

COW MILK QUALITY ANALYSIS ON SOMATIC CELL COUNT

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Summary. Milk quality is characterised by somatic cell count in mililitres (scc/ml) of milk. Having tested individual cows with the total count of 400000 scc/ml we estimated that 13,14 % of udder quarter milk contained more than 301000 scc/ml at the beginning of milking while 15,7 % of udder quarter milk contained over 751000 scc/ml at the end of milking. Further testing of the cows with 301000–400000 scc/ml we estimated that at the beginning of milking 50 % udder quarter somatic cell count was over 301000 scc/ml, and at the end of milking 50 % of the udder quarters had somatic cell count over 751000 scc/ml. The highest accuracy in the estimation of somatic cells is achieved by separate analysis of cow udder quarters at the end of milking. The beginning of subclinical mastitis can be diagnosed if somatic cell count is over 600000 scc/ml at the end of milking.

Keywords: somatic cell, subclinical mastitis.