

## **Confusion Between Standards**

It has become apparent that a couple of points are being confused between the COR Standard (which is no longer being applied to dairy operations by AsureQuality) and the USDA NOP.

### **Treated Timber Posts**

Under the COR there is provision to recycle posts on the farm, however there is no such provision under USDA NOP. Under USDA NOP you are not able to shift treated timber posts.

If a broken post is removed, or a fence line within the production area is shifted, the replacement post must be made of, and treated with, materials compatible with the USDA NOP.

### **Dehorning of Calves**

Under COR it is a requirement to use an anaesthetic, or sedative, when dehorning dairy calves. However under USDA NOP it is optional and dependant on need. Under COR the choice of which local anaesthetic to use is not restricted, but preference should be given to natural alternatives, in contrast your choice of anaesthetic under USDA NOP is restricted to lidocaine.

So New Zealand organic dairy farmers certified by AsureQuality have the option of using a local anaesthetic, but if it is used then Lopaine 2% from Ethical Agents Ltd is the only one currently approved by AsureQuality Limited.

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