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**1. Objective:** Apply mastitis diagnostic and monitoring techniques to three herds chosen for a high prevalence of *Staphylococcus aureus* over the 12 months prior to, and during the 12 months of, a rolling 3 month vaccination program with a polyvalent mastitis vaccine. STARTVAC<sup>®</sup> (HIPRA).

## 2. Vaccination protocol

- All cows received 2 vaccine doses 3 week apart followed by a rolling policy of quarterly boosters.
- In-calf heifers were batched to receive 2 doses 3 weeks apart with the second dose no less than 10 days prior to expected parturition. Heifers then joined the rolling 3 month booster program.

## 3. Preliminary data observations:

- Data is compared during 6 month intervals from 12 months prior to and 12 months after initiating a whole herd STARTVAC<sup>®</sup> vaccination policy for:
  - Clinical cases
  - *S. aureus* prevalence
  - Somatic Cell Count

↑ = Start of vaccination

## 4. Conclusions from data to date

In general:

- Better results after 6 months using the rolling protocol - in common with other studies the improvements take time.
- Vaccination is not a panacea and consistent good mastitis management is essential.
  - Herd De had some issues with both the parlour and environment resulting in increased challenge elevating the new infection rate.
- Clinical mastitis reduced by 54%
- *S. aureus* prevalence reduced by 71%
- Somatic Cell Count
  - Percentage of healthy animals increased by 4%
  - First infections reduced by 49%

