

Teatseal[®] – Correct administration and removal

Teatseal[®] contains 65% bismuth subnitrate in a paraffin base, and is designed to protect teats and udders from new infection during the dry period. It provides a physical barrier before the keratin plug has formed and after it has broken down, preventing the entry of pathogens into the udder during the early and late dry period. Teatseal[®] is proven to provide protection against new intramammary infections and reduce mastitis.

Correct administration and removal are required to avoid accidental introduction of bacteria into the teat, and to ensure Teatseal[®] is kept from milk that may enter the vat for processing.

Administration

Teatseal[®] must be administered in a hygienic manner:

1. If teats are dirty, wash and dry thoroughly
2. Disinfect all teats with alcohol impregnated cotton swabs or alcohol impregnated teat wipes
3. Scrub each teat thoroughly, particularly the teat end. At least one teat wipe should be used per teat. If not clean on the first attempt, repeat until clean using a new wipe.
4. Teats may be disinfected and treated one at a time or alternatively, all disinfected, then all treated. If following the latter technique, disinfect the far teats first then the near teats last, then administer into the near teats first and far teats last
5. When administering, the part of the teat nearest the cow should be gently pinched to encourage product to remain within the teat cistern and canal. Expel the entire syringe contents through the teat orifice
6. Do not massage the Teatseal[®] from the teat into the quarter. It must remain as a discreet mass in the teat end and teat canal.
7. After infusion, apply teat spray to the treated teats. After dry off, cows should be walked directly to clean pasture or clean housing. Cows should be checked daily for the immediate post dry off period.

Removal

Adequate removal must occur to keep Teatseal[®] particles from entering milk that enters the vat for processing.

1. At first milking after calving, it is recommended each treated quarter be stripped at least 10-12 times to remove any remaining Teatseal[®]. Colostrum and milk from treated cows should be withheld from the vat for 8 – 10 milkings after calving (Countdown Downunder). It is advised, wherever possible, to avoid running this colostrum/milk from treated animals through normal milk lines.
2. The pre-calving withholding period is 4 days. The label states “WITHHOLDING PERIOD: MILK: DO NOT USE within 4 days of calving where milk or milk products may be used for human consumption.” This should be used in conjunction with the Countdown Downunder (2002) recommendation that milk from the colostrum phase (first eight milkings) is not included in the vat (at least 10 milkings for induced cows).
3. Correct cleaning of equipment. Cleaning processes should be strictly adhered to after milking has finished each shift. This includes flushing milking equipment with water of the correct temperature and flow rate, and using cleaning solutions at correct concentrations. Milk filters must be changed regularly according to manufacturers’ instructions. This is important to avoid build up of Teatseal[®] and other particles and deposits in milk lines and equipment.

For more information, discuss with your veterinarian or contact Pfizer Animal Health on 1800 814 883.

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teatseal^{*}
PREVENTION IS BETTER THAN CURE

