

# **UNIVERSITI PUTRA MALAYSIA**

EXPERIMENTAL TRIAL ON EFFICACY OF CLOXACILLIN AS DRY COW THERAPY AND 0.5% IODINE AS PREMILKING AND POSTMILKING TEAT DIPPING TO REDUCE BOVINE MASTITIS

**RABINDRA THAKUR** 

**FPV 2004 3** 

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By

**RABINDRA THAKUR** 

Thesis Submitted to the School of Graduate Studies, Universiti Putra Malaysia, in Fulfilment of the Requirements for the Degree of Master of Veterinary Science

March 2004

# UPM

# DEDICATION

# This Thesis is dedicated to my

- late grand father Sri Ram Swarup Thakur, late grand mother, Ram Shakhi,
- father Sri Bibhishan Thakur, mother Ram Snehi
- wife, Veena and children Piyush, Pallavi, Paritosh, Shreya and Utkarsh,
- father-in-law, Prof. Arun Kumar Arun, mother- in -law, Ram Rati,
- brother, Dhirendra, sister, Rekha, sister in law Mamta and brother in law Sri Arun Kumar Sinha and Sri Santosh Kumar

# for their full support and encouragement

Abstract of thesis presented to the Senate of Universiti Putra Malaysia in fulfilment of the requirements for the degree of Master of Veterinary Science

## EXPERIMENTAL TRIAL ON EFFICACY OF CLOXACILLIN AS DRY COW THERAPY AND 0.5% IODINE AS PREMILKING AND POSTMILKING TEAT DIPPING TO REDUCE BOVINE MASTITIS

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#### March 2004

## Chairman: Siti Zubaidah Ramanoon

Faculty: Veterinary Medicine

The efficacy of dry cow therapy, pre and postmilking teat dipping for bovine mastitis was studied. A total of 54 Holstein-Friesian late pregnant dairy cows on one farm in their third to tenth lactation were selected. Animals were randomly allocated to treatment and untreated control groups. At drying off, treatment group received 500mg cloxacillin as dry cow therapy (DCT), intramammarily. Iodine 0.5% as teat dip was applied at pre and postmilking. The DCT cured infected quarter, significantly (P<0.05) for Any organisms (Gram-negative and Gram-positive) and *Staphylococcus aureus*. Prevention of mastitis using DCT was not significant (P> 0.05).

Self cure rates at cow level was 16%-50% and at quarter level was 16%-65% for Any organism, *S. aureus*, coagulase-negative *staphylococcus* and Other organism (Other than *S. aureus* and CNS), respectively. New infection rates at cow level were 0%-75% and at quarter level was 18%-32%. Teat dipping did not significantly prevent new cases of mastitis (P>0.05). The California mastitis test (CMT) positive was

significantly reduced (P<0.05) in treated quarters. The mean colony forming unit (cfu)  $\log_{10}$  was 2.88 ± 0.32 (mean ± standard error of the mean) in first month after calving, significantly lower (P<0.05) in comparison to dry off and control group (5.76 ± 0.24 and 5.63 ± 0.37), respectively. The percent efficacy of the DCT was 48.8%. In conclusion, DCT significantly cured infected quarters and teat dipping did not prevent new cases of mastitis.

Keywords: Cow, mastitis, dry cow therapy, teat dip.

Abstrak tesis yang dikemukakan kepada senat Universiti Putra Malaysia sebagai memenuhi keperluan untuk ijazah Master Sains Veterinar

## EKSPERIMEN PERCUBAAN UNTUK MENGUJI KEMUJARABAN CLOXACILLIN SEBAGAI TERAPI PENGERINGAN LEMBU DAN PENGGUNAAN 0.5% IODIN SEBAGAI CELUPAN PUTING SUSU SEBELUM DAN SELEPAS PERAHAN SUSU UNTUK MENGURANGKAN MASTITIS LEMBU

