Macdonald Campus Farm Cattle Complex Standard Operating Procedure # DC-605

PREPARING COWS FOR MILKING

1. PURPOSE

To maintain udder health before milking.

2. RESPONSIBILITY

Trained and qualified personnel.

3. MATERIAL

- 3.1 Milker Action Sheet
- 3.2 Gloves
- 3.3 4XLA® (teat dip solution)
- 3.4 Della-Wash® antiseptic udder wash
- 3.5 Paper towels
- 3.6 Stripping cup
- 3.7 Milker Action sheet

4. CONSIDERATIONS

- 4.1 Do NOT prepare cows too early. It is very important that cows (especially early lactation/ G1 cows) be milked within 1 minute after being prepped. Cows prepped too early are missing their peak milk letdown. Timing is crucial to reach their maximum milk production and maintaining udder health.
- 4.2 Do not use 4XLA on cut, damaged or inflamed teats. Discontinue use in any cow showing signs of irritation or hypersensitivity to the product.

5. PROCEDURES

- 5.1 READ the Milker Action Sheet for Antibiotic Treated cows and Fresh cows needing to be milked into a pail.
- 5.2 Prepare 4XLA solution:
 - 5.2.1 Measure equal volumes of 4XLA® base and 4XLA activator into a clean dip cup/container. Do not dilute.
 - 5.2.2 Mix until the color is uniform throughout.
 - 5.2.3 Fill the dip cup by squeezing the bottle.
- 5.3 Don clean gloves.
- 5.4 Gently remove any bedding from the udder with a clean paper towel.
- 5.5 If the teats / udder is very dirty due to the presence of manure. DO NOT DIP.
 - 5.5.1 Wet a paper towel in the short bucket with Della-Wash® antiseptic udder wash solution and remove any manure from the teat and surrounding area of the udder where the milker could make contact.
 - 5.5.2 Dry the teats using a paper towel.
- 5.6 Cover the entire teat with 4XLA by pushing the cup all the way to the bottom of the udder.
- 5.7 The dip must stay on the teat for a minimum of 20 seconds to be effective.