



For immediate release

## Expanded DNA Mastitis test now available

(Guelph, ON – June 22<sup>nd</sup>, 2010) CanWest DHI is pleased to announce that the identification of the *Mycoplasma bovis* (M. bovis) organism is now part of the routine **Mastitis 3** testing service. This enhancement to the test is being provided to customers at no additional cost.

The **Mastitis 3** service is now complete and includes all 3 common contagious pathogens... *Staph aureus* (and beta lactamase gene), *Strep agalactiae* and *Mycoplasma bovis*.

M. bovis mastitis is not believed to be very common in Canada. However, its effect can be devastating as it is contagious, and unresponsive to treatment. Often, the outcome is to cull infected animals. The M. bovis organism is difficult to successfully culture; therefore, the DHI PCR test is a real enhancement in the diagnosis of this type of mastitis.

The convenience, reliability and rapid turn around of results of the **Mastitis 3** test offers significant improvements in mastitis management. The test, based on Polymerase Chain Reaction (PCR) technology, identifies the DNA of mastitis causing pathogens. According to Richard Cantin, DHI's Manager of Marketing and Customer Services, "We are pleased to offer this enhancement to our Mastitis testing service. Although *Mycoplasma* is not believed to be a significant mastitis causing pathogen here in Canada, the ability to identify it with more confidence will no doubt be welcomed by producers and veterinarians. This is a great example of value added service, where we are doing more for our customers, with that same sample and at the same price."

For more information on the **Mastitis 3** test, talk to your veterinarian, contact your local DHI field service representative or call DHI at 1-800-549-4373.

CanWest DHI is a non-profit milk recording organization, providing profitable dairy management solutions to dairy producers across Ontario and Western Canada.

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For more information contact:  
Richard Cantin  
Marketing & Customer Services, CanWest DHI  
(519) 824-2320 ext: 233  
rcantin@canwestdhi.com