

COVID-19 DAIRY INDUSTRY GLOSSARY

Version 1, 3 April 2020

TERM	DEFINITION
Asymptomatic	The state where an individual, infected with a disease whether positively diagnosed or not, shows none of the physical symptoms associated with that disease. In the context of a novel virus, asymptomatic can also be described as pre-symptomatic where the assumption is that even mild symptoms will be displayed in all cases as a result of COVID-19 infection.
Australian Government Department of Health	Also known as the “Commonwealth Health Dept.” this is the peak health organisation for the Australian Federal Government and is primarily responsible for collating an Australia-wide assessment of our COVID-19 status.
Carrier	A person who is infected with the virus prior to the immune response clearing the body of virus. This term infers that carriers confer some risk of virus transmission to others.
Close contact	Any activity which places an individual in range of contact with exhaled or skin borne virus particles from an infected person whether through direct contact, close proximity or contact with a mutually used item or surface.
Confirmed case	A case of COVID-19 infection confirmed in an individual as a result of a diagnostic test.
Coronavirus (novel)	See COVID-19.
Community transmission	A new COVID-19 infection, locally acquired, where there is no identified contact with another confirmed case through trace back.
COVID-19	One of the World Health Organisation descriptions of a novel coronavirus, first discovered in the Chinese province of Hubei. COVID-19 is derived from CO rona VI rus D isease 2019 . This virus is also identified by WHO as SARS-CoV-2. COVID-19 is a different virus to bovine coronavirus which affects neonatal calves.
COVID-19 test	One of the numerous diagnostic testing processes (test) used to establish a positive diagnosis of COVID-19 in an individual.
Cumulative infections (cases)	Seen in COVID-19 publications and public information, this information describes the number of total (COVID-19) cases for a described population since the index (first) diagnosed case.
Curve (epidemic curve)	The trend line for cumulative infections. “Flatten the curve” refers to the slope of the cumulative infections trend line becoming lower as the new infection rate lessens.
Epidemic	A sudden increase in the number of cases of a disease beyond what is typically expected for a population in that area.
Epidemiology	The study of the distributions and determinants of health-related events in specified populations and the application of this study to control of health problems (like COVID-19). An Epidemiologist is a person trained in this scientific field.

False negative	A diagnostic test conducted on a truly infected individual where the test result is negative. This negative result could be for a number of reasons including minimal virus shedding from the sampling site or the limitations of the testing technology.
High touch surface	A surface on an item or object subject to repetitive touching (skin contact) as a result of normal patterns of use.
Isolation (self-isolation)	Self-isolation is the practice of isolating oneself from others to avoid spreading the virus. Isolation and quarantine are synonymous terms as they have been used in the context of this pandemic. People who should be self-isolating are: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> a) people experiencing one of the virus symptoms b) people who have been in contact with someone who have been diagnosed with COVID-19 and people returning from overseas or crossing a State border who may unknowingly have been exposed (pending current government guidelines)
New infection (case) rate	Seen in COVID-19 publications and public information, this rate describes the number of new COVID-19 diagnosed cases in a defined period (normally per day).
Pandemic	An epidemic that has spread over several countries or continents affecting a large number of people (as has been declared for COVID-19).
Physical distancing	See social distancing.
PPE	Personal Protective Equipment. During the epidemic, this usually refers to face masks, hazard suits and other gear.
Prevalence	The number of cases of disease in the population in a specified time divided by the total number of persons in that population during that same time period. The time period can either be a fixed time point (eg: a date) or a defined time period (eg: a month or year).
Quarantine	A state, period, or place of isolation in which people or animals that have arrived from elsewhere or been exposed to infectious or contagious disease are placed. (Oxford English Dictionary).
SARS-CoV-2	See COVID-19.
Shedding	The description given to virus particles being potentially transmitted to people or objects via exhaled particles or skin borne particles. Current knowledge of COVID-19 suggests that shedding has ceased or is minimal once 10 days have passed since first symptoms onset in addition to an individual being symptom free for at least 3 days.
Social distancing	The practice of keeping a minimum distance between people with the aim of curbing the risk of spreading infection between them. The government advises a 1.5 metre distance. While isolation aims to avoid any contact with people, distancing is a safeguard for those who are still having contact with one another, to reduce the risk. The term 'social distancing' has become widespread but is a bit of a misnomer - and there have been suggestions it should be instead called physical distancing.