



## CLEANING ROUTINE AFTER MILKING

**AIM: TO SUPPORT FARMERS TO IMPROVE MILK QUALITY BY USING A GOOD CLEANING ROUTINE AFTER MILKING.**

### 1. Why is it important to clean equipment and the parlour after milking?

- Cleaning utensils (buckets, sieves and towels) removes dirt, manure, milk and fat deposits. This helps to prevent bacteria from growing in these places and removes any smells.
- Clean utensils prevent milk becoming **contaminated by bacteria** and the milk turning sour.
- Cleaning the parlour removes dirt, faeces and other matter which attracts flies or bacteria.

### 2. Why is it important to clean **IMMEDIATELY** after milking?

- Cleaning directly after milking is easier as the milk is still wet, so washes off easily. If left over milk has a chance to dry, it can become sticky and difficult to remove.
- The utensils and parlour will be dry and ready for use at the next milking.

**REMEMBER** to store the clean utensils somewhere where they will not become dirty again. Avoid storing things in the parlour. **Use the parlour for milking only.**

### 3. Tips for washing and drying equipment and the parlour

#### MILKING BUCKETS

1. Rinse the bucket with plain clean water to remove all traces of milk.
2. Wash the bucket with warm water and non-perfumed detergent, e.g. Boom, Akti Suds, Sunlight.
3. Finally rinse with chlorinated or warm water.
4. Place buckets upside down on a drying rack.

#### SIEVES

1. Ensure sieves are in good condition.
2. Wash sieves in warm water mixed with non-perfumed detergent, e.g. Boom, Akti Suds.
3. Finally rinse in chlorinated or warm water.
4. Leave sieves to dry on a drying rack.

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### TOWELS

1. Use one clean, dry towel per cow. This avoids contamination between cows.
2. Wash towels immediately after use. Use clean water and detergent.
3. Dry towels, preferably in the sun.
4. Store towels in a clean, dry place, to stop them becoming damp or dirty.



Clean utensils drying on a rack



Clean towels drying in the sun



Dirty sieves



Simple drying rack

### Drying racks:

- ✓ Drying racks should be:
  - Placed in the sun. Sunlight helps with disinfection;
  - In an area away from dust;
  - In the rainy season, somewhere covered (to protect from rain), but has enough air for circulation (e.g. under a shelter).

### MILKING PARLOUR

1. Sweep the floor of the parlour to remove dust and dirt.
2. Sprinkle with water to settle dust and make the ground firm.
3. Clean the drainage every second day.
4. Wash the roof and walls with water at least twice a year to avoid dust gathering and falling into milk.
5. Paint the walls with lime once per year

For further information contact your local **Extension Officer**.

ZDTP is focused on supporting dairy farmers to improve their productivity, milk quality and linkages to urban markets. The views expressed in this publication are those of the implementers of the programme and do not necessarily reflect those of the New Zealand Government. For further information, please contact ZDTP on [zdtpinfo@primeconsultants.net](mailto:zdtpinfo@primeconsultants.net). Follow us on [www.zambiadairy.com](http://www.zambiadairy.com), Facebook ([facebook.com/zambiadairy/](https://facebook.com/zambiadairy/)) and Twitter (@DairyZambia).

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