#### Oleh

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Satu kajian ke atas mastitis lembu telah dijalankan untuk menguji kemujaraban terapi pengeringan lembu dan celupan puting susu sebelum dan selepas pemerahan susu. Sebanyak 54 ekor lembu tenusu Holstein–Friesian, bunting berat, dalam laktasi ketiga hingga sepuluh, telah dipilih daripada sebuah ladang. Lembu tenusu dibahagikan secara rawak kepada kumpulan rawatan dan kawalan. Pada masa pengeringan, kumpulan rawatan diberi cloxacillin 500mg secara intramamari. Puting susu dicelup dengan 0.5% Iodin sebelum dan selepas pemerahan susu. Terapi pengeringan lembu terbukti dapat menyembuhkan jangkitan sukuan ambing susu untuk kategori sebarang organisma (Gram-negatif dan Gram-positif) dan *Staphylococcus aureus*. Pencegahan mastitis dengan menggunakan terapi pengeringan lembu didapati tidak bekesan (P>0.05).

Kadar penyembuhan sendiri dalam lembu ialah 16%-50% dan sukuan ialah 16%-65% bagi sebarang organisma, *S. aureus*, koagulasi-negatif *staphylococcus* dan Organisma lain. Kadar jangkitan baru dalam lembu ialah 0%-75% dan dalam sukuan ialah 18%-32%. Celupan puting susu tidak dapat mencegah jangkitan baru mastitis dengan berkesan (P>0.05). Ujian California mastitis positif didapati berkurangan dengan berkesan (P<0.05) dalam sukuan yang dirawat. Purataunit pembentukan koloni (cfu) log<sub>10</sub> ialah 2.88 $\pm$  0.32 (purata  $\pm$  sisihan piawai purata) dalam bulan pertama selepas beranak adalah masing –masing kurang (P<0.05) berbanding semasa tempoh kering dan kumpulan kawalan (5.76  $\pm$  0.24 dan 5.63  $\pm$  0.37). Peratus kemujaraban bagi terapi pengeringan lembu adalah 48.8%. Kesimpulannya, terapi pengeringan lembu adalah berkesan menyembuhkan jangkitan sukuan ambing susu dan celupan puting susu tidak dapat mencegah jangkitan baru mastitis.

Kata kunci: Lembu, mastitis, terapi pengeringan lembu, celupan puting susu.

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I certify that an Examination Committee met on 16<sup>th</sup> March 2004 to conduct the final examination of Rabindra Thakur on his Master of Veterinary Science thesis entitled "Experimental trial on efficacy of cloxacillin as dry cow therapy and 0.5% iodine as premilking and postmilking teat dipping to reduce bovine mastitis" in accordance with Universiti Pertanian Malaysia (Higher Degree) Act 1980 and Universiti Pertanian Malaysia (Higher Degree) Regulations 1981. The committee recommends that the candidate be awarded the relevant degree. Members of the Examination Committee are as follows:

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# DECLARATION

I hereby declare that the thesis is based on my original work except for quotations and citations which have been duly acknowledged. I also declare that it has not been previously or concurrently submitted for any other degree at UPM or other institutions.



