

Case 1: Gangrenous mastitis - mastectomy (teat amputation - traditional & alternative)

- Gangrenous mastitis in cows is a peracute or acute form of mastitis with frequently fatal consequences. The main infectious agents that cause gangrenous mastitis are *Staphylococcus aureus*, *Escherichia coli* and *Clostridium perfringens*. Affected cows always lose the quarter of the mammary gland that is affected.
- It is characterised by classical signs of inflammation with bluish discoloration which then progresses to necrosis of the udder. Teat amputation and physiological udder amputation (tying off blood vessels supplying the udder) have also been used to treat gangrenous mastitis. A partial mastectomy of one quarter using a cranial epidural analgesia with 2% lignocaine is administered to manage a gangrenous mastitis affecting only one quarter caused by *Proteus mirabilis* and not amenable to medical treatment.
- A safe and effective treatment includes partial mastectomy of the affected quarter. Amputation of complete mammary gland can also be done considering the general health status of the animal