MILKING SMARTER
Implementing MaxT

Herringbone

ACTION

MaxT is the most efficient strategy for milking and makes the milking routine uncomplicated and enjoyable. This guide explains the basics of implementing a maximum milking time (MaxT) in a herringbone. Cows are milked to a predetermined time based on their milk volume, resulting in less time in the dairy for staff and cows.

YOUR LEVY at WORK WITH DAIRYNZ

1 — CALCULATE

- To calculate your MaxT time, download DairyNZ's Milksmart app, or visit **dairynz.co.nz/maxt-herringbone**
- It's usually simplest to select the time for your **morning milking** and use this at all milkings.

AM | PM

2 — IMPLEMENT

1. Choose a timing system to help you keep track of the MaxT time when milking. Use the first cow in the row to time the MaxT time for all the cows in the row by:
   - using a timer visible from anywhere in the pit, or a phone with a timer, or
   - setting a maximum milking time with your automatic cup removers (ACRs).
2. Start the timer as you attach the cluster to the first cow.
3. Once MaxT time is reached for the row being milked, change cups by working down the pit in order, without waiting for any cows still milking.
4. Teat spray as you go in your normal 'bunny hopping' routine, or teat spray after changing all cups.

NOTE:
If part of the herd is milked once a day, put these cows in one herd and allow them additional time.

OAD

NOTE:
Keep your routine consistent for each row. This means all the cows get the same milking time.
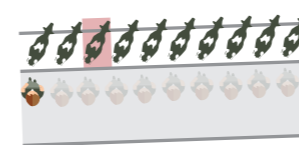
3 — MONITOR

- Monitor and reassess your MaxT time weekly by monitoring five groups of 10 cows to time at an afternoon milking.
- Wait until the MaxT time has passed before doing the assessment and count the cows still milking as you change the cups in groups of 10 or as a percentage of the entire row.
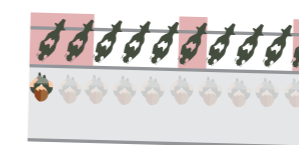
Reduce milking time
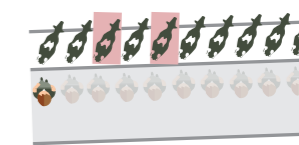If fewer than two cows are milking in most groups.

Increase milking time
If more than two cows (20%) are milking in most groups.

No change to milking time
If only two cows are milking in most groups.

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