# **TABLE OF CONTENTS**

DH AI AI AI AI DH LI LI LI	EDICA 3STRA 3STRA CKNO PPROV ECLAI ST OF ST OF ST OF	TION ACT AK WLEDGEMENTS /AL RATION TABLES FIGURES ABBREVIATIONS	ii iii v vii ix xi xv xv xvi xvii
Cl	HAPT	ER	
1	INT	RODUCTION	1.1
	TTT		2.1
2	LIT	ERATURE REVIEW	2.1
	2.1 2.2 2.3	Introduction Aetiologic agent 2.2.1 Contagious pathogen 2.2.2 Environmental pathogen Diagnosis of Bovine Mastitis 2.3.1 Physical examination of udder 2.3.2 Foremilk stripping 2.3.3 pH of foremilk with indicator dyes 2.3.4 Test of milk chlorides 2.3.5 The Catalase test 2.3.6 The Whiteside test 2.3.7 The Brabant mastitis test 2.3.8 The Wisconsin mastitis test 2.3.9 Indicator paper test 2.3.10 Hymast diagnostic kit 2.3.11 Modified model somatic cell count 2.3.12 California mastitis test 2.3.13 Electrical conductivity 2.3.14 Enzyme linked immunosorbent assay test 2.3.15 N-acetyl-β-D-glucosaminadase test	$2.1 \\ 2.2 \\ 2.2 \\ 2.2 \\ 2.3 \\ 2.3 \\ 2.3 \\ 2.4 \\ 2.4 \\ 2.5 \\ 2.5 \\ 2.5 \\ 2.5 \\ 2.6 \\ 2.6 \\ 2.6 \\ 2.6 \\ 2.7 \\ 2.7 \\ 2.8 \\ 2.9 \\ 2.10 \\ 2.10 \\ 2.10 $
	2.4	<ul> <li>Risk Factors for Intramammary Infections</li> <li>2.4.1 Age and parity</li> <li>2.4.2 Stage of lactation</li> <li>2.4.3 Milking characteristics</li> <li>2.4.4 Morphology of udder and teat</li> <li>2.4.5 Physical condition of teat</li> <li>2.4.6 Nutritional status</li> <li>2.4.7 Other concurrent diseases</li> </ul>	2.12 2.12 2.12 2.12 2.12 2.12 2.13 2.13

2.4.8 Immunological function of mammary gland

2.14

Page

		2.4.9 Previous mastitis	2.14
		2.4.10 Environment and management	2.15
	2.5	Treatment of Bovine Mastitis	2.16
	2.6	Prevention and control	2.17
		2.6.1 Principles of control of mastitis	2.18
		2.6.2 Dry cow management	2.20
		2.6.3 Management of the environment of dry cows	2.24
		2.6.4 Nutritional management of dry cows	2.24
		2.6.5 Methods of drying cows off	2.25
		2.6.6 Appropriate therapy of mastitis during lactation	2.25
		2.6.7 Culling chronically infected cows	2.26
		2.6.8 Maintenance of an appropriate environment	2.26
		2.6.9 Good record keeping	2.26
		2.6.10 Monitor udder health status	2.27
		2.6.11 Periodic review of the udder health management	2.28
		program	2.29
	27	2.0.12 Setting goals for herd udder health status	2.28
	2.7	Vaccination	2.28
	2.8	Bovine Mastilis in Malaysia	2.30
3	EFF	ICACY OF CLOXACILLIN, 500MG AS DRY COW	3.1
-	THE	RAPY IN BOVINE MASTITIS	•
	3.1	Introduction	3.1
	37	Materials and methods	33
	5.2	3.2.1 Farm and animals	3.3
		3.2.2 Preparation of udder and teats	3.5
		3.2.3 Procedure for collection of milk samples	3.0
		3.2.4 Procedure for California mastitis test	3.0
		3.2.5 Procedure for bacterial colony forming unit counts	3.8
		3.2.6 Bacteriological culture	3.0
		3.2.7 Biochemical test	3 11
		3.2.8 The API 20 Strep System	3 13
		3.2.9 The API Staph	3.14
		3.2.10 Statistical analysis	3.15
	3.3	Result	3.17
		3.3.1 Milk bacteriological culture	3.17
		3.3.2 Efficacy of dry cow therapy with cloxacillin 500mg	3.18
	2.4	Discussion	2 22
	5.4	Discussion	5.22
4	EFF	ICACY OF 0.5% IODINE AS PRE AND POSTMILKING	4.1
	TEA	T DIPPING IN BOVINE MASTITIS	
	4.1	Introduction	41
	7.1	miloduction	7.1
	4.2	Materials and methods	4.3

