



## COLD WEATHER TEAT DIP MANAGEMENT

# UDDERCARE SOLUTIONS

As the days get shorter and the temperatures approach freezing, it is time to start thinking about proper teat dip management.

Have you been wearing an extra layer of clothing lately? Do your hands start to get cold without gloves on? If you have answered yes to either of these two questions, chances are it is time to start thinking about winter udder health management.

An efficient teat dip program during cold weather is important to aid in mastitis control during the winter months. Special precautions are also needed to avoid cold weather effects on the dairy cow's mammary system. Damage done to a cow's teat ends during cold weather may create costly udder health issues throughout the rest of the year.

Dairy producers in northern portions of the United States may think that when the weather drops below freezing they can eliminate a post dip practice on their farm. While this may work because the freezing temperatures decrease the growth of most bacteria, it has been shown that by completely eliminating teat dip practices, the spread of contagious mastitis has increased on farms.

At temperatures above 20 degrees F a conditioning pre/post teat dip should be used. **VALIANT™**, available exclusively through ABS is an effective solution for cold winter days. Designed to improve overall teat skin condition, **VALIANT™** will improve teat end health by reducing symptoms of hyperkeratosis (damaged teat ends). Healthy teat ends reduce the potential of bacteria penetrating the teat canal, which is a growing issue as production and parlor throughput is pushed.

At temperatures below 20 degrees F, producers should consider switching to a high emollient cold weather teat dip instead of discontinuing teat dipping. "It should be pointed out that omitting teat dipping does not ensure that the teats are dry. In severe cold, even a thin milk film should be dried before turning a cow out into the parlor".<sup>1</sup> A high emollient cold weather teat dip is designed to protect a cow's teats during inclement weather while conditioning the teats for better overall udder health. **ARTEC™** is the premier cold weather teat emollient in the industry. **ARTEC™** replaces the need for salves and creams, which are often contaminated with mastitis-causing organisms. <sup>1</sup>Reneau, 1999

*Jason Vorpahl, owner of a 1,100-cow dairy in Northern Wisconsin has been conditioning his cow's teats with ARTEC™ for the past three winters, when wind chills start to fall below 20 degrees F. "Our cows walk 1,000 feet between the parlor and the freestall, so a teat protectant is crucial during extremely cold weather", says Vorpahl. Jason would strongly recommend ARTEC™ to other dairies. The Vorpahl operation has tried other varieties of teat protectants in the past as well as using nothing at all. Ever since they started using ARTEC™, their teat ends remain consistently healthy throughout the entire year. Jason says, "if we don't apply ARTEC™ even one time during low wind chills, their teat ends will be wrecked".*



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## VALIANT™ Pre-Post

*The Healthy Teat Specialist*

With sub-zero temperatures quickly approaching, VALIANT pre/post teat dip can help dairy producers improve teat skin and teat end condition. VALIANT offers many benefits as the winter months arrive.

- ◆ Dual germicide with lactic acid to promote teat exfoliation
- ◆ Special teat conditioning formula rejuvenates dry teats and keeps them in top condition
- ◆ Bright green marking readily identifies dipped teats
- ◆ NMC protocol tested



*"I routinely recommend Valiant Pre/Post in herds across the country experiencing teat skin and teat end condition problems. I have not found another product that conditions teats as well as Valiant while also providing highly effective germicidal protection."*

- Dr. David Reid, DVM, Bou-Matic, Hazel Green, WI

## ARTEC™ Post

*The Salve/Cream Terminator*

ARTEC post dip broadly replaces the need for salves and creams that often contaminated with mastitis-causing organisms.

- ◆ Ready-to-use post dip
- ◆ Triple blend of emollients for superior teat conditioning
- ◆ Fatty Acid-based
  - Aids in prevention of both contagious and environmental mastitis
- ◆ Marks teats blue
- ◆ Product of choice when dampness, cold temperatures, or wind can cause teat chapping



For Further Information about these and other ABS Uddercare products,

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