

SECTION V-2: SOMATIC CELL COUNT

2 SOMATIC CELL COUNT (SCC)

Somatic cell counts and interpretation are covered in Section II.5.3. As they are a measure of the level of mastitis (subclinical to clinical), they are important in milk quality. Mastitic milk has a reduced shelf life, decreased cheese-making ability and a disagreeable taste. The bacteria responsible for mastitis may also pose a risk to the consumer's health.