



Risk based (quarterly testing)

Suitable for herds of moderate to high prevalence who are not able to dedicate the resources or have the facilities required for IFM on all cows calving. Frequent testing allows the creation of a low risk group (green cows, typically 90% of the herd) which are managed normally and a high risk group (red and amber cows) of cows which are separated at drying off into a dedicated segregation area to prevent contamination of green cows and green cow areas. Test results are also used to inform breeding and culling decisions.

This programme is especially suited to herds which undertake milk recording as the Johnes testing can be carried out on the milk recording samples.

The overall cost of the program may be offset by savings on labour and higher cull prices for cows identified early in the infection cycle.

Single test (Pre Dry off)

This is a less rigorous testing programme, with just a single test performed before drying off. This result is used to segregate test positive cows at drying off into a dedicated area away from the low risk cows.

The single test will not be as sensitive as repeated testing and as such not all infectious animals may be identified allowing some to enter the calving area and spread the disease.

This option may be suitable for block calving herds with low prevalence which can test all of the animals in one session pre dry off. It is more challenging to ensure timely testing in a year round calving herd with cows going dry every month. Adequate resources are needed to ensure cows are sampled at the appropriate time.

Double test (Pre Dry off and Pre Breeding)

This increased testing provides greater sensitivity than the single test and also provides a test result pre breeding to allow breeding decisions to be made.

This option may be suitable for block calving herds with low to medium prevalence.