

Mastitis Focus fact sheet

Clinical mastitis

Clinical mastitis is an inflammation of the udder tissue, usually due to a bacterial infection. Too many clinical cases may indicate poor prevention, or unnecessary treatment of subclinical cases (that do not show clinical signs).

Understanding your report

The **Clinical Case Rate** in lactation at the top of your report in **Your Herd Annual Performance Summary** gives the overall rate for the entire report period, compared to trigger.

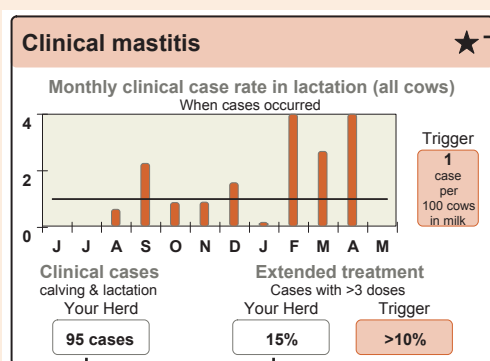
If you would like more detailed interpretation about what is happening in your herd contact an adviser in your area and/or visit dairynz.co.nz/mastitis. Tips for minimising mastitis during lactation are found in Healthy Udder and in Guidelines 5 to 13 under Tools and Resources > Guidelines > Lactation.

Seek professional advice if mastitis indicators are above trigger levels. There are benefits to be gained through making improvements.

Clinical mastitis

The **Clinical Mastitis** box in your report has more detail about clinical case rates during lactation. It shows when problems occurred compared to trigger, and may indicate how successful your treatment protocol has been.

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A single star rating indicates that you need to take action



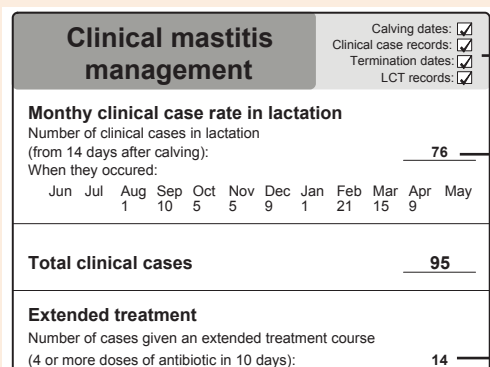
Tip: Do the total number of clinical cases look right? Make sure you have entered all cases into your herd management software

Talk with your vet if your herd has extended treatment above the trigger level



Trap: If a tick is missing it means that those records were not available. Include all records to get a comprehensive report

On page 2



These are the number of cases that occurred during lactation (it doesn't count those that were around calving)



Trap: Make sure that everyone understands and follows the farm protocol for detecting clinical mastitis so cows are not missed or treated unnecessarily

This is the number of cases that required more than the standard treatment course (i.e. 3 doses of antibiotic in a 10 day period).

Your records required for an accurate report

- Complete clinical case records are essential (intramammary and injectable antibiotics)
- Calving dates are needed to establish the 'lactating' group of cows
- Termination (dry-off, cull or death) dates are needed –otherwise cows are regarded as still lactating.