

“SPEEDING UP MILKING, CLEANING UP MILK”

CID LINES
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How fresh thinking & new products are helping South West farms produce cleaner, faster milk

CLEANER, FASTER MILK

A 2016 survey of teat dip sales by a South West dairy hygiene stockist showed some interesting results. Iodine-based sprays and dips were suspected to be the most commonly used products on farm and this was overwhelmingly proven to be the case however what was surprising was that out of the total litreage of iodine teat products sold, over 60% were in a combined pre/post product, meaning it can be used both before and after milking. There are a host of factors to consider as well as their relative importance, when selecting the appropriate product for pre and post milking use. These are shown in table 1 below.

PRODUCT CHARACTERISTICS	TEAT TREATMENT - DIP, FOAM & SPRAY	
	PRE-TREATMENT	POST-TREATMENT
Germicidal Stability	Critical	Critical
Physical Stability	Critical	Critical
Broad Spectrum - Mastitis Pathogens	Critical	Critical
Speed of Kill	Critical	Desirable
Residual Action	Unwanted	Critical
Non-Irritating	Desirable	Critical
Promotes Healing	Desirable	Critical
Good Wetting	Critical	Not Important
Detergency	Critical	Not Important
Viscosity	Low	High
Adheres to Teats	Unwanted	Critical
No Milk Residues	Critical	Desirable

From this table we can see that out of the twelve key factors to consider when considering an iodine-based product, only three are a match.

One simple example (explained below), of why iodine is perhaps not the best choice pre-milking, is in its use for operations such as LDA's or caesareans.

When a dairy cow is prepared for an operation the site is firstly cleaned thoroughly and clipped. After that, iodine is often used to disinfect the area before the first incision. What might not be noticed is the delay between disinfection with iodine, and the start of the procedure. This is usually a minimum of five minutes; the time it takes for the iodine to have full effect. This delay should be no different with applying an iodine teat dip pre-milking. In practical terms however this is not possible and the product is generally wiped off the teats within a minute and whilst it can be argued that even a minute will have some effect, it is by no means on the teat long enough to have a full effect and a compromise is occurring. Additionally, the majority of these pre/post products are for convenience, being applied through the same spray line. Whilst relatively quick, spray application can be patchy as well as typically using a high volume; around 15ml/cow/application.

To address this issue, a new system for pre-milking teat preparation has recently been launched onto farms in the south west. Based around a lactic acid-based pre-milking teat foam, applied through a novel Cotswold automatic foaming head, the PureFoamer system is already making a huge difference on many of our regional dairies with over 20,000 dairy cows already benefitting from the system.

Many farms already operate the Cotswold vacuum sprayline system within their parlours so are familiar with the simplicity and reliability that it brings. That very same system is utilised in the PureFoamer system, but with a brand new automatic foaming head for applying foam to the teats. The system is very simple to install, typically taking less than three hours, even for larger parlours.

Pre-milking, an applied teat product needs to:

- Promote the fast removal of dirt and muck
- Disinfect the teat quickly
- Cause no irritation and promote good teat condition
- Be easy to remove before cluster attachment

Additionally, applying a product that comes into close physical contact with the teat, will further enhance the milk let-down process.

Kenopure pre-milking foaming teat dip is a lactic acid-based product which as well as being suitable for traditional and foaming teat dip cups, is unique in its compatibility with the Cotswold foaming system.

Together, the PureFoamer system produces a stable, high quality foam that is robust, effective and frugal in use.

Kenopure contains very high quality surfactants that allow any contamination on teats to be removed quickly during the wiping process and the lactic acid in the formulation kills a broad range of pathogens, very quickly. In use, the PureFoamer system uses less than a third of the amount of applied product than traditional sprays with far less "drip-off" before wiping.



CLEANER, FASTER MILK-IN ACTION CASE STUDY 1



Bicton College farm in Devon recently had the PureFoamer system installed. The parlour at the farm is a 24 point herringbone with no ACR's and whilst the existing protocol of applying an iodine-based spray pre-milking and an iodine-based product post was relatively fast, removal of dirt and muck from teats was challenging, prolonging wiping and slowing down the process.

Added to this was the challenge of minimal contact time for the product on the teats to effectively disinfect, plus the issue of poor teat condition from double exposure to iodine at each milking. Additionally, the college was keen to avoid wasted product and make cost savings, whilst improving the process and outcomes.

The PureFoamer system was installed in early July and results were impressive from day one.

Farm Manager Rob Stoner commented:

"The system went-in after morning milking and took less than three hours to complete. Commissioning of the system was simple and within minutes there was a stable, very high quality foam being produced at the foaming head. We could even tip the cup upside down without any of the foam falling out!"

Using the PureFoamer system twice a day on all cows started to show results in speed of milking as well as in teat condition.

"Whilst a 30 second contact time for the foam is ample, our protocol means that the foam is on for up to a minute. Muck removal was excellent and was wiped away easily along with the product, before attaching the clusters. This has definitely sped-up the process and cows are letting down milk quicker. Teat condition has also improved and the system is considerably less expensive to operate so it's a win all-round"



Kenopure
in-use
at the farm

CLEANER, FASTER MILK-IN ACTION CASE STUDY 2



Bridgwater College's Cannington Rodway dairy unit is run by Velcourt Farming. Their farm manager George Jones is in overall charge of the farming operation which includes a 250 cow herd of Holstein cows, milked through a herringbone parlour.

The milking routine that George inherited on joining the farm was based on an iodine spray system, using the same product for both pre and post milking. George explained:

"I was looking to change my routine because I thought there was an opportunity to have better results, using a specialist pre-cleaning product, than having a compromise with a "happy medium" traditional iodine-based product"

After discussion with Pearce Dairy hygiene specialist Trevor Rogerson, George decided on installing the PureFoamer system. George said:

"The foaming system was very easy to install and plugged straight into the vacuum line. It's very strong, very robust & it's efficient, saving a lot of time. We don't waste any product now and it's been a great improvement to our dairy system"

In operation, the milking team at the unit were very happy with system. George added:

"The PureFoamer system was very easy to get used-to. It's based on a traditional cup system but with a fed-line on a flat hose which practically works really well."

Results of using Kenopure have been excellent. Cell counts are improving and teat condition has also slightly improved. Cluster-on time has dropped and it's very practical and quick to use in the parlour, costing us no extra time. If anything, it's sped-up milking because the quality of the product for cleaning is much better than the happy medium iodine we used to use. We're probably saving 10-15 minutes at the end of each milking now, purely by cleaning the cows quicker with Kenopure"

GETTING RESULTS ON YOUR FARM

The PureFoamer system is available exclusively through Dairycentre in Cornwall and Devon and through the key UK distributor Pearce Dairy, in Somerset, Dorset and Wiltshire.

During the initial South West launch period for the PureFoamer system, we are offering new users a unique and cost-effective "PureFoamer Promotional Pack". The pack contains everything a farmer needs to start pre-foaming on their dairy and includes:

- A PUREFOAMER system, ready for installation
- 25 litre of KENOPURE foaming pre-dip (making over 60 litres of RTU product)

Get in touch with Dairycentre (or Pearce Dairy for the other counties) for more details and a free, no obligation discussion on the features of the PureFoamer system and the benefits it could bring to your dairy.

Local Contacts



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