



Checklist for Healthier Calves

- Keep calving boxes clean and well bedded.
- Power wash and disinfect calving facilities between calvings.
- Treat the calves navel at birth with iodine solution to prevent infection.
- Ensure the calf gets adequate colostrum, 3 litres in the first hour of life.
- Keep sufficient reserves of frozen colostrum and thaw out slowly.
- Do not pool colostrum, milk colostrum cows individually and store individually.

- Feeding containers and utensils must be kept totally clean.
- Wash automatic milk feeders daily with hot water.
- Ensure that there are no milk residues building up on milk lines.
- Use a measure for dispensing all feed both milk powder and concentrate.
- This prevents overfeeding and serves as a check for loss of appetite.
- Establish a feeding routine (time of day) and stick to it.

- Check all calves before feeding for signs of ill health, remove sick calves.
- Treat scouring calves with warm electrolyte solution.
- Continue feeding milk, the calf still needs food.
- Keep feeding electrolytes until scouring ceases.
- Most nutritional scours are caused by overfeeding and inconsistent feeding.
- Identify disease infectious agents early and call the vet.

- Stick rigidly to calf milk replacer and concentrate feeding instructions.
- Clean passage ways and feed preparation area daily.
- Spilt milk goes sour and gets smelly quickly.
- Top up bedding daily and give extra bedding to calves that are off form.
- Ensure adequate ventilation without causing draughts or temperature extremes.
- Calves found collapsed or dehydrated require immediate veterinary attention.

- Introduce GAIN Startacalf at 5 days of age.
- Provide long fibre as a source of roughage.
- Renew concentrate daily, initially feed a little and feed it often.
- Stale concentrate should be removed from calves.
- Provide clean, fresh water at all times.
- Do not overfeed concentrate as overfeeding causes digestive upsets.

- Introduce GAIN Goldgrain Calf Nut once the baby calf is eating 0.5 kg of Startacalf.
- Ensure calves are eating at least 1 kg of nuts per day at weaning.
- Once adequately grown and eating concentrate calves can be weaned at day 56.
- Wean off milk abruptly and provide plenty of fresh clean roughage.
- Keep feeding GAIN Goldgrain Calf Nut until 2 weeks post weaning.
- Introduce GAIN Calf Rearer Nut after GAIN Goldgrain Calf Nut.

The GAIN Calf Rearing Programme optimises calf health