

Agricultural News

P. E. I. Department of Agriculture Facts About Mastitis

Mastitis or Garget is a disease which causes great economic losses among dairy cattle. Approximately one third of all milking cows have infected quarters during some or all of their milking period.

There are many predisposing causes. The most common is injury. Improper milking practices such as too much vacuum on milking machines, leaving machines on too long, and not preparing the udder for quick letdown, predispose to Mastitis.

In acute Mastitis the symptoms are generally a hot, swollen, or caked udder which is very painful to the touch. There is usually a pink discoloration due to congestion at the base of the teat which may darken in very acute cases to a red or purple, followed by gangrene.

In the symptoms of Chronic Mastitis the milk is usually abnormal, although there may be no noticeable inflammation of the quarter. There usually is thickening of the udder tissue but the quarter becomes reduced in size because of the drop in production.

Important Rules

The following six rules should be strictly adhered to in order to prevent losses by eradicating and controlling Mastitis:

1. Sanitation—Clean habits of milking and management. (a) The udder must be washed with an appropriate disinfectant before each milking.

(b) A separate cloth should be used for each cow and the disinfectant should be changed about every four cows.

(c) The person stripping should wash his hands after each cow is finished.

(d) All milking equipment must be kept clean.

(e) Teat cups should be disinfected after each cow is milked and between milkings.

(f) The cows should be kept on clean, dry bedding.

2. Bacteriological examination of the milk from each quarter of each cow should be done regularly (once a month if necessary). Suspicious cows should always be tested. All new replacements should be tested.

3. Segregation—Infected cows should be placed at the end of the milking line and milked last. Infectious chronic cases should be slaughtered.

4. All cases of Mastitis must be treated early and until the infection clears up. Injuries to the teat or udder should be treated.

5. Milking practices and management. (a) Milk as soon as possible after the udder is washed.

(b) The machine should never be left on too long.

(c) Wet milking should not be practiced.

(d) Good bedding should be provided to keep udder clean and protect them from injuries and cold.

6. Quarantine and Isolation. (a) Replacements must be isolated until the milk is certified free from infection.

(b) Cows showing abnormal discharge from the teats or udder should be isolated.

(c) Mastitis can be controlled. One of the most important parts of the Mastitis Control program is the treatment of infected animals.

In the majority of cases early diagnosis of infection, followed by prompt treatment results in a cure. The udder is exposed to many kinds of injuries and adverse conditions every day.

The testing and treating must be done on a regular program rather than a "hit and miss" basis. Bacteriological examination of the milk from each

quarter should be done, where possible, about ten days after treatment is to be certain that infection has cleared up.

Consult your district veterinarian for a satisfactory control program. It is also advisable to contact him as soon as any abnormal condition is noticed. By controlling Mastitis many thousands of dollars can be saved by dairymen annually, and the danger of spreading disease to humans will be greatly reduced.

Pasteurization of Milk and Its Functions

The guard against the spread of disease through milk, pasteurization is generally adopted, especially for the fluid milk and cream trade. Its object is to make good milk — a safe milk. It cannot hope to turn bad milk into good clean milk.

Pasteurization will kill infections, germs and about 99% of other bacteria, which though not disease producing will affect the quality of the milk. Pasteurization will delay further spoilage and lengthen the keeping quality of poor milk, but it cannot restore the quality of clean milk lost through bacterial growth previous to pasteurization.

It cannot replace cleanliness in production. Strictly speaking, clean milk should contain neither foreign matter nor any foreign bacteria whatever. It is sufficient to consider clean milk as milk from healthy cows, free from dirt and foreign matter containing only a small number of bacteria, none of which are disease producing.

The presence of visible dirt when milk is filtered is often taken as a measure of its uncleanliness. Visible dirt is a sign of gross carelessness in handling of milk and such milk will have a high number of germs.

Milk may be seriously contaminated and not show visible dirt. Clean milk then should be more than clean to the eye — it should be bacteriologically clean.

