The effect of post milking test dip and suckling on teat skin condition, bacterial colonisation, and udder health

The teat skin of cows was scored (1: smooth as silk; 2: smooth; 3: slightly rough; 4: rough; 5: cracked; and 6: sores) by trained technicians who moved their fingers down the barrel of the teat with a light touch. Technicians ranked the same population of teats in the same rank order, but their mean values differed by half a score which probably could be related to the skin condition of their own fingers. Half udder experiments were carried out for 6 months at 4 farms with 35 to 52 cows each. A postmilking teat spray with 10% glycerol improved teat skin condition (p