Best practices for using the IDEXX Milk Pregnancy Test

Sample quality and handling

- The assay can be run on whole or skim milk samples and samples that have been exposed to heat treatment (during milk component analysis).
- Bronopol or a similar preservative may be used to maintain sample quality—this will not affect test results.
- Samples should be mixed gently prior to pipetting.
- Poor quality samples may compromise the accuracy of test results. Prior to testing, milk samples should be checked to ensure that they are not soured or separated and are free from contamination.
- Care should be taken to minimize the likelihood of milk carryover from cow to cow during sample collection, particularly when using samples collected for routine herd recording.

Incubation

- Use adhesive covers as specified during sample, detector and conjugate incubation steps. Adhesive plate covers validated for use with this test can be purchased from IDEXX. Ask your local sales or customer service representative for details.
- Use of a plate shaker incubator is needed. Please reference the test insert for rotation and temperature specifications or ask your local sales representative for more details.

Washing

- The assay requires 4–5 washes at each wash step during the assay protocol.
- Washing with good quality water and a clean and maintained washer is crucial.
- IDEXX can provide specific wash settings to be used for the IDEXX Milk Pregnancy Test. Please ask your LPD Technical Services representative for details.