

Review of: "Clinical and Subclinical Bovine Mastitis: Staphylococcus aureus Isolation and Identification from Dairy Farms Located in and Around Hawassa Town, Southern Ethiopia"

Asrat Diriba¹

¹ Dilla University

Potential competing interests: No potential competing interests to declare.

I found this paper is good and can be published after a thorough review, and I will add my suggestions as follows:

“From each quarter of the udder, a squirt of milk sample was dropped into each of the strip cups”

Which drop of milk ?

Here, determine it in a better way: the first milk drops after washing of the udder have to be rejected; stripped on the ground, and then the next drop will be taken. Since the first drop, as it mostly stays in the teat canal, can be mastitis positive,

About transportation,

Of course, it is expected that it will be transported within a shorter period of time, but it seems better if the maximum and minimum time taken between collection and the laboratory and between collection and examination

“Udder cleaning was made with clean water, soap, and dried with a clean towel, followed by teat disinfection with 70% alcohol before milk sampling”

Are these standard methods of udder cleaning, especially using soap and alcohol? Even alcohol, if it cannot be cleaned very well, it may affect the result. And also, it's better if the kind of soap used is described

Isolation and Identification

~~Udder cleaning was performed with clean water, soap, and dried with a clean towel, followed by teat disinfection with 70% alcohol before milk sampling. Ten milliliters of milk was taken after discarding the foremilk from each dairy cow. Transportation was done to the HU-FVM lab by keeping an icebox containing ice packs. Upon arrival, the collected samples were immediately stored at 4 °C for a maximum of 24 h until culturing the next day.~~

Under “isolation and identification,” the above strikethrough part of the paragraph was repeated from the other part and does not have a direct link with this specific title, and better it is removed.

Bacterial Isolation

A total of 127 exotic and crossbred lactating cows with either clinical or subclinical (CMT positive) mastitis were examined for the isolation of *S. aureus*. *S. aureus* was isolated from 41.6% (5/12) of the clinical cases and 47.8% (55/115) of the subclinical cases, respectively. The overall prevalence of *S. aureus* was 47.2% (60/127), as indicated in Table 2.

What was your basis/justification for taking 5 out of 12 and 55 out of 115

Regarding odds of having mastitis, lactation stages have three standard categories (early, mid, and late), and if possible, it is better to look with this regard

“Another significant variable, the lactation stage, showed us that >7 months was a significant category for mastitis compared with <3 months;”

....and another condition to be considered regarding “Risk Factors Associated with Mastitis” was leaving animals after milking to avoid lying down, especially for those whose milking parlor is similar to the feeding/staying area. If you have data about this, it is better to add information about its association with the mastitis risk factor.