

Care for calves – Workshop for international employees

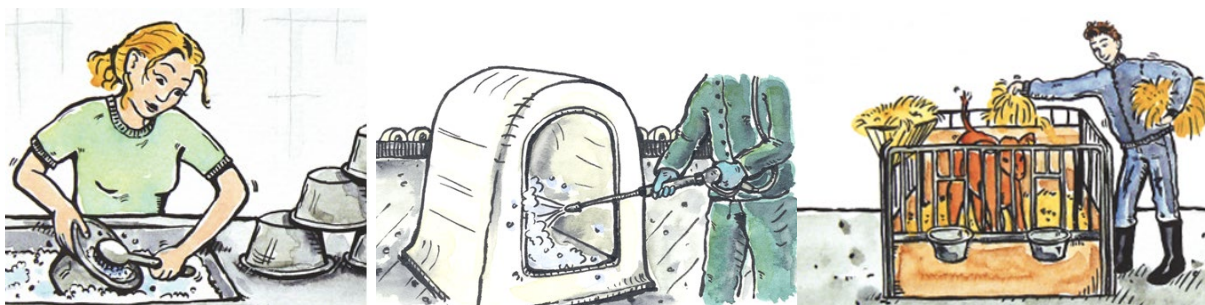
Colostrum



Why	What	How
Lower morbidity (less disease) Lower mortality (fewer dead calves) Better growth Higher milk yield Better effect of vaccination	Quality Quantity Quickly Clean Monitor uptake of antibodies	Feed best available quality - aim for BRIX > 22 Supply 3-4 liters (10 % of birth weight) Feed immediately after birth – or as soon as you see the calf Clean equipment and fast processing Check IgG uptake (blood sample by vet) and collect colostrum data (quality, quantity, birth- and feeding time) Give colostrum for 2-4 days at min.

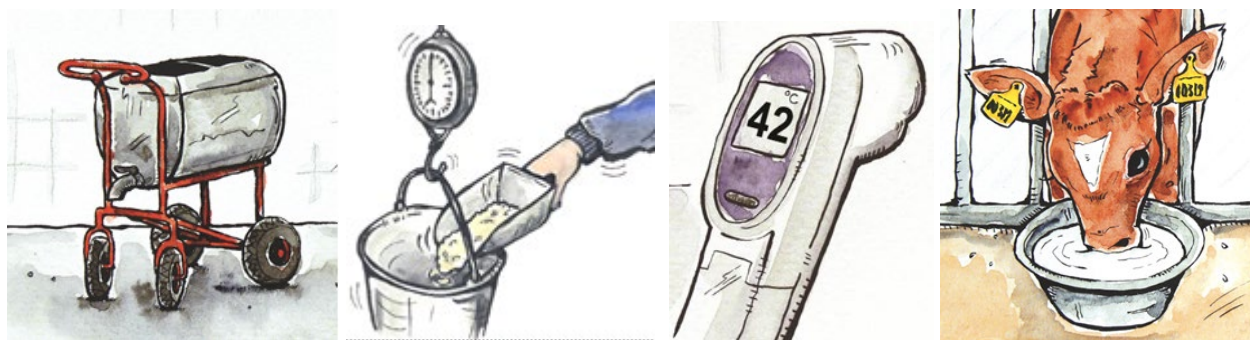
Remember to rub the calf dry immediately after calving.

Hygiene



Why	What	How
Avoid exposure to pathogens Avoid ingestion of pathogens	Calving pen Feeding tubes Buckets Bowls Nipples Calf pens Boots Clothes etc.	Wash with soap Disinfect Check always before use and after cleaning Discard damaged equipment Use abundant straw for dry, warm and clean bedding

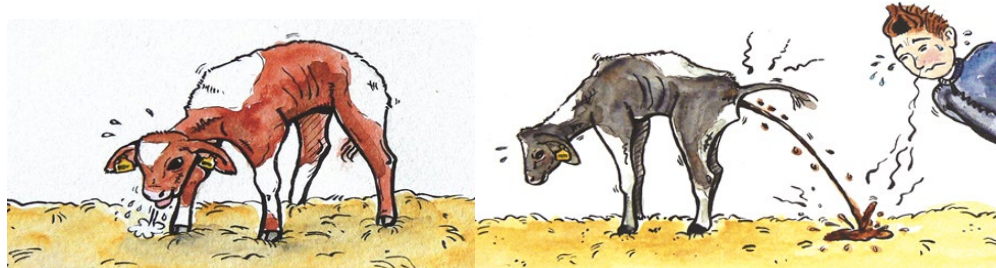
Milk feeding



Why	What	How
Secure health Better growth Higher milk yield	Min. 4 liters x 2 Add more milk when cold (min ½ liter per 5° under 15° C) Wean gradually	Check amount in bucket or bowl Check temperature Look at the calves

Remember to provide abundant of dry straw for nesting and calf jackets in winter.

Are the calf healthy



Why	What	How
Early detection - better cure	Screen for early signs of disease Check for severity (dehydration, hypothermia, pain, respiratory distress)	Check min. 2 x daily Look for signs of diarrhea, navel in- fection, lameness, signs of respira- tory disease Skin fold test, weakness, rectal temperature, skin temperature, wet skin, hair coat, shivering/shaking, soreness, reluctance to stand, con- sciousness

Remember to discuss regularly with colleagues and vet about challenges.

Monitoring – How are we performing

Why	What	How
How do we perform	Colostrum quality Colostrum routines Colostrum uptake Weight gain	Use BRIX at every milking of colostrum Use protocol for every calf (quality- and quantity fed, time of birth and time first feeding) Check serum IgG in calves every 3 months or more frequently (vet) Measure calves at birth and before and after weaning