Endoscopic Examination and Tissue Sampling of the Bovine Teat and Udder Cistern. By Vangroenweghe et al., page 1516. Endoscopic examination of the bovine mammary gland cisterns was performed in 12 quarters of 8 lactating dairy cows. Following visualization of the internal structures of teat and gland cistern, tissue biopsies were collected for histological examination and polymerase chain reaction analysis. Further, effect of endoscopy on individual quarter milk production and somatic cell count was evaluated during a 15-d follow-up period. Histological procedures were applicable on the small biopsy samples and resulted in good-quality microscopic slices. Following total RNA extraction, the glyceraldehyde-3-phosphate dehydrogenase gene could be amplified through polymerase chain reaction. The endoscopic procedure induced little posttraumatic inflammation and did not change individual quarter milk production or quarter SCC.