



The MilkSure initiative is for British dairy farmers. Its mission is to safeguard the production of wholesome milk which is free of veterinary medicine residues.

With new types of tests being used by dairy producers for detecting medicines in milk, having peace of mind that your milk is residue free will be all the more important. These new tests are not just looking for antibiotics, and other medicines commonly used in dairy cattle will be detected as well.

MilkSure is led by DairyUK and has been developed in conjunction with BCVA (the British Cattle Veterinary Association). The training is aimed at anyone on the farm who milks or administers medicines. Training is provided by vets for their own clients, using a workbook and other learning materials. The course covers all the technical and practical aspects necessary to safeguard residue free milk.

A Certificate of Achievement is awarded to those who complete the training and pass an online test. A completed course and test earns 7 Dairy Pro points.

Farmers will benefit by: -

- Having fewer costly milk residue failures
- Using medicines more efficiently
 - Saves Money
 - Better results of treatments
- Demonstrating to customers a clear commitment to producing pure, safe milk.



After this course you will feel more in control of safeguarding your milk production. You will know the three main areas which are at risk and you will have the necessary tools to avoid residue failures. You and your staff will have fewer decisions to make and will have less doubt and better peace of mind.



Picture from Irish Times

Vets will benefit by: -

- Ensuring the medicines prescribed are being used as intended
- Fulfilling a responsibility for safeguarding that dairy products remain medicine-free
- Demonstrating leadership in responsible use of veterinary medicines on dairy farms

Milk buyers and processors will benefit by: -

- Having to deal with fewer costly milk medicine residue failures

- Gaining the respect and confidence of dairy consumers
- Promoting the highest level of food safety

The course is in two parts, Technical Essentials and Practicalities.



Technical essentials

This section covers:

- Reasons for bulk tank failures
- The consequences of antibiotic residues in milk
- How antibiotics are detected in milk
- How medicine withdrawals are formulated
- 'Label' and 'off label' use and how this effects milk withdrawal

Practicalities

This section is more farm specific. All the medicines used on farm are discussed thinking about what they are used for; dose, route of administration, storage and withdrawals. Protocols for treated cows are looked into and this includes how they are marked when they are milked and dump procedures. Dry cow protocols are covered. At the end of this section a management plan is made to deal with the main risk areas on your farm that could lead to a bulk tank failure.

At the end of the course there is an online test consisting of 10 randomly picked multiple choice questions selected from a large bank. You need to answer 8 correctly to pass. This can be done with vet supervision where they can provide appropriate assistance. If you do not pass the test you can try again immediately with a different set of questions. Upon completion the farm receives a certificate and is put on a register of farms which have completed the course.

The course is now compulsory with some milk producers for farms who have had bulk tank failures and in the future is likely to be a yearly requirement for farms on certain contracts.

Sheep Meeting

Monday 18th December. Medicine use, treatments for common diseases. The Ship Luckington. Further details to follow.

For Sale

Pedigree, 17 month old Aberdeen Angus bull, pre-movement tested and ready for work. For further information please contact Drew and Karen Morgan on 07929947149



*Wishing you all a
Merry Christmas!*

Will