Manure is Valuable

Every year many thousands of dollars worth of plant food is lost through improper handling of manure. In Prince Edward Island the present annual production of manure, not including bedding is estimated to be one and a half million tons. Since a ton of average farm manure contains approximately 10 pounds of nitrogen, 5 pounds of phosphoric acid, and 10 pounds of potash, the one and a half million tons would contain, in round figures, 9,000 tons of nitrogen, 3,400 tons of phosphoric acid, and 7,500 tons of potash. These amounts are approximately equivalent to 27,000 tons of ammonium nitrate, 17,000 tons of superphosphate, and 12,000 tons of muriate of potash respectively.

The percentage of this plant food which finally reaches the soil depends on the amount of manure returned to the land and the care which it receives in the meantime. Although it is not possible to prevent all loss every effort should be made to keep it at a minimum. The fact that the liquid portion of the manure contains about half the nitrogen and three-quarters of the potash indicates the importance of a tight stable floor and gutter and the use of adequate absorbent bedding. The addition of superphosphate to the gutter not only raises the phosphorus content of the manure, it also helps absorb the liquid portion and reduced the loss of nitrogen in the form of ammonia.

The shorter the time manure is stored the less chance there is for loss. And the sooner after spreading it is worked in the better. Under usual conditions manure applied for six months loses approximately half its value. At the present price of fertilizers this is a costly loss. This loss is even more significant in view of the fact that of the number of soil samples received for analysis last year 51% were low in nitrogen, 33% low in phosphorus and 73% low in potash.

Rural Youth Fair

The Third annual Rural Youth Fair, which was held at the Charlottetown Exhibition Grounds on

THE CENTRAL GUARDIAN

LADIES' SKIRTS, regular \$8.50 on Sale at Jack Cameron's at \$5.95.

FALL SAMPLES at J. P. MacPherson & Son.

"YOUR DOLLAR BUYS MORE— at the HUGHES DRUG STORE."

GOING OUT OF BUSINESS SALE at Jack Cameron's.

CRASWELL for Better Photographs.

"WE TREAT THE SICK WELL." Giggie's Pharmacy, next Stewart's Bakery.

DR. D. R. BROWN will be absent from the Polyclinic September 21st to October 15th.

WE HAVE ADDED a Homogenized Milk to our list of our products. Sunshine Island Dairy.

DR. W. L. MACDONALD will be absent from both the Charlottetown and P. E. Island Hospital from September 29th till October 26th, 1953.

CLEANING UP — October 1st. Audubon Screen Tour Lecture and Film. Excellent entertainment personally presented by outstanding Naturalists.

MACDONALD RADIO SERVICE Radio repairing. Amplifiers and sound systems. Disc and tape recording. 180 Kent Street. Phone 6915.

POLL TAX was due and payable on April 15th. Steps are now being taken for collection of all overdue Poll Tax.

September 18, was a successful function from the standpoint of exhibits and interest shown by the Juniors in all phases of the program. The majority of the 4-H Clubs in the Province had exhibits and were represented by a goodly number of their members.

The program got under way the previous evening at Prince of Wales College Auditorium, when the Public Speaking Finals and the Square Dancing Competition were conducted. The members of the 4-H Clubs are indebted to Mr. Earle Baker, Proprietor of the Hughes Drug Co., for providing prizes for these two competitions.

In the Poultry Competition on Friday, the Baldwin's Road Poultry Club deserve special mention; as a team from this Club, Misses Anita and Marjorie, trained, will represent the Province at the National Club Contests in Toronto; another team of Emmet McKenna and Merlin Gormley, will be the representatives at the Maritime Winter Fair in Amherst.

In addition to this, another member of this Club, Miss Mary Courran, placed first for King's County in the Public Speaking Contest, and went on to place second in the Provincial Contest. In addition to the accomplishments of the Club members, the Club Leader, Mr. Joseph Trainor, was presented with a five-year Leadership award, given by the Canadian Council on 4-H Clubs for outstanding Leadership in Junior Club work. The accomplishments of this Club certainly testify to the work that their leader has been doing over the past number of years.

In the Grain Competition, there was a display from the Grain Club at St. George's, and Miss Anne Keefe and George MacDonald will represent this Club in the Crops Competition at the Maritime Winter Fair.

