

Topic

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What does mastitis really cost?

The average cost of a clinical case of mastitis (\$)

Cost Item	Application	\$
Cost of treatment		
Intra-mammary antibiotics	3 tubes @ \$5.50	17
Injectable antibiotics	\$18 for 1 in 10 cases	2
Vet visit	\$175 for 1 in 100 cases	6
Extra time in the shed	5 min/milking for 12 milkings @ \$25/hour	25
Discarded milk	7 days at 25 litres/day @ 40 cents/litre	70
Decreased yield for remainder of lactation	For cases in early lactation, allow 3.4% reduction in 300 day yield of 5700 litres is 194 litres @ 40 cents/litre	78
Risk of mortality	1 in 150 cases, cow value \$1000	10
Risk of culling	7 in 100 cases @ \$900 changeover	70
Risk of contaminating vat with antibiotic residues	1 in 750 cases – 4750 litres @ 40 cents/l	3
TOTAL		\$277

Number of clinical cases we have treated in the last month		
	x	\$277
= Estimated cost of clinical mastitis in the last month		\$

Triggers for clinical mastitis level in a herd (FG 10):

- ✓ 5 cases per 100 cows in the first 2 weeks of lactation
- ✓ 2 cases per 100 cows in subsequent months of lactation