

MILL CREEK VETERINARY SERVICES: MILK CULTURE RESULT SHEET

Mill Creek Veterinary Services has a complete milk culture lab for mastitis diagnostics. The following is a brief explanation of the abbreviations you will find on the paperwork sent regarding culture results. Routine culture results are usually available within 24hrs, while mycoplasma results can take up to 7 days.

N.G.: *No Growth*- No bacteria were detected in the milk sample on routine culture. This means no bacteria were found in the milk *at the time the sample was taken*. Mastitis causing organisms can be shed intermittently in milk and/or the mastitis causing organism could have already been eliminated from the cow at time of sampling.

Contaminants: Unable to diagnose due to multiple colony types and/or bacterial overgrowth-contamination. Usually due to improper sampling technique and/or improper storage of milk sample.

Other:- consult veterinarian if any explanation needed for this category

ENVIRONMENTAL

Coli: *E. coli/Coliform*- a group of potentially mastitis causing bacteria found in the cows environment/manure. These bacteria can also be found in samples that are not properly collected, cooled, and/or stored. These bacteria are usually not spread cow-to-cow, and are not considered contagious. Mastitis caused by these bacteria may respond to antibiotic therapy. Preventative measures can help control this type of mastitis. Discuss control strategies with your veterinarian.

Strep Non-Ag: *Streptococcus spp.*- a group of potentially mastitis causing bacteria found in the cows environment. These bacteria can also be found in samples that are not properly collected, cooled, and/or stored. These organisms differ from Strep ag. in that they are usually not spread cow-to-cow, and are not considered contagious. Mastitis caused by these bacteria may respond to antibiotic therapy. Preventative measures can help control this type of mastitis. Discuss control strategies with your veterinarian.

CNS/M-M1: *Coagulase Negative Staph/Micrococcus*- a group of potentially mastitis causing bacteria found in the cows environment. These bacteria can also be found in samples that are not properly collected, cooled, or stored. These bacteria are usually not spread cow-to-cow, and are not considered contagious. Mastitis caused by these bacteria may respond to antibiotic therapy. Preventative measures can help control this type of mastitis. Discuss control strategies with your veterinarian.

CONTAGIOUS

Staph Aureus: *Staphylococcus aureus*- a mastitis causing bacteria spread cow-to-cow, usually during the milking procedure. Mastitis caused by this bacteria usually *does not* respond well to antibiotic treatment. Preventative measures are necessary for control. This bacteria is *highly contagious* and can spread rapidly to other herdmates. Discuss control strategies with your veterinarian.

Strep Ag: *Streptococcus agalactiae*- a mastitis causing bacteria spread cow-to-cow, usually during the milking procedure. This bacteria responds well to intramammary antibiotic therapy on an individual cow basis. Preventative measures are necessary for control. This bacteria is *highly contagious* and can spread rapidly to other herdmates. Discuss control strategies with your veterinarian.

MYCO: *Mycoplasma*- a mastitis causing organism spread cow-to-cow, usually during the milking procedure (especially in the hospital). Mastitis caused by this bacteria *does not* respond to antibiotic treatment. Preventative measures are necessary for control. This organism is *highly contagious* and can spread rapidly to other herdmates. Discuss control strategies with your veterinarian.