EN Milk test KerbaTEST #1514, #15141
Operating Instructions

The importance of cell content in raw milk
The cell content of milk is a good indicator of udder health. The constant regeneration and defence processes going on in the milk glands cause a certain (normal) amount of cells to appear in the milk. This "base cell content" is not constant, but rather it fluctuates in the quarter milk between a few tens of thousands to two hundred thousand cells per millilitre of milk.

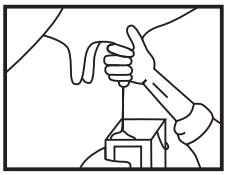
Diseased udder quarters ...
- produce milk with an elevated cell content
- produce less milk
- mean a reduction in milk revenue

Essentially, the pre-milk, colostrum and frequently older milk cows have an elevated cell content.

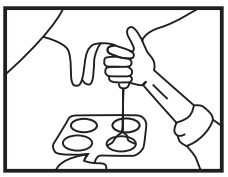
Why Milk Test KerbaTEST?
There is information available about the condition of the udder long before changes in the milk become visible in the form of flock, blood, wateriness, swelling etc. Even 100,000 cells can indicate the onset of udder disease and failure to act can quickly cause the cell content to rise to several hundreds of thousands. Early detection is therefore vital for avoiding harm!

When is the milk test used?
- regularly for screening
- after notification from the dairy of increased cell content in the milk supplied so as to determine which animals or udder quarters are sick or diseased
- in cows whose milk exhibits increased cell content during checks by the Milk Control Association
- three weeks before drying off so that there is still enough time for any measures that need to be taken (bact. sample including resistance test, treatment by the veterinary surgeon)
- 10 days after treatment to monitor the recovery process
- when buying new cows
- 14 days after calving

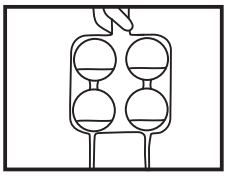
Correct use
The test must always be carried out before milking.



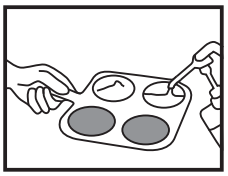
1. Important: Direct the first three cell and bacteria-rich jets into a pre-milk cup since the pre-milk contains an increased number of cells.



2. From each udder quarter, direct a little milk into the corresponding wells of the test dish.



3. Tilt the test dish to pour off excess milk down to the line marking.



4. Before the first test, aspirate any liquid by pump. From the dispensing pump, the required quantity of test liquid is now added to each field in a single stroke.

5. With slow circular movements of the test dish, mix the test liquid with the milk. The result can be read off after a few seconds.

6. Pour off the test mixture and rinse out the dish with water. The dish is now ready for the next test. It does not have to be dried first.

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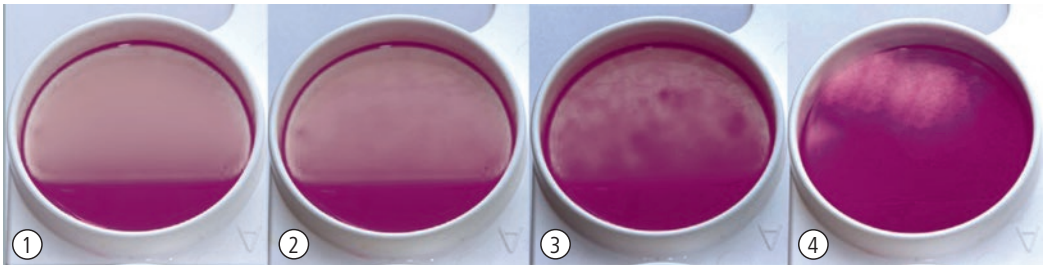
Determining the test results



① The mixture remains fluid, with no streak formation.
Result: up to 100,000 cells, **milk is OK.**

② When slowly tilted sideways, the mixture exhibits slight streak formation, easily recognisable on the marker line.
Result: the cell content is slightly raised, 100,000 - 300,000 cells, **the health of the udder is compromised.**

③ The mixture exhibits marked streak formation and is starting to become jelly-like.
Result: the cell content is very raised, 300.00 - 500,000 cells, **the udder is diseased.**

④ The mixture exhibits unusually marked streak formation and a solid, jelly-like texture. It may also change colour to red-blue.
Result: from more than 500,000 to several million cells, **very severe udder disease.**

What should be done if the cell content is high?
- Do not supply milk containing very high numbers of cells
- Submit samples for bacteriological testing
- Seek treatment from a veterinary surgeon

The cause of the increased cell content, in addition to an infection with pathogens causing udder inflammation or generalised illness in the cow, can also be caused by a faulty milking machine or incorrect milking practices.

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