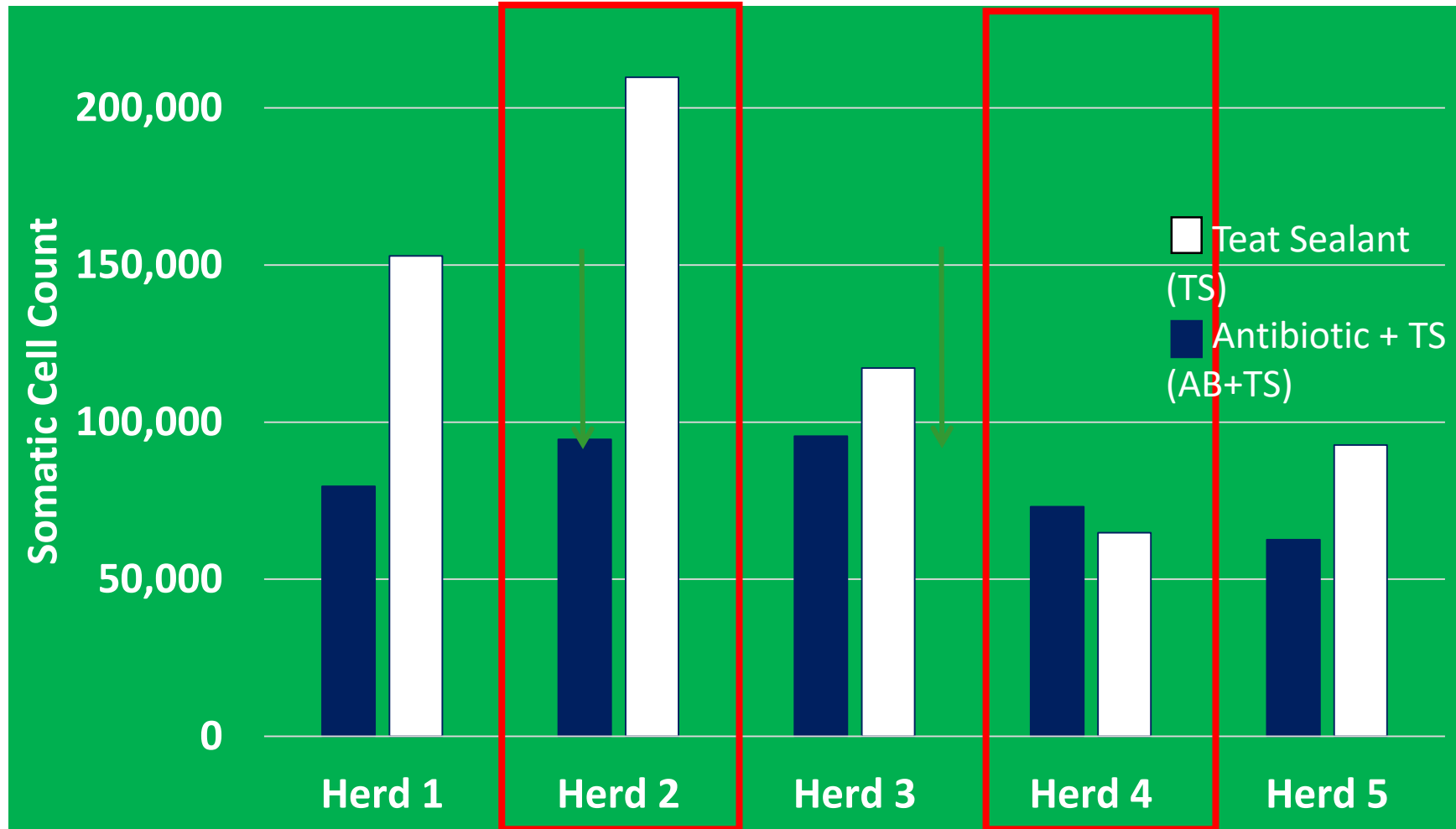


Selective dry cow therapy

Dry cow therapy



Impact of dry off treatment on SCC in 5 commercial herds



Low SCC
< 200,000
cells/ml

Teat sealant
alone
TS

Antibiotic + teat
sealant
AB+TS

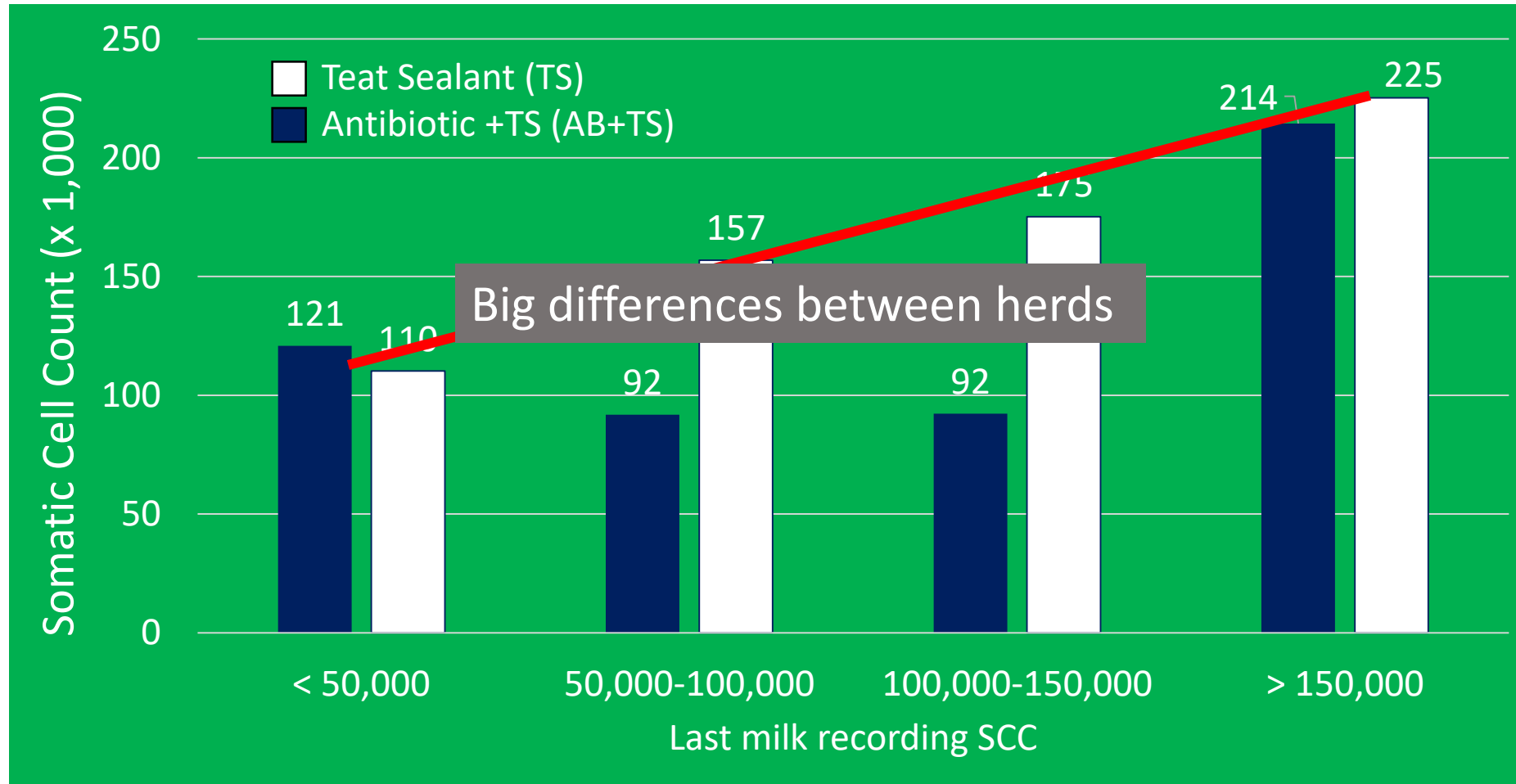
Herds practicing selective dry cow therapy

	Avg last SCC	% of cows treated
AB+TS	195,000	53%
TS	54,000	47%

AB+TS = Antibiotic + teat sealant

TS = Teat sealant

Factors associated with SCC



Factors associated with SCC

Lactation factors associated with low SCC :

