



Four year summary of outcomes of selective dry cow therapy in the CAFRE Dairy Herd

	no dry cow tubes	+ dry cow tubes	
Cow numbers	353	152	
Low - Low	309	54	(not infected during dry period)
Low - High	31	7	(infected during dry period)
High - Low	11	85	(cured during dry period)
High - High	2	6	(not cured during dry period)
Dry period protection	90.9%	88.5%	
Dry period infection	9.1%	11.5%	
Dry period cure	84.6%	93.4%	

- * On average, 30% of cows received combination therapy (dry cow tubes and sealer)
- * The target for dry period protection is >90%. This was achieved across the 4 years.
- * The target dry period cure rate is >80%. This was achieved in both categories of treatment.
- * Dry cow tubes proved very effective in curing existing infections across the dry period. However, it should be noted that the dry cow accomodation, feeding space and bedding frequency were all of a high standard.
- * All cows received internal teat sealant.
- * Bulk tank SCC's did not increase as a result of implementing selective dry cow therapy.
- * Milk recording SCC's and mastitis history are essential for informed decision making.
- * Each herd seeking to implement selective dry cow therapy will have slightly different priorities, depending on bulk tank SCC's, levels of and types of mastitis organisms and the amount of mastitis during the first month of lactation. These should be fleshed out in conjunction with the farm veterinary practitioner.
- * Dry period protection is defined as a SCC under 200 at drying off and still under 200 at first recording in next lactation
- * Dry period cure is defined as an SCC over 200 at drying off, decreasing to under 200 at first recording in the next lactation.
- * Dry period infection is defined as an SCC under 200 at drying off, increasing to over 200 at first recording in next lactation

