

June 27, 2016

## Component and Quality Testing Information

The BCMMB expanded component and quality testing for all BC dairy producers effective May 1, 2016 to provide results from every pickup, or as often as possible. Producers have made many enquiries since we began emailing component and quality results to fully understand all the information.

### **Components**

The BCMMB will test every viable sample for “components,” this includes:

- *Butterfat* (BF)
- *Protein* (PR)
- *Lactose and other solids* (LOS). Lactose is measured from your milk sample and other solids are a factor that is added to the lactose result

In the past, producer’s test results were based on a weighted average of four tests per month, but now are based on all tested pickups for the month. Individual producer test results will be available on the producer section of the BCMMB website under “daily results,” as well as by email.

### **Quality**

The BCMMB will test every viable sample for “quality”, except for IBC where we will only use fresh samples, this includes:

- *Somatic Cell Count* (SCC) – we test every viable sample for SCC
- *Individual Bacteria Count* (IBC) – Previously tested as Plate Loop Count or PLC, we strive to test TWO (2) samples per week. Bacteria can only be tested on fresh samples hence the lesser frequency. If you see a result displayed as “0” this means that particular sample was not tested for IBC.
- *Cryoscope* (Cryo or Cry) – Is a measure of added water in your milk, we test every viable sample for Cryo.

Quality results (SCC and IBC) will be done by a weighted average at the end of the month. IBC will only be tested on fresh samples (which will done twice per week); the two tests will be performed randomly on fresh samples. An example calculation on weighted average is found below.

Cryoscope results are treated a bit differently. If in a month a producer has two results above 3.7%, then their month end result is the average of those results above 3.7%. If a producer has only one or no results above 3.7% then their month end average is the straight average of all their cryoscope results for that month.



### Milk Urea Nitrogen (MUN)

We test every viable sample for MUN. MUN does not factor into producers component or quality results, and has no impact to a producers pay. MUN is provided to producers for information only to help maximize on-farm feeding efficiencies. Producers are encouraged to discuss with their feed representatives or nutritionists to further understand how MUN impacts your farm. MUN will fluctuate day to day, depending on many factors such as time since feeding and feed intake, and it is important to look at trends and averages rather than day to day MUN results.

### Inhibitor Infractions

It is the responsibility of every producer to ensure that milk made available for pick-up meets the provincial guidelines. A producer whose milk has been found to contain veterinary drug residues or inhibitory substance residues is not permitted to sell or supply milk until a subsequent bulk milk sample taken from the farm bulk milk tank tests negative. Following a positive test result:

- Shipments are immediately suspended for the offending producer.
- A producer is required to test their milk and provide a negative result to the BCMMB before shipping can resume.
- It is the producer's responsibility to inform the BCMMB to resume pick up.

*Please see attached Non-Qualifying Milk Policy for further information.*

### Producer Concerns

If you receive a lab result that you believe is not representative of your milk, you must contact the Quality & Transportation department at the BCMMB as quickly as possible. We have the ability to review component and quality results to ensure test results are representative of your milk. We will not, however, change component or quality results due to a producer request unless we can determine that the results are not representative of your milk.

The Below Tables summarize the thresholds for the all lab results:

#### **Components**

<b>Component</b>	<b>Frequency of testing</b>	<b>Quality Bonus Threshold</b>	<b>Ministry Penalty Threshold</b>	<b>Comments</b>	<b>Payment Calculation</b>
<b>Butterfat (BF)</b>	Every Sample	N/A	N/A	< 3.25 results in deemed quota	Based on actual. Volume multiplied by test result = value in kg/hL
<b>Protein (PR)</b>	Every Sample	N/A	N/A		Based on actual. Volume multiplied by test result = value in kg/hL
<b>Lactose &amp; Other Solids (LOS)</b>	Every Sample	N/A	N/A	Other solids is a factor added to lactose	Based on actual. Volume multiplied by test result = value in kg/hL

**Quality**

<b>Quality</b>	<b>Frequency of Testing</b>	<b>Quality Bonus Threshold</b>	<b>Ministry Penalty Threshold</b>	<b>Comments</b>	<b>Payment Calculation</b>
<b>Somatic Cell Count (SCC)</b>	Every Sample	≤ 250,000	≤ 400,000	Results are truncated @ 999,000	Based on weighted average using only the volumes from the dates that SCC is reported.
<b>Individual Bacteria Count (IBC)</b>	2 Tests per week (random)	≤ 30,000	≤ 121,000	Results are truncated @ 999,000	Based on weighted average using only the volumes from the dates that IBC is reported. See example
<b>Cryoscope (CRY)</b>	Every Sample	≤ 3.7%	≤ 3.7%	This test detects “added water”	If ≤ 1 cryo test result is greater than 3.7% in a month, all cryo results for that month are averaged. If ≥ 2 cryo test results are greater than 3.7% in a month, only cryo results ≥3.7% are averaged.
<b>Inhibitor</b>	Once per month (random)	Not Permitted	Not Permitted	See attached Non-Qualifying Milk Policy document at the end of this notice	If a sample is found positive for any inhibitory substance either at a processor or during random testing, an infraction will be levied. See attached Non-Qualifying Milk Policy document at the end of this notice
<b>Milk Urea Nitrogen (MUN)</b>	Every Sample	N/A	N/A	A high MUN value is considered to be 14-16 mg/dL. A high MUN is indicative of excess urea which is likely an imbalance in rumen available protein/carbohydrate. High urea can cost a producer money.	N/A

