Incidence of Sole Ulcer and White Line Disease in Some Dairy Farms

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Hoof lesions have been reported as the main cause of dairy cattle lameness (90%) in most studies. Depending on geographical area claw horn or Sole lesions are the main lesions of the hoof.

Current study has been done on 2 dairy farms consist of 2000 milking cows (1000 milking cow in dairy no one and 1100 milking cow in dairy no two, the average of milk production for both herds were recorded as 36 kg/day). Study was done during 12 months from October 2006-October 2007.

Data from 1638 trimmed cows in farm 1 and 4906 trimmed cows from farm two was analyzed during the study. All new cases of sole ulcer and white line disease have been analyzed in according to reported farmers' data.

One hundred and sixty two cases of sole ulcers recorded in farm one (9%) and 126 cases of white line disease recorded in farm two (6.94%). Annual incidence of 15.94% recorded for these two lesions; in farm two, 66 cases of sole ulcer (5.09%) and 208 cases of white line disease (18.9%) with annual incidence of 24% for both diseases have been recorded. Overall incidence of 7.51% for sole ulcer and 11.95% for white line disease has been recorded. Results show the annual incidence of 19% for these two lesions in current study.

Claw horn lesions are the main cause of the lameness in this area that in a high producing dairy farm needs proper diagnosis and treatment of the lesions. Low rate of culling from lameness in these farms shows proper diagnosis and treatment despite of its relatively high incidence. Special attention should be made to higher incidence of white line disease in this current study.

Key words: Sole Ulcer, White Line Disease, Dairy Farms