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Effective Milking SOPs

Goals:

- Gentle handling of cows
- Rapid, gentle milk harvest
- Identification of abnormal milk
- Hygienic harvest of food



Photo credit: Sandy Stuttger



Milking Skills Modul

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Effective SOPs include

- Workers that enjoy and understand cows
- Zero tolerance for cow mistreatment
- Well-trained milking personnel
- Methods to monitor protocol drift



Photo credit: Sandy Stutto



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High Quality Milk

- Visually normal with no odors
- Low in SCC (<200,000)
- Low in bacteria (<10,000 CFU)



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Maintain a milking Schedule

- Cows love routine
- Milk at the same time every day
- Interrupting the schedule may lead to mastitis issues





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Personal Protective Equipment Gloves Sleeve protectors/ Apron Rubber boots Eye protection Miking Skills Module

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Complete Milking Routing Forestrip Disinfect Dry Attach Post-Dip Photocredit: Heather Schlesser

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Forestrip Examine milk for signs of clinical mastitis Stimulates milk letdown First streams have high bacterial count

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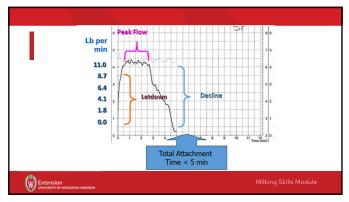
Disinfect

- Use an approved product
- Need complete coverage of the teat
- Dips, sprays, foamers
- Contact time is critical -≥30 seconds
- Remove disinfectant before unit is applied



Milking Skills Module

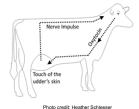
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Oxytocin

- Hormone in bloodstream
- Brain Blood Udder
- Causes milk let down and release
- Stress interferes with its release



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Prep Lag Time • First stimulation – unit attachment • Recommended lag time = 1 – 3 minutes **Wiking Skills Module**

Post-Dip

Provides the teat end with protection from bacteria
Complete coverage is necessary

Complete Incomplete
Complete Incomplete

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Cleanliness

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Summary

- Have a routine
- Train employees on the routine
- Check for protocol drift



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