Why incorporate antibiotic residue testing into dairy herd management?

Antibiotics are essential to keeping dairy cows healthy and comfortable. But antibiotic residues can be detected in a cow's milk long after treatment ends. **Here are four reasons** why it's essential to keep antibiotic residues out of the milk supply.



Antibiotic resistance—a growing health concern

When humans consume even small traces of antibiotics:

- Certain bacteria can become antibiotic resistant.
- Future antibiotic treatment becomes ineffective.



Human allergic reactions

- Five to ten percent of humans are hypersensitive to antibiotics.
- Concentrations as low as 1 ppb can cause hives, rashes, and even anaphylactic shock.



Negative effects on dairy products

Even small amounts of antibiotic residues can:

- Delay starter activity for cheese, butter, yogurt
- Decrease butter flavor/quality
- Reduce milk curdling
- Cause improper ripening of cheese

Legal requirements and risks

Exceeding residue limits poses serious financial and professional risks:

- Fines
- Suspended permits/certification
- Loss of consumer confidence
- Loss of milk income

Antibiotic residue testing protects your product, your reputation, and your livelihood.

For more information, contact your IDEXX representative.

Test with Confidence