**Example of a weighted average calculation**

<b>Date</b>	<b>Volume Shipped</b>	<b>IBC</b>	<b>Volume x IBC</b>
01-May	3,200	0	no test
03-May	3,279	8,000	26,232,000
05-May	3,130	10,000	31,300,000
07-May	3,250	0	no test
Volume (A)	6,409		
Volume x IBC (B)			57,532,000
Weighted Average = (B divided by A)		8,977	

**If you have any questions or concerns, please contact Kelly Harris at 604-854-4479 or [kharris@milk-bc.com](mailto:kharris@milk-bc.com) ; or you can contact Woody Siemens at 604-854-4476 or [wsiemens@milk-bc.com](mailto:wsiemens@milk-bc.com)**

# NOTICE TO PRODUCERS

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September 27<sup>th</sup>, 2013

## NON-QUALIFYING MILK POLICY

The Board has reviewed and approved the Non-Qualifying Milk Policy as stated below.

It is the responsibility of every producer to ensure that milk made available for pick-up meets the provincial guidelines.

### **Non-Qualifying Milk**

#### **Rejected at the farm – No Payment/No Penalty**

- A person who transfers milk from a farm holding tank to a tank truck shall leave the milk in the farm holding tank where, in his or her opinion, that milk
  - Is found to be adulterated, contaminated, Is abnormal in odour, contains excessive sediment, objectionable matter or physical defects of any kind, or is not consistent with good quality milk; and
  - Would, if transferred into the tank truck, be of detriment to the milk in the tank truck or to subsequent transfers of other milk into the tank truck
  - Exceeds 4 degrees Celsius
  - Is un-measurable. Volume cannot be determined as milk does not reach the farm holding tank stick
  - Visible butterballs
- Contains foreign objects
- Milk taken from cattle within three weeks before parturition, or during the first three days after, shall be deemed to be unsanitary or of abnormal composition and shall not be sold or offered for sale.

#### **Not rejected at the farm – No payment/Penalty**

- Includes all milk found to contain the presence of inhibitors/antibiotics. This includes milk rejected at a processor, milk found positive during official week regardless if the corresponding load of milk was rejected at a processor or not and any milk found to contain any of all 8 drug families during random testing whether conducted by the British Columbia Milk Marketing Board or the British Columbia Ministry of Agriculture and Lands (Ministry).

### **Milk Containing Inhibitor/Antibiotics**

A producer whose milk has been found to contain veterinary drug residues or inhibitory substance residues is not permitted to sell or supply milk until a subsequent bulk milk sample taken from the farm bulk milk tank tests negative. Following a positive test result:

- shipments are immediately suspended for the offending producer
- a producer is required to test their milk and provide a negative result to the BCMMB before shipping can resume
- it is the producer's responsibility to inform the BCMMB to resume pick up
- the BCMMB will test a sample from the first pick up following an infraction; a positive test result will be considered a subsequent infraction and the producers shipments will be suspended until a negative test result is reported

This process is repeated until the BCMMB's test result is negative for drug residue

### **Confirmation Tests**

Confirmation tests will be performed when possible.

### **Notifying Producers of Incident**

As producers need to be notified as quickly as possible that their milk tested positive for antibiotics/inhibitor when an incident occurs during non-business hours, at a processor that will not test producer samples, the British Columbia Milk Marketing Board staff will have the load and producer samples tested at a third party location on approved testing equipment. If a producer(s) sample tests positive this would be considered an infraction to that producer(s). Samples would be sent for confirmatory testing next business day.

A subsequent Non-Qualifying Milk infraction will not be levied until the producer has been informed of the positive test result. Once informed, the penalties will compound until the BCMMB obtains a negative test result.

### **Delaying Milk Pick-Up**

If a producer delays his regular milk pick up time to have his milk tested any additional charges to the BCMMB for this delay will be passed directly on to the applicable producer.

### **British Columbia Milk Marketing Board Inhibitor/Antibiotics Penalty System**

Is based on a rolling 12-month period

All fines, penalties and expenses are collected by the BCMMB through a deduction from the producer's next payment.

### **First Infraction**

- No payment is made to the offending producer for the volume of milk shipped on the offending load
- \$20.00 per hectoliter penalty on the volume of milk shipped on the offending load
- All logistical and testing costs incurred including but not limited to the following:
  - ✓ 100% of the disposal costs including direct disposal costs as well as any after-hours or overtime fees and any and all other charges that are incurred as a result of disposing non-qualifying milk
  - ✓ Confirmation test costs
  - ✓ Courier charges incurred transporting samples
  - ✓ Trailer washing charges

### **Second and subsequent Infractions**

- No payment is made to the offending producer for the volume of milk shipped on the offending load
- \$60.00 per hectoliter on the volume of milk shipped on the offending load
- All logistical and testing costs incurred including but not limited to the following:
  - ✓ 100% of the disposal costs including direct disposal costs as well as any after-hours or overtime fees and any and all other charges that are incurred as a result of disposing non-qualifying milk
  - ✓ Confirmation test costs
  - ✓ Courier charges incurred transporting samples
  - ✓ Trailer washing charges

A penalty is based on the total volume of milk shipped that day regardless if milk is split between more than one trailer or compartment and one or more trailers or compartments is not rejected by the processor.

Testing facilities are scarce. Ensure you have access to testing equipment for the drugs you use on your farm; available when needed.

**If you have any questions or concerns please contact Kelly Harris at 604-854-4479 or [kharris@milk-bc.com](mailto:kharris@milk-bc.com)**