# INTRODUCING

# Countdown Mastitis Focus
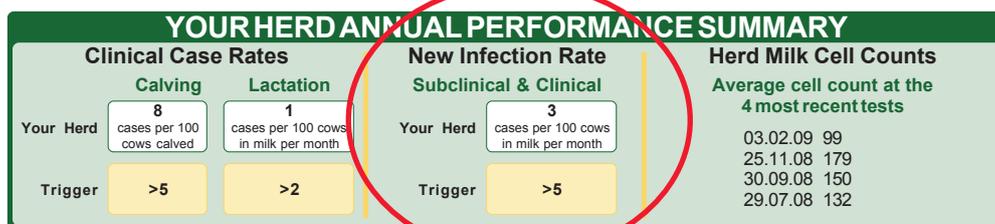
**Countdown Downunder**

You're looking at your new **Countdown Mastitis Focus** report.

Mastitis in your herd is a hassle and costs you money. The mastitis status of your herd is continuously changing. This report gives you a way of identifying problem areas and potential risks. It also lets you track progress after any management changes that are made.
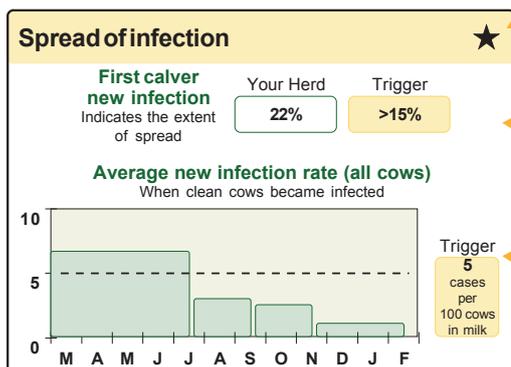
**Countdown Mastitis Focus** uses your cow records to give an accurate overview of udder health in your herd. Let's take a look at one of the measures in the report – the 'New Infection Rate', a measure that gives you even more value from your cell counts.

The New Infection Rate shows how quickly infection is spreading to clean cows. It can only be measured in herds that participate in milk recording as most new mastitis infections are subclinical (not clinical). Taking immediate action when the New Infection Rate is above the trigger level may help avert a clinical case outbreak.

## YOUR HERD ANNUAL PERFORMANCE SUMMARY

| Clinical Case Rates | | New Infection Rate | Herd Milk Cell Counts |
|---|---|---|---|
| **Calving** | **Lactation** | **Subclinical & Clinical** | **Average cell count at the 4 most recent tests** |
| Your Herd **8** cases per 100 cows calved | **1** cases per 100 cows in milk per month | Your Herd **3** cases per 100 cows in milk per month | 03.02.09  99<br>25.11.08  179<br>30.09.08  150<br>29.07.08  132 |
| Trigger **>5** | **>2** | Trigger **>5** | |

*The New Infection Rate in your herd for the past 12 months is shown at the top of your report.*

The Spread of Infection box in your report has more detail about the new infection rate and shows when spread was active.



**Spread of infection** ★

**First calver new infection** Indicates the extent of spread
Your Herd **22%**  Trigger **>15%**

**Average new infection rate (all cows)** When clean cows became infected

Trigger **5** cases per 100 cows in milk

M A M J J A S O N D J F

*A low star rating provides an alert to emerging problems.*

*This clearly indicates the extent of spread as heifers are clean before they enter the milking herd.*

*Each bar on the graph represents the period between herd tests and shows the spread of infection during that time.*

- ◼ Ideas on actions you might take are given in the **Countdown Mastitis Focus Fact Sheets** available from www.countdown.org.au

- ◼ Diagnosing problems and deciding the most appropriate action to take is best done in consultation with a skilled adviser.

- ◼ Entering clinical case and dry cow records into your herd management software will enable you to also assess udder health at calving, in lactation and at drying-off (the other key management areas on the report).

For more information or to find a Countdown-trained adviser in your area, visit **www.countdown.org.au**

**Countdown Mastitis Focus is an initiative of Dairy Australia and the Herd Improvement Industry**