

## Ethnoveterinary Practice for Mastitis

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Ethnoveterinary knowledge is acquired via actual experience. Ethnovet practices are important because they are easily available, inexpensive and effective, especially in rural areas where veterinary services are absent or irregular and expensive. In spite of recent initiatives to encourage its use globally, a lot of information is only recorded in field reports and academic journals. With an emphasis on cattle diseases, the goal of this publication is to assist livestock agents and farmers' leaders in integrating and promoting the use of ethnoveterinary medical practises in animal healthcare.

### Mastitis

Mastitis is the inflammation of the mammary gland and udder tissue. It is considered as the most prevalent illness that causes financial loss in the dairy sectors due to decreased yield and poor milk quality. Mastitis can be classified into 3 classes based on the degree of inflammation, namely clinical, sub-clinical, and chronic mastitis

### Causes

- ✓ It typically manifests as an immunological reaction to bacterial invasion of the teat canal by a variety of bacterial sources found on farms (mostly through contaminated bedding or teat dips), but it can also be brought on by chemical, mechanical, or thermal harm to the cow's udder.
- ✓ Pathogen, Host and Environment factors
- ✓ **Pathogen:** A wide range of gram-positive and gram-negative bacteria, some of which are contagious (such as *Staphylococcus aureus*, *Streptococcus agalactiae*, and *Mycoplasma* spp.) and others of which are environmental (such as *Escherichia coli*, *Enterococcus* spp., coagulase-negative *Staphylococcus*, and *Streptococcus uberis*).
- ✓ **Host:** Pure breed or cross breed with high yielding, Cattle with large funnel-shaped teats or pendular-shaped udder, older cows, cows in transition period and lactation period are more susceptible for mastitis.
- ✓ **Environmental:** High stocking density, contaminated floor, wet bedding, poor ventilation, and hot and humid climate all promote growth of mastitis causing pathogens.

### Symptoms

#### Subclinical:

- ✓ Cow appears normal, no physical signs of inflammation in udder.

- ✓ Less milk production than expected
- ✓ Somatic cell count of milk can be considered

### Clinical

- ✓ Swelling, redness, inflammation, or a hardness of the udders.
- ✓ Reduced food intake, fever and udders hot to touch.
- ✓ Reduction in mobility due to the pain of a swollen udder
- ✓ Milk discoloured with watery, pus, clots, flakes and thread like substances.



**Mastitis milk with pus, clots and flakes**

### Ethnoveterinary treatment

- ✓ Hygienic milking practices

- ✓ Ingredients required: Gheekumari (Aloe vera ) - 2 or 3 petal, Haldi (Turmeric) powder- 50gm, Chunna powder (Lime stone)- 10 gm
- ✓ Depending on the severity of the ailment, the above components are all thoroughly ground into a paste and applied to the udder three times each day for three to seven days before which the udder and teats should be washed with boiled water for 3 times for 5 days.

### References

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