Heat Detection Product Catalogue
Accurate Heat Detection

Accurately determining when a cow is on heat ensures a more successful mating period, providing a higher insemination rate and ultimately pregnancy rate.

Tail paint gives a visual indication of when a cow has stood to be mounted and consequently rubbed, showing that she is in heat. The duration of oestrus activity is between 6 and 24 hours, while the period when the cow stands to be mounted lasts, on average, less than 8 hours.
Oil-based Tail Paint Range

Oil-based paints are FIL’s most popular type of tail paint, providing vivid colour and adhesion in all weather conditions.

TELL TAIL APPLICATOR 1L
Oil-based tail paint recommended for dairy cows heat detection.

Why choose Tell Tail Applicator?
• Specifically designed applicator bottle with brush for easy application
• Six fluorescent colours available to enable a systematic painting plan for each stage in the ‘detection to pregnancy’ cycle
• Lasts up to 21 days, subject to conditions and correct application

Also available in 1L tins

TELL TAIL AEROSOLS 500ML
Oil based aerosols used as a general marker for marking treatments or colostrum cows. Can also be used for heat detection.

Why choose Tell Tail Aerosols?
• Quick and easy to use in convenient aerosol application
• Six fluorescent colours available, so you can use different colours for different purposes or during various stages in the mating process
• Lasts up to 21 days, subject to conditions and correct application
**Water-based Tail Paint Range**

Detail paints are water based, more environmentally friendly and are gentle on severely rubbed cows.

**DETAIL 1L**

Water-based tail paint, recommended for use in heat detection on dairy cows.
- Four fluorescent colours available for clear identification of rubbed paint and to enable a systematic painting plan
- Lasts up to 21 days, subject to conditions and correct application

*Also available in 500mL applicator bottles (Export Market only) and 2L bottles*

**DETAIL 10L PAILS**

A large 10L pail is more efficient for the larger herd operators, same great water-based paint specifically designed for heat detection, but bulk-packaged for a variety of application methods.
Heat Detection

Tail painting visibly shows when cows are coming onto or are on heat as they stand to be mounted by other cows and the paint is then visibly rubbed.

How to Apply Tail Paint

Ensure area is clean and dry and remove loose hair. Apply tail paint forward along the spine from the tail head in a strip 15cm long by 5cm wide.

Healthy cows (non pregnant), free from infection will cycle every 18-24 days. Research shows the ‘in heat’ period typically lasts 6-24 hours. The average is 14 hours, shortest 2 hours, longest 28 hours.

Heat Detection Timeline Over 12 Weeks
Colour Process of Heat Detection

1. Paint all cows with RED tail paint approximately 3 weeks after calving. Then observe the painted area for signs of the paint being rubbed. When it has been rubbed the cow has started her cycle. In cases where it is not rubbed (non-cycling cows), seek advice from your animal health professional.

2. Paint all cows with GREEN tail paint immediately prior to commencing your artificial insemination programme. This identifies cows coming into heat on a daily basis.

3. After inseminating the cows immediately paint them BLUE. This will tell you if she has held to the service (if the paint rubs off, the cow is not pregnant).

4. Paint all cows with YELLOW tail paint when pregnancy is confirmed.

Tail paint is rubbed off, and hair has been removed from the flank.
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