

**21—68.26(190,192,194) Tests for abnormal milk.**

**68.26(1)** At least once every calendar month, all creameries, cheese factories, or milk processing plants, hereafter referred to as purchasers, shall test a herd milk sample from every producer in a certified or officially designated laboratory to determine the existence of abnormal milk.

**68.26(2)** A herd milk sample shall be deemed to be abnormal or adulterated if a test by direct microscopic examination, electronic somatic cell count, or equivalent technique, reveals a count greater than 750,000 somatic cells/ml.

**68.26(3)** Whenever two of the last four consecutive somatic cell counts exceed 750,000 cells/ml, the purchaser or regulatory authority shall send a written notice thereof to the person concerned. An additional sample shall be taken within 21 days of the sending of such notice, but not before the lapse of three days. Immediate suspension of permit shall be instituted whenever the standard is violated by three of the last five somatic cell counts.

**68.26(4)** Within one week following receipt of a written application from the producer, an inspection shall be made by the regulatory authority or the purchaser and a herd milk sample taken. If the test indicates a count of 750,000 or less somatic cells/ml, the producer's milk may be purchased for human consumption provided additional samples of herd milk are tested at a rate of not more than two per week. The producer shall be reinstated under the normal testing program when three out of four consecutive tests have counts of 750,000 or less somatic cells/ml.

This rule is intended to implement Iowa Code chapter 192 and Iowa Code sections 190.4, 194.4, and 194.6.