HOW TO COLLECT A STERILE MILK SAMPLE

The entire process of performing on farm culturing is absolutely dependent on how well the milk sample was collected. If this step is not performed correctly, then the rest of the process will be meaningless. Follow these steps to help collect a sterile milk sample.

1. After detecting the mastitis case, label a sterile (unopened) vial with the cow ID, quarter and date.

2. Dry wipe udder to remove loose debris.

3. Apply predip with 20-30 second contact time to sanitize teat skin.

4. Dry off teat with single-use towel.

5. Forestrip 3-4 streams of milk to remove bacteria from teat canal.

6. MOST CRITICAL
   Scrub end of teat with gauze swab soaked in 70% alcohol.

7. Collect milk sample into the labeled vial.

8. Immediately cool sample in a cooler or refrigerator until plating can occur.

UW MILK QUALITY

UW Extension
1. After detecting the mastitis case, label a sterile (unopened) vial with the cow ID, quarter and date.

2. Dry off teat with single-use towel.

3. Apply predip with 20-30 second contact time to sanitize teat skin.

4. Dry off teat with single-use towel.

5. Forestrip 3-4 streams of milk to remove bacteria from teat canal.
6. **MOST CRITICAL**
   Scrub end of teat with gauze swab soaked in 70% alcohol.

7. Collect milk sample into the labeled vial. Do not touch any inner part of the vial to avoid contamination of the sample.

Immediately cool sample in a cooler or refrigerator until plating can occur.