Use of Tru-Test Electronic Milk Meter (EMM) in France

CL62-Pas de Calais

Christian Lhomme
France background

Statistics:
- 4M dairy cows across 100,000 herds
- Average herd size around 40 cows
- Over 60% of herds are on test
- Over 2,300 x Tru-Test RFID EMM’s

System:
- 70+ independent regional herd test associations
- 12+ French regions using EMM’s
- Replacing technician testing with farmer testing
- Standard PM/AM herd test – 2 milk samples in same RFID vial
- Sample vial RFID tag data carrier from farm to lab
- Parlour RFID integration to Tru-Test EMM e.g. RFID Anklets
CL62-Pas de Calais background

- Herd test centre based in northern France
- 720 x Tru-Test RFID Electronic EMM’s
- 77 x Tru-Test Data Handlers
- CL62 technicians use PDA units
- TG Lait management software
- 900 herds on Control A technician testing
- 270 herds on Control B farmer self-testing
- CL62 is EMM Service Centre for France
La situation CL62-Pas de Calais

- EMM’s and PDA’s used over last 2 years
- Finishing deployment of EMM’s for Control B farmers
- Testing RFID Low Frequency anklets (ARaymond France)
- Integration of RFID Low Frequency anklets into herd test system
- Integration EMM RFID High Frequency milk sample vials in lab
CL62-Pas de Calais system
Before going to farm

- Bluetooth Herd File from PDA into Data Handler:
  - Cows pre-loaded from TG Lait/PDA to Data Handler before herd test
  - Tru-Test PocketLINK software formats data during upload process
  - Upload file includes testing configuration settings for that farm
RFID EMM on-farm

Read RFID anklet

Cow ID selected onto EMM

EMM writes cow test data to RFID tag at end of milking with vial placed in tray
Proactive feedback on-farm

- Printout (or soft copy) for farmer at end of milking

Printout includes:
- Herd ID
- List of cow ID’s with volume recorded
- List of cows ID’s with entered status codes
- List of cow ID’s pre-loaded but NOT milked
- List of cow ID’s milked but NOT IN database
- Average production figures for herd by session
- EMM & Data Handler battery charges
After the herd test

**Downloading data:**
- Data Handler download to PDA using Tru-Test PocketLINK
- Herd update in TG Lait software used by Pas de Calais
- Data also read off tag at lab e.g. herd ID, cow ID, volume, sample ID
Lab & data processing

Optional CL-62 lab reader

In-line CL62 lab reader scans data on EMM milk sample vial tag

WEB SERVICE

AEI Database Centre

Report same day for farmer via internet
Session 23/04/2007 6:00:27 p.m.

Yield (kg)

Flow Rate (kg/min)

Time (min)

Selection
Profiles: 1
Mean Yield: 8.92 kg
Mean Milking Time: 00:03:30

Graph
Profiles: 1
Mean Yield: 8.92 kg
Mean Milking Time: 00:03:30

Animal: 0110008715
Vial: 92803181
Yield: 6.52 kg
Milking Time: 00:03:30
Start Time: 6:30:07 p.m.
End Time: 6:33:37 p.m.
Edited
Duplicated

FRANCE
CONSEIL ÉLEVAGE

TRU-TEST®
EMM servicing

- **Levels of servicing are:**
  - Simple 16kg water test on Fast Flow Test Rig
    - Same test as with Tru-Test Mechanical Milk Meters
  - Electronic Rigs:
    - Calibration Test Rig (CAL Rig)
      - All EMM calibrations
      - Electronic repairs go through recalibration
    - Mega Test Rig (MTR Rig):
      - Functional testing after repair
      - Full EMM operational check

- **France EMM Test Rigs at CL62:**
  - Other EMM Service Centres in:
    - Denmark (TTS)
    - Ireland (ICBF)
    - USA (CRI/AgSource)
    - Tru-Test New Zealand