

## NML Microcheck sampling instructions

- 1) Write the corresponding Cow ID on the sample vial and on the submission form provided.
- 2) Swab the teat ends with the Alco-wipe provided. The teats on the far side should be swabbed first. Ensure that teats are clean and dry before sampling.
- 3) Cup the sterile sample bottle in the left hand and remove the cap, holding it between thumb and forefinger on the same hand with the inner face pointing downwards. ENSURE THAT THE PRESERVATIVE IN THE BOTTLE IS NOT DROPPED OR SPILT.
- 4) Strip milk from each teat several times before milk is directed into the bottle. Then fill the bottle approximately three quarters full. The bottle should be held almost horizontally during sample collection. The cap must then be replaced as soon as possible and screwed on tightly.
- 5) The samples should then be agitated to mix the preservative throughout the sample.
- 6) Ensure that the outside of the bottle is free from debris or faeces.
- 7) Place the bottle in the clear plastic bag provided before sealing up the package (please seal the box using the sticky label enclosed in the kit) and send to the laboratory using the pre-addressed and pre-paid box supplied.

### **Caution:**

Samples for Bacto Breakdown or Mastitis ID testing should not be contaminated with bacteria from outside the udder as this will make it difficult to identify the bacteria responsible for the infection. The teat end must not touch the bottle during sampling and the teat should not be stripped over the open bottle as skin debris and dirt may fall in.

If you have any questions, please contact customer services on 0844 7255567.