

Reduce Treatment Costs with DecisiveDry

Make more informed dry-off decisions

– and reduce antibiotic use and cost

HerdHQ brings together test day SCC, mastitis events, and treatment cost data to help you take a more targeted approach to dry cow therapy. With the right decision-making tools, many herds can safely reduce antibiotic use without sacrificing udder health. This how-to guide provides an example of how HerdHQ may help identify those opportunities and highlight areas where ROI could be realized.

ROI Highlight \$11.00 Saved per Cow

HerdHQ's DecisiveDry tool supports Selective Dry Cow Therapy (SDCT), helping you identify which cows might not need antibiotics at dry-off — reducing costs and unnecessary treatments.¹

How to View this in HerdHQ

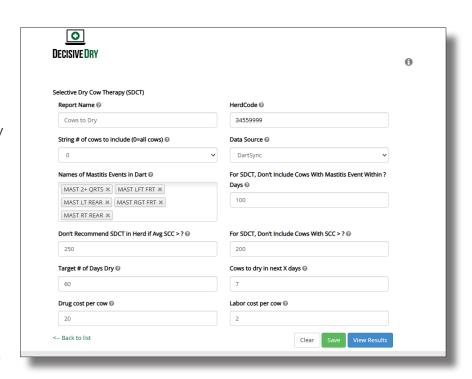
Use **DecisiveDry** to evaluate herd eligibility for SDCT and identify individual cows that can be skipped for antibiotic dry-off treatment.

Set up the SDCT Report

- Use **DecisiveDry** and select Create New SDCT Report Setup
 - Complete the form. Select
 DartSync if uploading
 DartSync information. This will also provide for the opportunity to include Mastitis Events.

Save and View the Results

- This summary will show the number of tests in the last 12 months and how many of those were above the Herd Max designation.
- It is recommended that a herd have a minimum of 8 DHI test days with SCC results and less than 3 test days above the Herd's Max SCC.



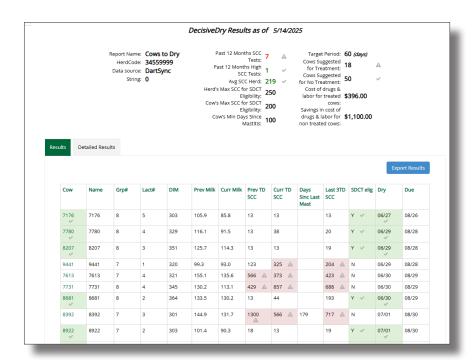
View Upcoming Dry Cows and SDCT Eligibility

- The screen lists cows due to dry off in the next week or number of days established in the setup.
 - Based on your settings, cows that are eligible for Selective Dry Cow Therapy will be shaded green with a check mark. Those not eligible will be shaded in red with a triangle.
 - Reasons for cows not eligible for SDCT
 - » Mastitis event in the number of days established
 - » Current and/or previous test above SCC eligibility level
 - » Average SCC from the last 3 tests exceeds eligibility level

Review Treatment Costs and Savings

- The screen displays:
 - The total costs of treating the cows not eligible
 - The savings for not treating cows
 - A detailed report is available for further data analysis

Cow		Name	Grp₽	Lact #	DIM	Prev Milk	Curr Milk	SCC	Prev TD SCC	SCC	SDCT	Dry		Days Dry Prev Lact	Due	Curr Lact Mast	Days Sinc Last Mast	Prev Lact Mast	TD SCC LS	Curr Lact SCC	Curr Lact SCC LS	Lact	Prev Lact SCC LS	Lact	Lact >=	Curr TD %Tank SCC	Prev 305d Milk	Prev 305d ECM	Prev 305d MEMilk	Prod Index	Total Solid: %
176	v	7176	8	5	303	105.9	85.8	13	13	13	Υ 🗸	06/27	v	58	08/26				0.1	14	0.3	17	0.4	5	0	0.0	30649	37760	27692	95	14.7
780	v	7780	8	4	329	116.1	91.5	20	13	38	γ 🗸	06/29	v	60	08/28				1.6	18	0.4	25	0.9	5	0	0.0	37101	47347	35148	126	14.4
207	~	8207	8	3	351	125.7	114.3	19	13	13	Υ 🗸	06/29	v	59	08/28				0.1	16	0.3	30	0.8	5	0	0.0	40160	44582	39808	122	13.8
441		9441	7	1	320	99.3	93.0	204 A	123	325 A	N	06/29			08/28				4.7	145	2.6			5	1	0.1	29918	35057	37665	121	14.5
613		7613	7	4	321	155.1	135.6	423 A	566 A	373 A	N	06/30		54	08/29				4.9	274	3.2	84	2.0	5	3	0.2	44924	45565	42559	117	12.4
731		7731	8	4	345	130.2	113.1	688 A	429 A	857 A	N	06/30		57	08/29			Y	6.1	903	5.9	28	0.9	5	5	0.4	38368	44201	36349	112	13.5
681	~	8681	8	2	364	133.5	130.2	193	13	44	Υ 🗸	06/30	~	60	08/29				1.8	126	2.2	29	0.9	6	1	0.0	44675	47558	47810	139	14.5
392		8392	7	3	301	144.9	131.7	717 A	1300	566 ▲	N	07/01		53	08/30	Y	179	Y	5.5	563	4.6	657	5.6	5	4	0.3	40507	42715	39441	111	12.9
922	V	8922	7	2	303	101.4	90.3	19	18	13	Υ 🗸	07/01	v	51	08/30				0.1	17	0.4	18	0.4	5	0	0.0	28087	32323	30093	95	13.3
957	~	8957	7	2	298	108.3	93.0	33	41	41	Υ 🗸	07/01	v	47	08/30				1.7	30	1.2	37	1.1	4	0	0.0	32687	37275	35022	109	13.5
348	4	9348	7	1	301	88.8	94.8	62	33	132	Υ 🗸	07/01	V		08/30				3.4	63	1.9			5	0	0.1	27653	33978	32591	109	14.0
			-			20.0																									



Use CowCompass for Deeper Evaluation

- Click on any individual cow to view her profile in CowCompass®
- This is especially helpful for cows with low production and not eligible for SDCT
- Additional information helps you decide to cull rather than dry off and keep for another lactation



Assumptions

- SDCT reduces antibiotic usage at dry-off by up to 55% (per MN DHIA & UMN data)
- If treatment = \$20 per cow, 55% reduction = \$11.00 savings per cow
- For a 1,000-cow herd: \$11,000 total savings

Footnote

¹Based on a 55% reduction in antibiotic use at dry-off through Selective Dry Cow Therapy (SDCT).

Assumes \$20 treatment cost per cow.

Source: University of Minnesota Extension. "Selective Dry Cow Therapy (SDCT)." Dairy Milking Cows, Regents of the University of Minnesota. Accessed June 10, 2025. https://extension.umn.edu/dairy-milking-cows/selective-dry-cow-therapy#sdct-infographic-2754010



HerdHQ: Backed by Data. Built for Action.

See what's happening in your herd with HerdHQ www.drms.org/HerdHQ/What-Is-HerdHQ