xiii

		4.2.1	Farm and animals	4.3
		4.2.2	Preparation of udder and teats	4.3
		4.2.3	Procedure for premilking teat dipping	4.4
		4.2.4	Procedure for postmilking teat dipping	4.4
		4.2.5	Procedure for collection of milk samples	4.4
		4.2.6	Statistical analysis	4.4
	4.3	Result		4.5
		4.3.1	Analysis of the intramammary infection after calving	4.5
		4.3.2	Organism present in the milk bacteriological culture	4.5
			at 1 <sup>st</sup> to 5 <sup>th</sup> month after calving in treatment and	
			control groups	
		4.3.3	Evaluation of prevention of new intramammary	4.6
			infection at first to fifth month after calving	
		4.3.4	New infections rates	4.7
		4.3.5	California mastitis test results of quarters at 1 <sup>st</sup> to 5 <sup>th</sup>	4.8
			month after calving	
		4.3.6	CMT result compared with bacteriological culture at	4.8
			1 <sup>st</sup> to 5 <sup>th</sup> month after calving	
		4.3.7	Colony forming unit	4.9
	4.4	Discus	sion	4.9
5	GEN	FRAL	DISCUSSION	5 1
6	CON	CLUS	ON	61
U	CON	CLUDI		0.1
RE	FERE	NCES		<b>R</b> .1
AP	PEND	IX		A.1
BIC	DDAT	A OF <mark>T</mark>	'HE AUTHOR	B.1

C

Table

# List of Tables

# Page

2.1	Prevalence of contagious and environmental organism	2.3
2.2	Tests used for the diagnosis of bovine mastitis and the sensitivity	2.11
	and specificity of the test	
2.3	Malaysian studies on prevalence and aetiologic agents of	2.31
	subclinical mastitis in dairy cows and quarters	
3.1	Number of lactation and number of animals for sampling	3.4
3.2	Interpretation of CMT reaction score	3.8
3.3	Characteristics of different organisms on bacteriological culture	3.10
3.4	Biochemical tests and description for various organisms	3.12
3.5	Distribution of milk culture from cows and quarters at dry off and	3.27
	first month after calving for treatment and control groups	
3.6	Organism present at dry off and first month after calving in	3.28
	frequencies and percentage at cow and quarter levels	
3.7	Bacteriological isolates from the quarter milk bacteriological	3.29
	culture of the treatment and control groups at the time of dry off	
	and in the first month	
3.8	Effect of dry cow therapy in curing IMI in cows and quarters (%)	3.30
	at first month after calving	
3.9	Effect of dry cow therapy in the prevention of new intramammary	3.31
	infection at cow and quarter level at first month after calving	
3.10	Self cure rate at cow and quarter level at first month after calving	3.32
	from the control group	

3.11	New infection rates of the cows and quarters in frequencies and	3.33
	percentages at first month after calving	
3.12	CMT results of quarters at dry off and first month after calving	3.33
3.13	CMT results compared with bacteriological cultures at first month	3.34
	after calving	
3.14	Comparison of mean $log_{10}$ colony forming unit in treatment and	3.34
	control group at dry off and first month after calving	
4.1	Descriptive analysis of milk bacteriological culture from 1 <sup>st</sup> to 5 <sup>th</sup>	4.15
	month after calving in treatment and control groups	
4.2	Organism present in milk bacteriological culture at 1 <sup>st</sup> to 5 <sup>th</sup> month	4.16
	after calving in treatment and control group	
4.3	Effect of pre and postmilking teat dipping in the prevention of new	4.17
	IMI at cow level from 1 <sup>st</sup> to 5 <sup>th</sup> month after calving	
4.4	Effect of pre and postmilking teat dipping in the prevention of new	4.18
	IMI at quarter level from 1 <sup>st</sup> to 5 <sup>th</sup> month after calving	
4.5	New intramammary infection rates of cows and quarters from 1 <sup>st</sup> to	4.19
	5 <sup>th</sup> month after calving	
4.6	CMT results of quarters at 1 <sup>st</sup> to 5 <sup>th</sup> month after calving	4.20
4.7	CMT results compared with bacteriological culture at 1 <sup>st</sup> to 5 <sup>th</sup>	4.21
	month after calving	
4.8	Sensitivity and specificity of CMT compared with milk	4.21
	bacteriological culture results	
4.9	Comparison of mean $log_{10}$ colony forming unit in treatment and	4.22
	control groups at 1 <sup>st</sup> to 5 <sup>th</sup> month after calving	

