

Preparing for a Dairy Inspection

Getting ready for an inspection doesn't have to be stressful, especially if you review the following checklist before the inspector arrives. Make sure the items listed are operating correctly and are in good repair. To pass, your farm must rate a score of 90 or better.

In the milkhouse — check the following for cleanliness and good repair:

1. ____ Inflatons
2. ____ Milk hoses, self draining
3. ____ Air hoses
4. ____ Pulsators
5. ____ Buckets
6. ____ Lids
7. ____ Claws
8. ____ Carrying pails/covers
9. ____ All gaskets
10. ____ Bulk tank – check thermometer, gaskets and compressor
11. ____ Measuring rod/hole
12. ____ Wash under bridge of bulk tanks
13. ____ Tank outlet valve clean and in good repair
14. ____ CIP wash plug on filler hose
15. ____ Quick coupler in CIP filler hose
16. ____ Water hose in wash vat – no submerged inlets allowed
17. ____ Moisture trap clean and in good repair
18. ____ Surge operated vacuum drain
19. ____ Hand wash sink with hot/cold water
20. ____ Hand soap/towels
21. ____ Approved sanitizers/letter listing approved sanitizers
22. ____ Floors smooth/clean and properly drained
23. ____ Hose port covers are tight
24. ____ Cement outside of port hole clean and in good repair
25. ____ Doors self closing/tight fitting
26. ____ Strainer pad dispenser self closing
27. ____ Strainer pads in box
28. ____ Lights have shatter-proof shields
29. ____ Walls and ceiling clean and light colored
30. ____ Vents screened
31. ____ Only store items directly related to milking
32. ____ Approved drugs with proper labels and properly stored
33. ____ Lactating and non-lactating drugs stored separately
34. ____ Enclosed cabinet if drugs stored in milkhouse
35. ____ Cabinet not stored over wash vats

36. ____ Colostrum milk storage
37. ____ Practice proper fly control procedures

In the barn – do the following:

1. ____ Brush down webs
2. ____ Scrape platforms
3. ____ Remove wood over gutters or walkways
4. ____ Lime barn floors
5. ____ Close hay chute doors
6. ____ Close silo/feed room door
7. ____ Cover food carts
8. ____ Replace burned-out light bulbs
9. ____ Hang-up anti-kickers
10. ____ Clip and/or clean cows
11. ____ Place calves/bulls in pen
12. ____ Whitewash/paint barn walls and ceilings
13. ____ Make sure milking barn ceilings are tight
14. ____ Use approved drinking cups
15. ____ Practice proper fly control procedures

In the cowyard – check the following:

1. ____ Scrape, clean and properly drain cowyard
2. ____ Place hoses or non-siphoning water/floats in stock tanks
3. ____ Cement where cows go out
4. ____ Cement under barn cleaner

On wells – check the following:

1. ____ Well pit must have shoe box cover that is tight-fitting
2. ____ Vent openings on well casing or pit must be screened or filled with steel wool
3. ____ Caulk electrical wiring entering casing
4. ____ Cover on well casing is tight
5. ____ Hydrant is proper distance from well
6. ____ High-pressure washer must have a backflow preventer
7. ____ Drain or sump pump is required in well pit
8. ____ Post letter of approval if well has chlorinator