

**California Mastitis Test (CMT)**

**Objective:** Use the California Mastitis Test.

**Materials and Equipment:**

Test paddle

Reagent

Store-bought milk sample

Milk sample from a local dairy cow with mastitis

**Procedure:**

1. Place approximately half a teaspoon of each of the milk samples into the test paddle.
2. Add half a teaspoon of test reagent to each sample (Figure 1.1).
3. Gently rotate the paddle to mix the milk and reagent.
4. Ten to fifteen seconds after mixing, look for changes in color and consistency. Samples from infected cows will be a deep purple in color. Uninfected milk will remain liquid, while infected milk that reacts strongly will clump together in a gel (Figure 1.2). The milk forms small masses of gel in a moderate reaction.

Figure 1.1 - Test Paddle and Reagent

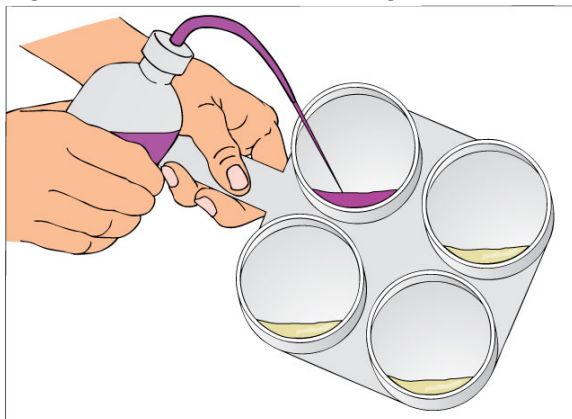


Figure 1.2 - Normal Milk Versus Strong Reaction