- Use of CMT
- Mastitis records
- Strip cows milk

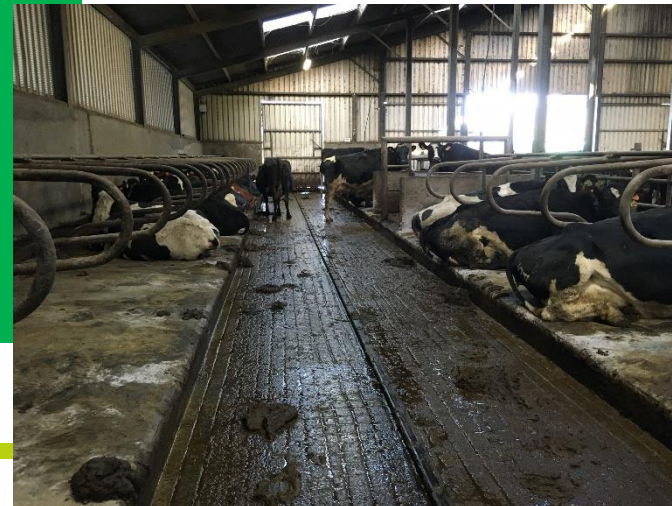


Source: 7 habits of highly successful milking routines

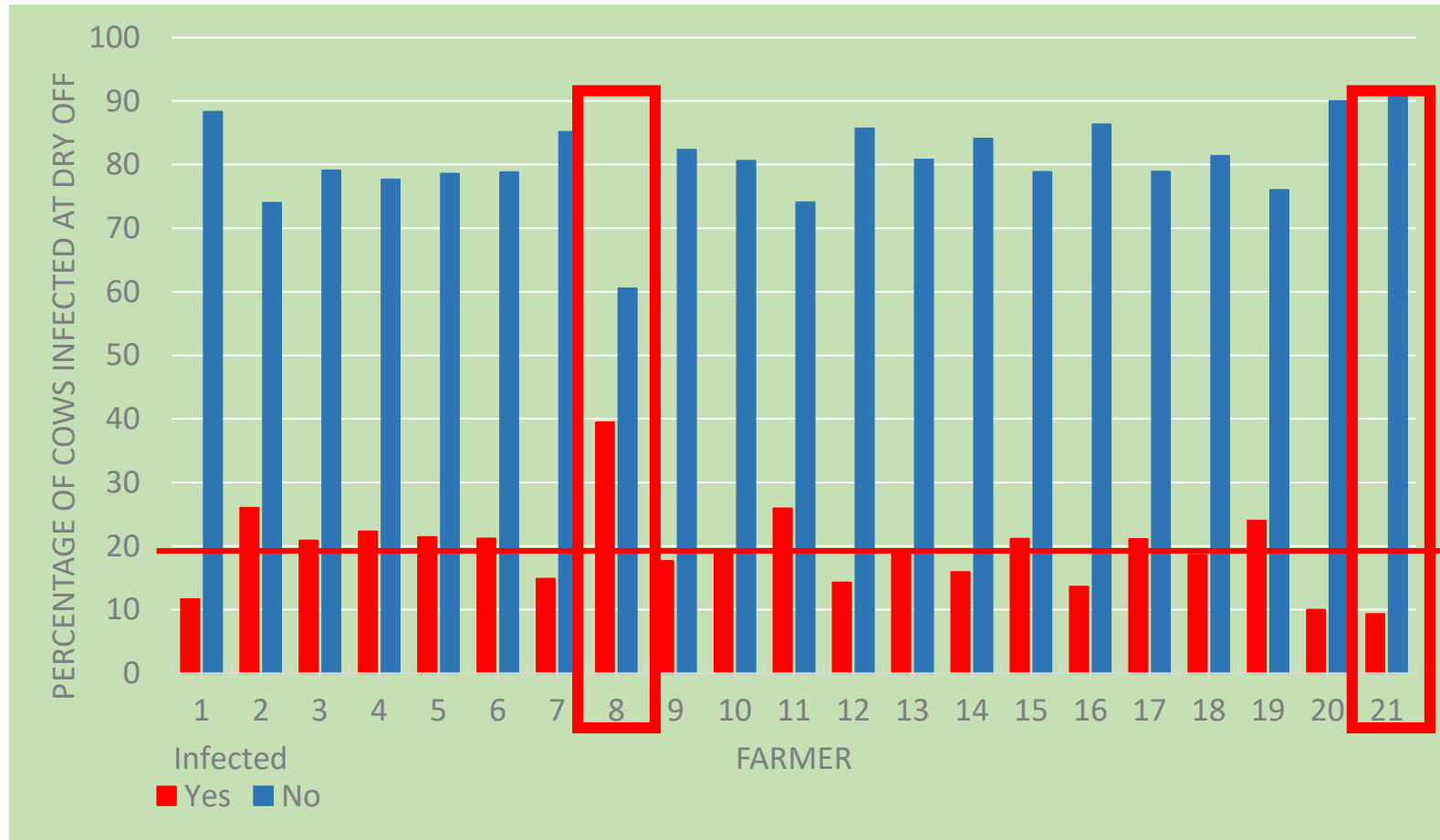
Factors associated with SCC

Dry period factors associated with low SCC:

- Cubicles per cow ($> 1 \rightarrow 31,000$ less SCC vs 1 or < 1)
- Frequency cleaning/disinfecting cubicles (twice per day $\rightarrow 38,800$ less SCC vs once)



Infection status in late lactation per farm

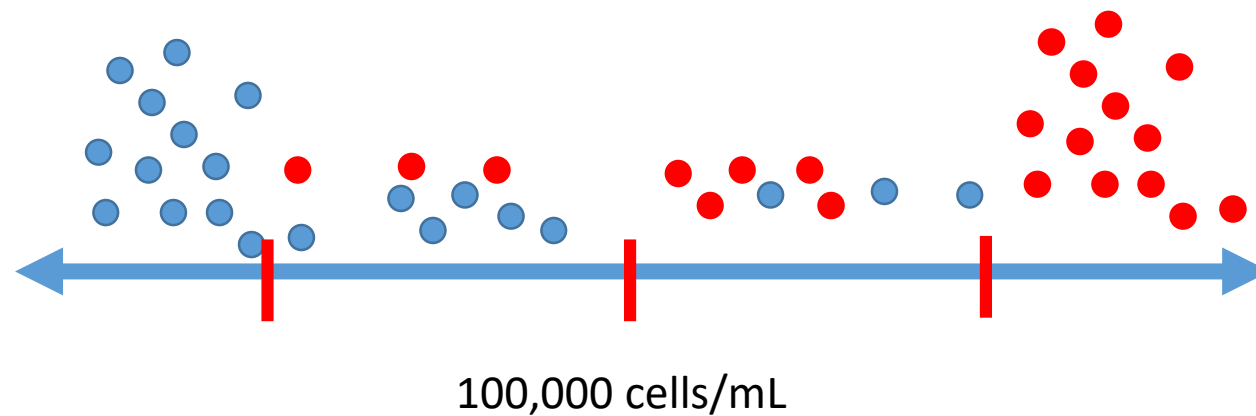


Infection detection in late lactation

- ~29% of heifers (1st lactation) had infections
- Last milk recording SCC (~30d before dry-off) → good predictor

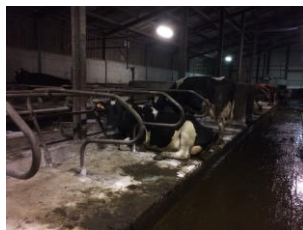
Group	Quarter samples	Optimal cut-point
Heifers	1,832	61,000
2+ lactations	6,609	101,000

Infection detection in late lactation



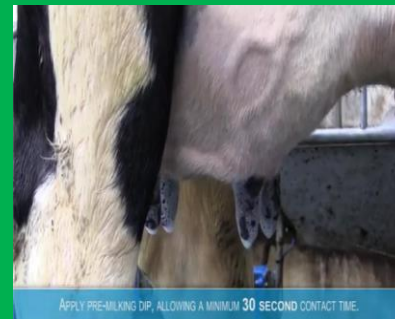
Considerations for use of selective dry cow therapy

- Cows to treat with teat seal alone → $<100,000$ cells/mL (lower for 1st lactation cows)
- Milk recording is key for mastitis control
- Heifers → special attention
- Housing: >1 cubicle/cow, clean twice/day
- In lactation: strip cows, use CMT and keep records



Considerations for use of selective dry cow therapy

- Deal with *S. aureus* infections:
 - Correctly apply post milking disinfection
 - Keep hands as clean and dry as possible during milking
 - Cull repeated high SCC cows
- Improve dry-off procedure



Source: cafretv

Thank You!