

New Zealand Society of Animal Production online archive

This paper is from the New Zealand Society for Animal Production online archive. NZSAP holds a regular annual conference in June or July each year for the presentation of technical and applied topics in animal production. NZSAP plays an important role as a forum fostering research in all areas of animal production including production systems, nutrition, meat science, animal welfare, wool science, animal breeding and genetics.

An invitation is extended to all those involved in the field of animal production to apply for membership of the New Zealand Society of Animal Production at our website www.nzsap.org.nz

[View All Proceedings](#)

[Next Conference](#)

[Join NZSAP](#)

The New Zealand Society of Animal Production in publishing the conference proceedings is engaged in disseminating information, not rendering professional advice or services. The views expressed herein do not necessarily represent the views of the New Zealand Society of Animal Production and the New Zealand Society of Animal Production expressly disclaims any form of liability with respect to anything done or omitted to be done in reliance upon the contents of these proceedings.

This work is licensed under a [Creative Commons Attribution-NonCommercial-NoDerivatives 4.0 International License](http://creativecommons.org/licenses/by-nc-nd/4.0/).



You are free to:

Share— copy and redistribute the material in any medium or format

Under the following terms:

Attribution — You must give [appropriate credit](#), provide a link to the license, and [indicate if changes were made](#). You may do so in any reasonable manner, but not in any way that suggests the licensor endorses you or your use.

NonCommercial — You may not use the material for [commercial purposes](#).

NoDerivatives — If you [remix, transform, or build upon](#) the material, you may not distribute the modified material.

<http://creativecommons.org.nz/licences/licences-explained/>

Summary only

FIELD OBSERVATIONS ON INCIDENCE OF MASTITIS
AND CONTROL MEASURES

E. O. BROOKBANKS

Department of Agriculture, Hamilton

THE RESULTS of field investigations into the incidence of mastitis in dairy cows and observations on some environmental factors which may play a role in the aetiology of the disease were reported.

To survey incidence of mastitis, milk samples were collected from 10,861 cows in 130 herds and submitted to the California Mastitis Test (C.M.T.) and to cultural examination. The results, which showed that a high incidence of udder inflammation and infection was present in these cows, are given in Table 1.

TABLE 1: RESULTS OF INCIDENCE OF MASTITIS SURVEY

<i>Type of Infection</i>	<i>No. Cows Positive</i>	<i>% of Total Cows</i>
<i>Staphylococcus pyogenes</i>	2,970	27.3
<i>Streptococcus agalactiae</i>	1,489	13.7
Other <i>Streptococci</i> organisms	314	2.9
Miscellaneous organisms	74	0.7
Total infected cows	4,217	39.0
Cows showing a strong C.M.T. reaction	3,432	31.6

As a possible means of detecting herds infected with mastitis-producing organisms, bulk milk samples from 51 herds with known levels of mastitis infection and C.M.T. reaction, were examined. For each herd, a series of four bulk tank samples were subjected to C.M.T. and to cultural examination. The results showed that examination of bulk milk samples gave a good indication of the degree of udder inflammation within the herd and the type of infection present.

The usefulness of this method to detect herds with mastitis infection followed by regular C.M.T. examination of cows in such herds, together with antibiotic treatment, was discussed.