

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

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Potential competing interests: No potential competing interests to declare.

I consider it very important to address the topic of the work presented, both for epidemiology and animal health, with a potential clinical impact on human health. I also consider that the work has potential and could have been addressed in a broader context, in the sense that, although it is known that *S. aureus* is one of the main microbiological agents that cause mastitis, and given the sample collection, the identification of all the pathogens present in the sample could also have been included, following the CLSI protocols. All of these to be able to affirm in this study that *S. aureus* is the most frequent microorganism isolated in this type of sample and the unique responsible for mastitis cases identified by the clinic.

The milk sampling and udder cleaning subsections in the material and methods sections could be combined and generate a single unified section, to avoid repeating information.

The wording of the 2nd paragraph of the discussion section could be improved because it could generate confusion in the interpretation of the study results: This variation in prevalence between subclinical and clinical mastitis may be attributed to the difficulty of detecting subclinical mastitis by the owners compared to the easily detectable clinical cases, which prompt owners to seek treatment for their animals.

As I mentioned previously and to critically address the last two paragraphs of the discussion and the conclusion itself, it would be good to mention in the results presented the isolation or not of microbiological agents other than *S. aureus* in the samples analyzed, in such a way to have a more complete picture about the etiological agent responsible for mastitis.

In general terms, the work is very good and the topic is very interesting. Researchers are encouraged to address the questions asked and thus improve it to have a more complete and enriched work in terms of the information provided.