## **THERMODURIC CONTROL**

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Thermoduric Bacteria control is a constant challenge, fundamentally it is an indication of the cleanliness of the milking and storage equipment at a particular point in time. There are three fundamental factors that contribute to good washing regime.

Don Crowley Teagasc



## 1. Temperature

- a. Adequate amounts of hot water to ensure a temp of  $>75^{\circ}$ C when wash trough is full.
- b. Water at  $> 45^{\circ}$ C when wash cycle finished 8-10 minutes.
- c. Is a thermometer available to check these temperatures?
- d. Pre rinsing the plant with warm water i.e.  $30 40^{\circ}$ C is a great help to ensuring a good hot wash.

## 2. Turbulence

- a. Adequate volume i.e. 9 litres per unit to ensure suction pipe is covered during wash cycle, to maintain working vacuum during wash cycle.
- b. Is water purge system delivering at least 1 pulse per 40 seconds to wash milk line during the wash cycle?
- c. Air bleeds allow turbulence in the claw piece to ensure adequate cleaning. Air bleeds must be checked regularly to ensure they are clear.

## 3. Titration (Chemical usage)

- a. Proper dilution rates are critical for optimum use of chemical.
- b. Is a measuring Jug available to ensure proper chemical dilution rates?
- c. Do you know the capacity of wash trough? 14 litres/unit to rinse plant and 9 litres per unit to wash plant.
- d. Descaling plant at least twice per week.
- e. There are different dilution rates for hot and cold water, this should be checked.

Clean cows and a consistent weekly regime will help ensure consistent thermoduric counts. Bulk tank and milking parlour should be inspected weekly, you should watch plant during its wash cycle to ensure adequate washing is occurring in all units.

As the fine weather and high temperatures approaches, suppliers are asked to keep a clear watch on the operation of the bulk milk tank.



Bandon Co-Operative



- Temperatures are to be checked before and after each milking keeping an eye out for slow cooling.
- Ensure the radiators are clean and free from obstruction. Clear where necessary with soft brush and low water pressure taking care not to damage the fins or the motors. DO NOT USE A POWER WASHER.
- 3. In the event of a breakdown make sure your service engineer is informed as soon as possible keeping in mind the cut off time for late calls.

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