# **List of Figures**

Figure

- 3.1 Percentage of quarters cured after dry cow therapy in treatment and A.8 control groups by organism category
- 3.2 Mean  $\pm$  SEM of cfu log base<sub>10</sub> in quarter milk sample before and A.8 after dry cow therapy for the treatment and control groups
- 4.1 Culture positive in percentage for treated and untreated control A.9 quarters from first to fifth month of teat dip
- 4.2 Result of cfu (Log base 10) after teat dipping during five months of A.9 sampling after calving

# LIST OF ABBREVIATIONS

ADH	Arginine Di-Hydrolase
Any organism	All Gram-negative and Gram-positive organism
CFU	Colony forming unit
χ2	Chi-square test
CMT	California mastitis test
CIR	Cow infection rate
CNS	Coagulase-negative <i>staphylococcus</i>
DCT	Dry cow therapy
ELISA	Enzyme linked immunosorbent assay
Epi Info	Epidemiology Information
FOECC	Fluoro-opto-electric-cell-counting
FET	Fisher exact test
IMI	Intramammary infection
IPT	Indicator paper test
MDG	Methyl- alpha- D- Glucopyranoside
NAGase	N- acetyl- β-D-glucosaminadase
NaOH	Sodium hydroxide
NMC	National Mastitis Council
Other organism	Organism other than S. aureus and CNS
QIR	Quarter infection rate
SA	Staphylococcus aureus
SCC	Somatic cell count
SCM	Subclinical Mastitis
SE	Standard error
SPSS	Statistical package for social services
URE	Urease
VP	Voges-proskauer
WMT	Wisconsin mastitis test

#### **CHAPTER 1**

#### **INTRODUCTION**

Bovine mastitis is generally characterized by inflammation of the parenchyma of the mammary gland in the presence of significantly increased leukocyte content in milk (Radostits *et al.*, 2000). Causes of mastitis may be by physical, chemical, managemental, mycotic and primarily bacteriological and pathological changes in the glandular tissue. The most important changes in the milk include discoloration, pus, the presence of clots, abnormal secretion in the gland and presence of a large numbers of leukocytes. There is swelling, heat, pain, fever, marked depression, rapid weak pulse, sunken eyes, weakness and complete anorexia (Radostits *et al.*, 2000).

Many infective agents cause intramammary infections (IMI). The common microorganisms are *Streptococcus agalactiae*, *Staphylococcus aureus* and *Escherichia coli* (http://www.nmconline.org). Risk factors for mastitis are infected quarters, teat injury, efficiency of milking personnel, milking speed and hygiene in the milk parlor. Susceptibility of the cow to mastitis was found to be related to stage of lactation, early (50 days) post calving (Sargeant *et al.*, 1998), age of cow, lactation number (more than four lactations) (Emanuelson and Funke, 1991), level of inherited resistance, teat shape, anatomy of teat canal, teat lesions (especially the orifice), distance from ground to teat, immunological factors including leukocyte and status of each mammary gland including prior infection (Radostits *et al.*, 2000).

The risk of IMI is increased with high milking rate and large teat canal diameter. It is also associated with increased somatic cell count (SCC) (Slettbakk *et al.*, 1995), lack of vitamin E, A and selenium (Jukola *et al.*, 1996;Weiss *et al.*, 1997).

The economic losses from mastitis occur in the form of reduced milk production and quality, shortened reproductive life, premature culling of the affected animals, and veterinary costs for treatment. It has been estimated that mastitis results in severe economic losses of around US\$182 per cow annually. The total annual losses due to mastitis in U.S.A. are about US\$2 billion (Miller *et al.*, 1993). A single infected gland results in a loss of 770 kg of milk per cow (McDonald, 1979).

The widespread use of mastitis control measures such as: (1) milking machine maintenance, (2) teat dipping, (3) early treatment of clinical cases, (4) dry cow therapy, (5) culling of cows with chronic mastitis (<u>http://www.nmconline.org</u>) has led to considerable progress in controlling mastitis caused by contagious pathogens such as *S. agalactiae* and *S. aureus*. Nevertheless, environmental mastitis has become a major problem in many well-managed dairy farms (Oliver and Mitchell, 1984; Smith *et al.*, 1985a; Oliver, 1988; Booth, 1988; Todhunter *et al.*, 1995; Milne *et al.*, 2002).