In the Livestock Contest, the Holsteins again stole the show, with fourteen groups competing, and the group from the Millicove Club again topped the Holstein class. The Grand Champion Holstein was shown by Miss Ruth Dixon, a member of the Bay Fortune Holstein Club which is a new Club this year. The Reserve Champion in Holsteins was shown by Janet Jones of the Jolly Farmers Club at Alexandria.

In the Ayrshire class, with six Clubs competing, two first-year Clubs stood first and second. Lower Montague placed first, and John MacDonald, a member of this Club, had the Champion Ayrshire calf. The Brookfield Club placed second, and Emerson MacRae, a member of this Club, showed the Reserve Champion.

In the Jersey and Guernsey exhibit, a group of Guernsey calves were exhibited for the first time in recent years, and they represented the Norboro Club. In this section Linda Stetson of the Bedeque Club showed the Champion calf, and Eugene Donahue of the North Wiltshire Club, the Reserve Champion.

In the Beef Section, there were six groups, shown, and the Champion calf was a steer shown by Douglas Jewell of the North River Club. In 1952, Douglas showed the Reserve Champion in the Beef Section. The Reserve Champion this year was shown by Joseph Ferguson, of the Hampton Club, and it is interesting to note that Beulah Ferguson, a sister of Joseph's, showed the Champion calf in 1952.

The sports program in the afternoon was participated in by a great many of the young people who were in attendance, and the Banner which is presented by the Department for the most points won by any Club, was captured again this year by the members of the Malpeque 4-H Calf Club.

COOK'S for Perfect Pictures

BELANGER RANGES for coal, wood or oil. Bryenton & MacKay

COLEMAN FLOOR FURNACE and space heaters. Douglas Bros and Jones.

SERVICE TO SICK, Dial 5132, Cantwell's Pharmacy, next to Gloria.

COLDSPOT REFRIGERATORS, \$229.95. Only \$10.00 delivers yours now. Simpsons—Sears, Charlottetown Store.

THIRD INSTALLMENT of City Taxes is due and payable on Wednesday, September 30th.

WALLPAPER—Good assortment, special prices. Bryenton and MacKay.

BARTON and Hamilton L.O.L. visit King William Lodge Sept. 28th.

HUGHES DRUG STORE will be the only drug store open this afternoon and evening.

INTEREST at the rate of 1/4 to 1% per month will be charged on all overdue installments.

VISIT HI-STYLE MILLINERY, 163 1/2 Great George Street. Every style Hi-style.

ISLAND GRILL, Queen Street. Dial 5228. Serving full course dinners. Specializing Chinese dish.

KENMORE OIL HEATER for economy and comfort. \$64.95 up. Only \$5.00 down. Simpsons—Sears Charlottetown Store.

CHARLOTTETOWN HOTEL SUNDAY Special five course Chicken Dinner, \$1.50 served from 12.30 to 2.30 P. M.

BLACKTHORN TWIST SUITS tailored by Warren K. Cook, selling at cost at Jack Cameron's selling out Sale.

IN ORDERS to have your name on the voters list for the Civic Election in February, 1954, all taxes must be paid by December 31st, 1953.

FAWCETT Torrid Oil Ranges, now in stock. Only \$10.00 down on our Easy Payment Plan. Simpsons—Sears Charlottetown Store.

SPECIAL MEETINGS CONTINUE.—In the evangelistic campaign with the Christian Church in Breadalbane where Edward Benoit will be preaching the Gospel every night except Saturday until Sunday evening, September 27th. Everyone is welcome. Some of the themes are: "Does God Mean What He Says?" "Water Unlimited." "The Gardens of God." "The Stations of the Cross." "Power Unlimited." Come yourself, and bring your friends.

PERSONALS

Hon. and Mrs. Frank Pike of Port Aux Basques, Nfld., are the guests of Mrs. Pike's brother-in-law and sister, Mr. and Mrs. James T. Robison.

Mr. Vernor Jones, Sydney, C.B., has been a visitor at the home of Mr. and Mrs. Layton Jones, Mt. Pleasant Airport.

Mr. and Mrs. Layton Jones, Mt. Pleasant Airport, accompanied by Mrs. and Mrs. Linus MacDonald, Richmond, motored to Fowal Sept. 13. They were supper guests of Mr. and Mrs. Ambrose MacMillan.

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