



Monitor the level of chronic high cell count cows to avoid penalties

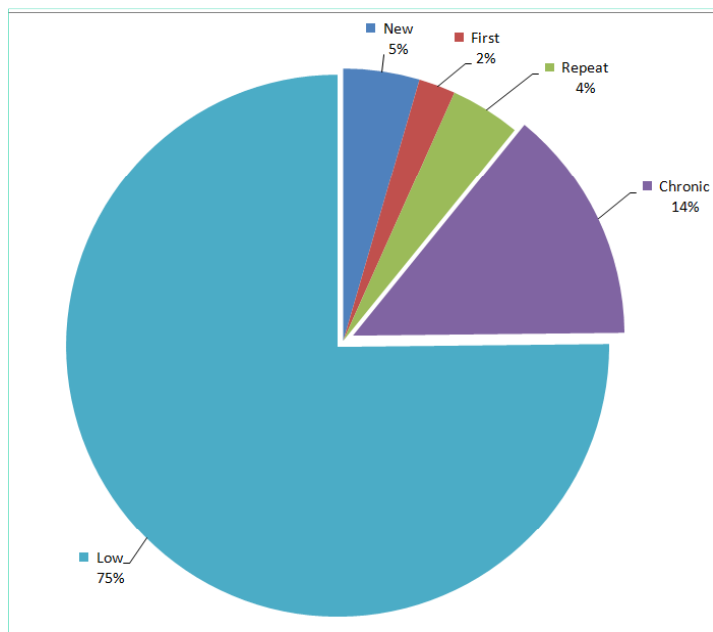
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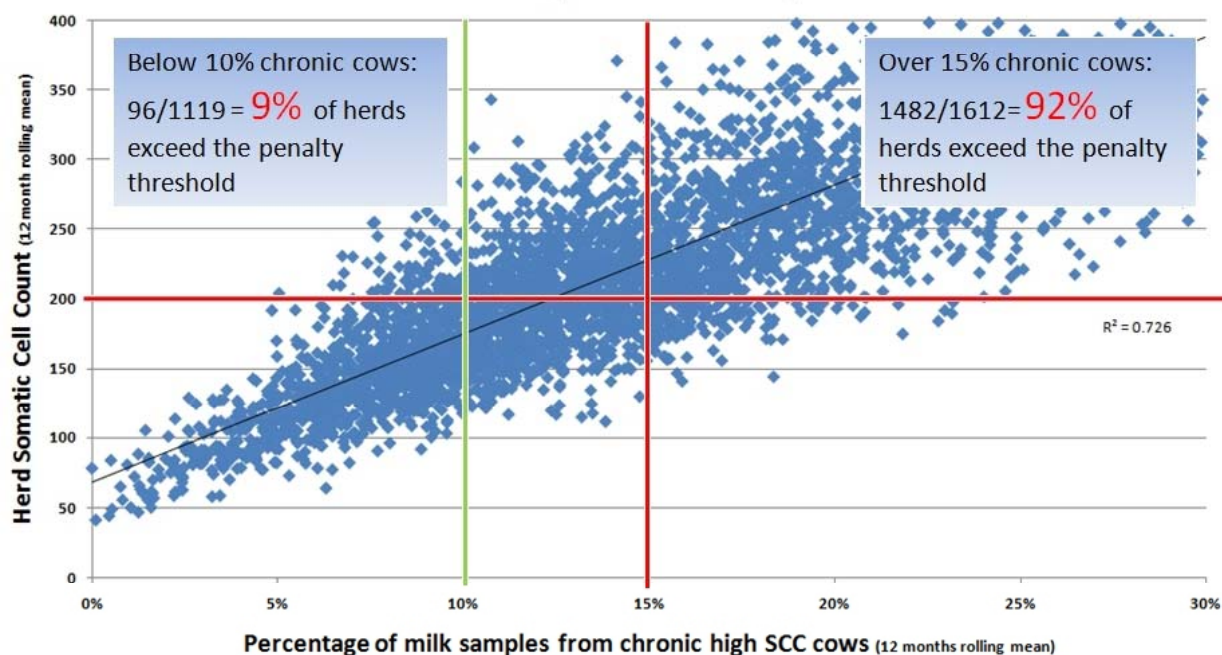
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Fact: Most milk samples with a high somatic cell count (SCC) originate from chronic (persistent) high SCC cows

1. Distribution of Herd Companion Cell Count Categories for 6.7 million milk samples analysed by NMR in 2011



2. Relationship between % chronic milk samples and herd SCC in 4,000 herds



3. Conclusions:

- Of all high SCC milk samples (>200,000 cells/ml) analysed by NMR in 2010, **53%** originated from **CHRONIC** cows
- Nationally, over 4 in 10 herds maintain in excess of 15% chronic cows. These herds cannot realistically expect to escape high cell count penalties, high levels of milk discard and an over-reliance on antibiotics
- Know the level of % chronic milk samples in all herds and focus on preventing cows acquiring chronic status

References: Hanks, J. D. (2011). *An analysis of somatic cell counts between 2005 and 2010 and the contribution of chronic high cell count cows*. UK Vet Livestock Volume 16 No 6 pp 27-34

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