

Making your own CMT fluid:

From "Use of domestic detergents in the California mastitis test for high somatic cell counts in milk"
Leach KA, Green, MJ, Breen JE, Huxley JN, Macaulay R, Newton HT, Bradley AJ. Vet Rec. 2008 Nov
8;163(19):566-70

Ingredients:

40 ml Fairy Liquid

160 ml water

1 ml food colouring (the authors used red, but any deep colour will do)

- 1.) Mix the ingredients thoroughly and store in a sealed container.
- 2.) Place 3 ml of milk into each well of the paddle
- 3.) Add 3 ml of the homemade CMT fluid and swirl to mix
- 4.) Score the reaction you see in each well of the paddle

Category	Score	Description of reaction
Negative	0	Mixture of milk and CMT fluid stays unchanged and can easily be shaken
Weakly positive	1	Mixture is slightly mucous but can still be shaken
Positive	2	With movement of the mixture and unmistakable mucous formation can be seen. It is still possible to tip a small portion of the mixture out (SCC >200,000 cells/ml)
Strongly positive	3	Jelly-like, mucous consistency is formed and it is difficult to shake the mixture. It is no longer possible to tip out any surplus liquid (SCC >400,000 cells/ml)