Milking machine has direct contact with teat and it transports milk from teat to processing plant. The milking machine can influence new IMI from one animal to the other. It is crucial to understand the basic components, functions, and operation of the milking equipment, maintenance and importance of good milking technique (Spencer, 1989).

Premilking udder preparation and teat sanitation is necessary to reduce the microbial population and minimize new IMI. It may be performed by washing and drying with a single service paper towel. Predipping and udder preparation have a significant effect on milk bacterial counts, and on the incidence of mastitis (Ruegg and Dohoo, 1997). Predipping controls the growth of environmental mastitis. Postmilking teat dipping immediately after every milking with a germicidal solution reduce (contagious pathogen) the incidence of new udder infections by 50-90% (Boddie and Nickerson, 1997).

Early treatment of the clinical cases alleviates clinical signs, achieves a bacteriological cure and restores the cow's production. In addition, it also limits the spread of infection, eradicate a specific pathogen, and increases herd production (Radostits *et al.*, 2000).

Dry cow therapy (DCT) eliminates the existing infections by 70-98%. Cure rate varies according to organism for coagulase-negative *staphylococcus* (CNS) over 95% (Davidson *et al.*, 1994) and *S. aureus* 85.2% (Pankey *et al.*, 1982a). Prolong use of DCT eliminates *S. agalactiae* by 90-100%. Dry cow therapy reduces the incidence of new IMI by 50-75% (Williamson *et al.*, 1995). The cure rate of *S. aureus* IMI varies from 40 to 83% (Rindsig *et al.*, 1978; Ziv *et al.*, 1981).

Culling of chronically infected cow can help to eliminate the existing IMIs. Animals which are infected with *S. aureus* may have fibrosis in the mammary epithelium and the infection persists for long time. These animals are poorly responding to antimicrobial therapy. Sometimes 4-5 cases of clinical mastitis occur in current

lactation. Therefore, chronically infected animals should be culled (Stott and Kennedy, 1993).

Conventional method for bacteriological isolation and identification is used worldwide. California mastitis test is an indirect test which is a rapid and practical test to determine approximate somatic cell concentration in milk (Miller and Kearns, 1967). It is also in use since a long time for mastitis diagnosis. It has been considered as a reference method in mastitis diagnosis.

Among the environmental pathogens, *Streptococcus uberis, Streptococcus* dysgalactiae, and *Enterobacteriae* spp. are the most prevalent, infecting mammary glands as favourable conditions arise (Smith *et al.*, 1985b; Oliver, 1988; Todhunter *et al.*, 1995; Milne *et al.*, 2002).

The prevalence of IMI from pathogens is about 50% of cows and quarter infection rate of about 25% (Fox *et al.*, 1995). The prevalence of infection in dairy heifers of breeding age and in pregnant dairy heifers varies widely from 30-50% (Fox *et al.*, 1995) and 18% of quarters (Pankey *et al.*, 1991) to as high as 97% of heifers and 75% of quarters (Nickerson *et al.*, 1995). The average annual incidence of mammary infection of clinical quarter cases per 100 cows at risk per year including the dry period in individual herds ranges from 10-12% (Miltenburg *et al.*, 1986) but higher values, ranging from 16-65% in some herds (Firat, 1993; Bartlette *et al.*, 1992b).

Studies on the effect of premilking, postmilking teat dipping and DCT have not been reported in Malaysia. Evaluation of DCT, pre and postmilking teat dipping by comparing colony forming unit in treatment and control group has also not been performed. Therefore, this study evaluates the efficacy of DCT, pre and postmilking teat dipping in bovine mastitis.

This study aims to determine the efficacy of Noroclox <sup>®</sup> (Cloxacillin 500mg, Norbrook Laboratories Limited U.K.) as a DCT in eliminating existing IMI and preventing new IMI and to determine the efficacy of 0.5% iodine as a pre and postmilking teat dip in bovine mastitis.



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