



and you shouldn't even bother to try. If you can't or won't treat her, milk her last. Segregation strings are *very powerful* tools for controlling new infections. For them to be effective they must be based on accurate culture information, all the shedders must be in there. If you don't want to segregate then you must cull; the sooner the better!

There are many anti-agent mastitis control procedures that are effective in controlling contagious infections. These techniques include pre and post dipping, individual towels for drying, dry-treating all quarters of all cows during the dry period, and backflushing the milk unit between cows. All these techniques are applied systematically to the herd in an effort to slow the new infection rate. These tools are recommended as part of any herds' preventative mastitis program. They are essential for Staph problem herds. When applied successfully, it will keep the level of infection low. What is special about Zero Tolerance is that it recognizes that the reservoir of infection for this disease is the quarters of infected cows. For all practical purposes the only way a new case can occur is if a healthy cow is exposed to the milk of a carrier. So the simplest, most powerful and most direct method of controlling the disease is to control the individuals that have it. That is the source. Eliminate the source by curing her or culling her, and if you can't do either of those, then segregate her. When applied successfully Zero Tolerance will not just slow the disease, it will *eradicate* it. If you don't have the organism, you can't have the disease.