A survey on Incidence rate of udder related health disorders in Iranian dairy cows (2007-2008)
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Udder disorders, mastitis in particular, are one of the most important health disorders in a dairy farm. Mastitis is the most prevalent infectious disease of adult dairy cattle that affects herd productivity. We conducted a historical longitudinal study with time-dependent covariates, to investigate the incidence rate of udder related health disorders in dairy herds in Tehran, Iran. A total of 7,067 first- and second- parity Holstein dairy cows that calved from March, 21, 2007 to March, 20, 2008 were followed until the next calving or culling. The annual incidence rate of mastitis and udder injuries were 32.3% (95% CI: 31.1-33.5) and 0.9% (95% CI: 0.5-1.2) respectively. Herd size appeared as an important factor in increasing incidence rate of mastitis and udder injuries. The incidence rate of these health disorders in large herds was significantly higher than small herds (P<0.05). The results presented herein, demonstrate that the incidence rate of these health disorders, principally mastitis, is high in this area.