

Collecting a sterile milk sample



the
vet group



Have everything ready before you start.

You will need:

- sterile container
- waterproof permanent marker
- paper towel
- clean swab soaked in a mixture of 70% Methylated spirits and 30% clean tank water (or teat wipes).



1
Use waterproof permanent marker to label the sterile container with farmer's name, cow ID and date.



2
Wash dirt or dung from the cow's teats.



3
Dry teats with separate paper towel.



4
Wipe teat end with an alcohol soaked swab or teat wipe.



5
Remove cap from the sterile container. **DON'T touch the inside of the cap or the top of the container.** Hold the lid face down so that the inside cannot be contaminated with dirt or water



6
Squirt a small amount of milk from the teat onto the ground.



7
Angle the teat towards the container and hold the container slightly off vertical. Squirt milk into the container until about half full.



8
Replace cap tightly.



9
Keep sample refrigerated and take to the The Vet Group as soon as possible for culture. Fresh samples must be cultured within 24 hours.

It may be appropriate to freeze milk samples so that a number can be submitted together. Discuss this option with one of our veterinarians prior to sample collection.