

FREQUENTLY ASKED QUESTIONS

Q. Why do I get different readings on the same milk sample?

- A. Be sure to thoroughly mix the milk sample before drawing it into the tube.

Traditionally, if you were reading a creatomatocrit with calipers or a hematocrit reader, you wouldn't be able to discern anything less than a .5% difference (and that takes really good eyesight). The Creatomatocrit Plus is digital and is programmed with the regression equation, so it takes precision to an entirely different level. It would be unlikely that you would get two results that are identical for that reason. Minor differences in the way you read the creatomatocrit or place the cursor will produce minor changes in creatomatocrit percentage. You wouldn't be able to see these minor changes with the older methods, but because this is electronic and mathematical they will appear. You may want to spin two tubes of the milk sample and average the two results for a total.

Q. How can I stop the sealant from blowing out of the tubes?

- A. Some sealants do not work well. Use HemataSeal™ sealant.

Be sure you use the following procedure for sealing the tubes:

1. Fill the tube $\frac{1}{2}$ to $\frac{3}{4}$ full.
2. Let the milk flow down the tube until it is near the dry end. Then place your finger over the wet end of the tube to stop the flow. (Stop the milk before it gets to the area where the sealant will go – that area should remain dry.)
3. Immediately insert the dry end vertically into the sealant, pushing it to the bottom of the tray. Twist the tube when removing it from the sealant to prevent the sealing plug from being extracted. Repeat.
4. Gently tap the sealed end of the tube on a flat surface to help insure proper sealant contact in the tube.

Note: Do not push the holes out of the clay with your finger, as it can result in a thinned layer of sealant or air bubbles.

Q. Sometimes there is a “tail” or line of cream running down the inside of the tube. Will it affect the result?

- A. It will not affect the result. Simply ignore it when marking the interfaces on the tube.

Q. Do I have to use Creatomatocrit Plus tubes or can I use any brand of plain tubes?

- A. No, Creatomatocrit Plus tubes must be used. Their specific type and inside diameter ensures the calculation of accurate results.

Q. How do I perform quality control on the instrument?

A control strip is included with the centrifuge. It can be used to confirm the tube reader is working correctly. Directions for performing a spin time and a tachometer test are in the manual.

Q: What about Data Management? Can the results be interfaced with a computer or printer?

- A: No

Q: Can any brand of tube sealant be used?

- A: Some sealants do not work well with milk. HemataSeal™ performs well.