

## GUIDELINES FOR MILK RECORDING

### BEFORE MILK RECORDING IT IS THE HERDOWNERS RESPONSIBILITY TO:

- **Schedule:** Organise the recording schedule for the year well in advance with your designated recorder and milk recording organisation.
- **Cow Identification:** Cows must be clearly identified. Clip the freeze brands of the cows before recording.
- **Data Update:** Update the cow freeze brands if different from the last four digits of the cow's tag, and the calving and dry off dates on ICBF in advance of recording.
- **Time for recording:** Allow extra time for milking on the day of the recording.
- **Milking interval:** Maintain your normal milking interval and feeding pattern prior to and during the recording.
- **Contamination:** Contaminated samples may not be tested. Clean udders result in less contamination in milk samples.

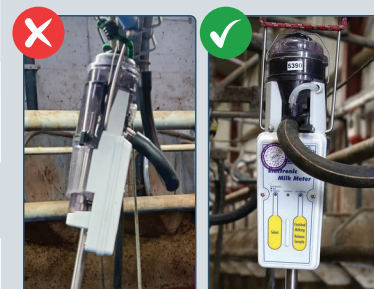


### MILKING MACHINE

- **Machine vacuum:** The machine vacuum reserve must be sufficient to maintain normal milking conditions during the recording and ensure even milk flow through meters. There must be adequate washing vacuum reserve to ensure the meters are washed properly.
- **Cluster Air Bleeds:** Clear all cluster air bleeds before recording commences.
- **Air leaks:** There must be no air leaks from perished rubber ware, split liners, or faulty connections to meters and meter fittings.
- **Cluster Flush:** Cluster flush must be turned off for the duration of the recording to avoid sample dilution.
- **Residual Water:** Residual wash water in the plant must be removed before recording commences to avoid sample dilution.

### METERING EQUIPMENT

- **Calibration & Servicing:** Manual and electronic ICAR approved meters must be calibrated and serviced at least annually and/ or according to the manufacturer's instructions.
- **Meters Level:** Milk meters must hang straight. More than a 5° tilt will result in an uneven flow in the meter and affect results.
- **Tubing lengths:** Avoid excessive tubing from the milk line to the meter to maintain normal milking conditions.
- **Clean taps on manual meters and jars:** Taps on manual meters and jars must be cleaned before all recordings as they are not part of the wash cycle.
- **Clean EDIY meters:** All meters must be properly cleaned and ready for collection by the EDIY technician.



### ENSURE A SAFE WORKING ENVIRONMENT IN THE PARLOUR

- **Milk Lines:** Ensure that the sample bottles can be reached in parlours with milk meters positioned high on the milk line.
- **Lighting:** Ensure adequate lighting in the parlour.

Check out our **DIY & Manual Milk Recording Videos** for more information by scanning the QR codes below;



Video 1:  
DIY Milk  
Recording



Video 2:  
Manual Milk  
Recording