

Drying off with IntraGold



Dry off hygienically

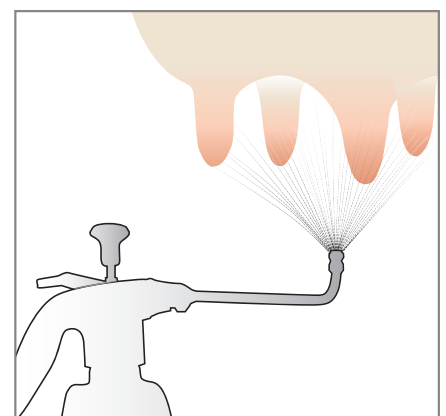
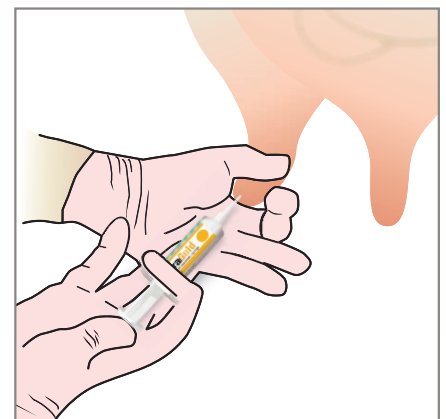
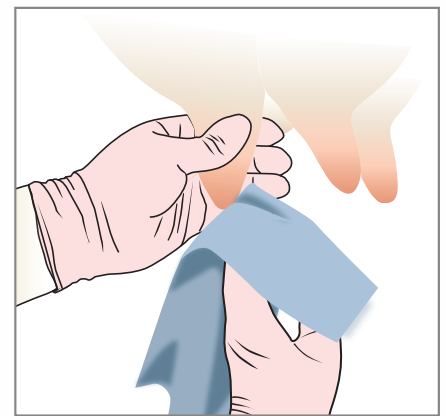
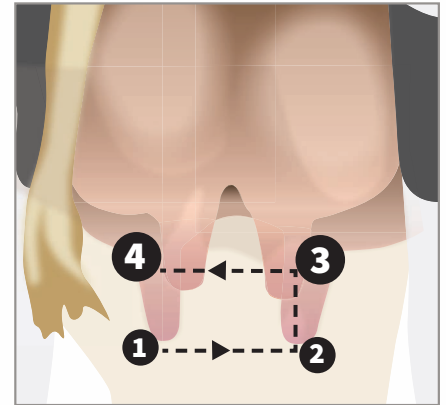
1. Finish milking, clean down the shed and then bring the cows back in for treatment.
2. It is recommended to pre-draft mobs if some cows are receiving antibiotic dry cow plus IntraGold vs IntraGold only.
3. IntraGold is very easy to infuse. In cold conditions if warming is required, place IntraGold tubes in a clean bucket suspended over another bucket of hot water, or use leak-proof hot water bottles inside the container of syringes.

Keep syringes clean and do not immerse loose syringes in water.

4. Wear gloves and wash and dry arms and hands before treating each cow.
5. Disinfect, then treat one teat at a time - **left front, right front, right back, left back** (so your arms don't touch a teat after disinfection and treatment).
6. When disinfecting a teat, open the wipe and scrub the teat end from underneath using your thumb. Move across the wipe using an unused section of the wipe for each pass over the teat end. Check if the wipe is clean at the edge, if not start again with a new wipe. Review this [video](#) with your team.
7. Don't let go of the teat between cleaning and insertion. If anything touches the teat end - start the disinfection process again.



Step 6: Teat wipe disinfection



IntraGold Only Cows

Take 4 IntraGold tubes. Start with the left front teat. Disinfect the quarter as above and insert the tip of the IntraGold tube 3mm into the teat and infuse one syringe into each teat. **Do not massage IntraGold into the teat.** Repeat for each teat in order.

Antibiotic Dry Cow plus IntraGold Cows

Take 4 tubes of each product. Start with the left front teat. Disinfect the quarter as above and partially insert the antibiotic tube, infuse the entire content and massage upwards from the teat into the quarter. Disinfect the teat again and insert the tip of the IntraGold tube 3mm into the teat and infuse one syringe into each teat. **Do not massage IntraGold into the teat.** Repeat for each teat in order.

After treatment

8. Cover all surfaces of each teat with teat spray mixed at the manufacturer's recommendation.
9. Clearly mark each treated cow. Record the cow number, date and the treatment given.
10. Walk cows quietly to pasture and observe for mastitis each day in the paddock for the first 10 days after drying off.

The 16 days of drying off

Note: Do not change milking frequency in the two weeks before drying off.

Day -6 to -4

→ / to /

- Feed cows normal pasture and supplements, targeting residuals of 1500-1600 kgDM/ha.
- In preparation for days -3 to -1 plan to have some paddocks with older lower quality pasture, or restrict the amount of pasture and ensure you have hay and silage ready.

Day -3 to -1

→ / to /

- A short, sharp change of diet is needed to reduce milk production and get cows ready to dry off. Restrict access to high quality concentrates and pasture.
- Graze cows on older low-quality pasture, or continue to feed grass - restricting area so cows graze to 1000-1200 kgDM/ha. Add in drier feed like hay and/or silage.

Dry off day

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- If it's raining on the planned day of drying off, then wait for it to pass. This might mean milking for 1-2 days longer on the day -3 to day -1 plan.
- After the last milking, administer antibiotic dry cow / IntraGold as authorised by your vet. After drying off, don't bring cows near the dairy for at least 10 days. Walk through them in the paddock and look for swollen udders suggesting mastitis. Bring these individual cows to the shed for closer examination.
- Do not put cows on a truck for at least a week after drying off.

Day +1 to +3

→ / to /

- Don't feed cows any concentrates or other high protein feeds. Limit access to fresh high-quality grass. Graze cows on older low quality pasture, restricting the area so that the cows graze to 1000-1200 kgDM/ha residuals. Ensure cows have plenty of area to spread out and lie down, especially if it's wet.
- Add in drier feed like hay and/or silage. Make sure cows have access to ad-lib water.

Day +4 to +9

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- Start introducing the cows to their winter feed. The aim is to be feeding cows their winter feed allocation by day 7.

Day 10 onward

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- It's now ok to run cows through the dairy shed, checking for any mastitis (hard quarters).
- Don't touch the teats or strip cows unless mastitis is suspected. Teat-spray the cows every time you take them through the shed in the dry period.

