

GUIDE TO AUTOMATIC TEAT SYSTEMS

Product name	Made by	How it works	Features	Price	Pros	Cons
ADF Milking, Dipping and Flushing System	ADF	The system operates with an iodine-based teat dip, compressed air and potable water. As the cluster is about to be removed, a measured amount of teat dip is dispensed into the head of each liner, coating each teat	After cluster removal, the teat cup is sanitised and flushed repeatedly with compressed air and water, to provide a clean liner for the next cow	Price on application (POA)	The system has been shown to reduce mastitis, lower somatic cell counts and increase dairy throughputs. Can be fitted to all types of parlour	Parlour must be fitted with automatic cluster removal (ACR)
Locate 'n' Spray	Ambic	Sprays cow teats immediately after cluster removal, but can be adjusted to spray before the cluster is attached or to spray both before and after the cow is milked	Four or eight-nozzle technology to ensure appropriate teat coverage; adjustable spray duration to regulate disinfectant use. Option of double-hit spray to improve teat coverage	POA	Research demonstrated an average disinfectant hit rate of 3.91 teat ends (97.8%) compared to the 3.77 (94.3%) achieved in a manual teat spraying trial	Suitable for rotary parlours only
Moojet; Autospra	Cotswold Dairy Equipment	The Moojet single rail is designed for pre-spraying and the autospray twin rail for post-spraying. Each cow is automatically sprayed as she walks over a floor-mounted spray rail	Start and spray time adjustable. Choice of nozzles, with different spray patterns and spray rates. Activated when cow leaves beam to improve accuracy	Moojet: £1,725; Autospray: £2,175	Low maintenance, self-cleaning spray nozzles. Built-in delay allowing people to pass through the race without being sprayed	May not always achieve sufficient coverage of an animal's teats to effectively disinfect them every time she passes through the race, especially if udder is misshapen
AirWash Plus	TH White, Devizes	Compressed air propels dip towards the milking cluster, where it is injected into a short milk tube. The air blast creates a fine spray of dip inside the injector spray nozzle in the liner tube, coating the teat end when the teat is extended	Sanitises milking liners; washes clusters in the normal "park" position	POA	Suitable for any type or make of milking parlour and compatible with any sprayable dip	Short milk tube needs to be cut to insert the injector valve
Teat Spray Robot (TSR)	DeLaval	Stand-alone unit fits to the outside of rotary platforms and has a robotic arm that holds cameras to locate and spray the passing cows' teats	Software identifies the individual cow and its teat positioning using a camera to ensure correct application; a safety system prevents accidents to operators and cows	POA	Can perform up to 400 cows/hour, providing consistent operation while helping keep cows calm	Suitable for rotary parlours only
QDO In-Race Teat Sprayer	Wetit	Uses cow positioning technology to ensure accurate teat spraying from four nozzles. Suitable for rotary and herringbone parlours	Where there is no gap between cows going through the QDO it still sprays accurately on the udder of each cow	Starts from £5,000	Consistent spray pressure; low service requirements; easy to run cows through pre-calving for teat spraying	All automatic teat sprayers use more teat spray than manual spraying, but the company says that increase is only minimal if cows are being manually sprayed correctly with recommended levels
Apollo MilkSystem	GEA	Teat dip is injected through the top of the liner and the unit is automatically backflushed with a sanitising solution after the unit is removed.	Teat is still under vacuum and stretched out in the liner when the dip is applied which optimises teat coverage.	POA	Designed to penetrate all the folds and wrinkles of the teats with dip; volume of dip applied is accurately controlled and applied fresh and free from contamination.	Requires ACRs and a specific claw piece.