Farm procedures manual

Milking Plant Operation
Supply Number 123456
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Vat washing:

1. The tanker driver should have put a rinse through the vat.

2. Ensure that:
   i. The door seal is removed and placed on the vat floor
   ii. The vat door is open
   iii. The milk inlet tap is in the upright (that is the milking) position.

3. Place 400ml Starbrite in the hot drum – this is the drum that is insulated.

4. Adjust the taps so the hot tap to the pump is open and the cold tap to the pump is closed.

5. Push CIP button on the vat console.

6. Brush up the vat outlet pipe to clean the top of this line.
   N.B. Ensure you do not come into contact with the discharging cleaning solution.

7. Allow the vat cleaning process to come to an end.

8. Reseal the vat door. Remember that the wide section of the seal faces the outside of the vat.
   Also remember to close the vat outlet tap and ensure the safety catch is engaged.

9. The vat is now ready to receive milk.

10. When approximately 40-50 cows (one platform round) have been milked, turn the refrigeration unit on at the vat switch board and check that the fridge motor has started.

Note:

Three times a week (eg. on Mondays, Wednesdays and Fridays) give the vat an Alkali Wash.

For an alkali wash, use 400ml Rapid in the hot drum at Step 3 and follow with 400ml Starbrite added to the cold drum.

To start milking:

1. Turn on cooler and sprinkler pump taps.

2. Turn on teat-sprayer switch. Pass hand across beam to check that teat-sprayer works. If it doesn’t spray, check that the reflector and the sensor are not obstructed and wipe clean if necessary.
3. Turn on
   i. The main plant switch
   ii. The yellow tap to fill the jetter tub
   iii. The platform drive (and set speed)
   iv. The backing gate
   v. The vat inlet tap

4. For the first full platform rotation, check you have pulsation in each set of cups.

5. After one rotation, check there is no milk loss in the dairy or vat areas. Check also that the fridge unit is on, and the cows are going to the correct paddock.

6. Turn off the yellow tap when the jetter tub overflows.

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**Plant washing:**

Use **ACID** all afternoons and all mornings except Monday and Friday.

Use **ALKALI** on Monday and Friday mornings. The changes for an alkali wash are written in *italics*.

1. At the end of milking, fit the jetters by:
   i. Folding the initiator activating lever back, and
   ii. Turning the initiator levers to the manual (left) position and fitting cups into jetters.

2. Stop the platform with bail 43 adjacent to the jetter tub and turn off the platform switch on the operator switchboard.

3. Connect black hoses from the jetter tub to the two camlok fittings under the platform.

4. Switch milklift pump to high speed. The sound of the pumps will change pitch when the receiving cans are pumped out.

5. Introduce water by turning on both valves that the black hoses are connected to. The rinse water can now be sucked out of the jetter tub.

6. After sixty seconds, move vat inlet tap handle from the vat (up) position to the wash (horizontal) position.

7. Move the toggle switch on bail 43 switchboard toward the middle of the platform – this is the wash mode position.

8. Turn off the cooler and sprinkler pumps and then the cooler and sprinkler taps. Walk around the shed to check all initiators are working properly. Turn off teat-sprayer.

9. When the cold rinse is through:
   i. Turn off the taps under the platform, and
   ii. Refill the jetter tub by draining the hot water cylinder. Add 750ml Starbrite from the dispensing unit and drain this into the jetter tub. For an alkali wash use 750ml Rapid from the dispensing unit.

10. Change the filter sock and hose out the filter housing.

11. Turn the taps under the platform back on.
i. When the chemical solution has gone through then turn off the jetter taps and turn the toggle switch to the milk production.

13. Following an alkali wash, half fill the jetter tub with the yard hose. Add 750ml Starbrite and rinse the plant.

14. Stop the plant. This is done by:
   i. Putting on earmuffs
   ii. Removing the rubber bung from the vacuum tank
   iii. Turning off the plant switch next to the shed light switch in the foyer
   iv. Pushing the fill button on the hot water cylinder and turning off the hot water cylinder drain tap.

At the end of the plant wash:

1. Hose off the filter sock and reassemble.
2. Turn cooler and jetter pump switches to the ON position.
3. Replace the bung in the vacuum tank.
4. Turn off the hose in the dairy that you washed the filter with.
5. Open the jetter taps to drain the jetter line.
6. Release the initiator activating lever so it will move the levers over at the next milking.
7. Remove the cups from the jetters and at the same time move the initiator activating levers to the right.
8. At bail 43 turn the milkpump switch back to the auto position. Close jetter taps under bail 43.
9. Set the gates into the yard for the next milking.