



## PRECAUTIONS FOR THE PROTECTION OF MILK FROM CONTAMINATION AT ITS COLLECTION AND DISTRIBUTION.

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### Milkers and Utensils.

1. Milkers' hands should be thoroughly clean.
2. Water, soap, and towels should be provided in or near the cowshed.
3. Milkers should wear clean smocks when milking.
4. Dry milking should be insisted on, and hands should not be greased.
5. The milk kits should not be brought into the cowshed; a proper place for their reception and for the cooling of the milk should be provided.

### Cows.

1. Clean absorbent bedding should be provided.
2. The cows should be properly and regularly groomed, but not immediately before milking; time should be allowed for the dust to settle.
3. Prior to milking, the udders and teats should be cleaned (washed and allowed to dry).
4. Any eruptions on or abnormal conditions of the udders and teats must be immediately notified, as must also any suspicion or symptom of disease in any animal on the farm. (Local Government Act Amendment Act, 1894, sec. 17.)
5. An animal suspected of disease should at once be isolated, pending its examination by an Inspector.
6. Farmers should bear in mind that it is to their personal advantage to notify a suspicious case **immediately**. In addition to complying with the requirements of the law, prompt notification and isolation of a case may avoid heavy financial loss to the farmer by saving further contamination of his stock. Especially in tuberculous cases does this apply. A cow suffering from advanced tuberculosis is practically valueless, but when the disease is in its earliest stages and localized, there is a market value in the animal.

**Cowsheds.**

1. Cowsheds should not be used for storing food for cattle.
2. Manure should be removed prior to each milking.
3. The channels should be flushed with water and disinfectant at least once every day.
4. The walls and ceilings should be frequently lime-washed, brushed down, and sprayed with formalin.
5. The stalls and other woodwork should be frequently washed with water and disinfectant.
6. The wall at the rear of the cows should be washed down daily if the passage behind the cows is not of sufficient width to prevent splashing.
7. Cowsheds should be well ventilated, and every precaution should be taken to avoid overcrowding. To keep cows healthy and free from tuberculosis, a liberal allowance of cubic space and fresh air should be given to each animal.

**Milk Floats.**

1. The milk float should be regularly washed and kept in a clean condition.
2. All vessels used for milking, or for the delivery of milk, should be scalded prior to each milking or delivery.
3. The Attendant and his clothes should be clean.
4. The Attendant, if required to dip into the kit, should, at each delivery, be provided with a clean white overall.
5. It is advisable that kits with taps for drawing off the milk be provided.
6. The placing of improperly covered vessels at the doors of houses should be discouraged.

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**NOTE.—No Person suffering from an infectious disease must be allowed to milk, handle, or distribute milk. Consumptives, in particular, should not be allowed to come into contact with milk.**

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A copy of this Circular should be exhibited in every Cowshed for the guidance of all concerned.

By order,

B. E. SARGEAUNT,  
Government Secretary.

Government Office, Isle of Man,  
10th September, 1914.