

# PRE-WEANED CALVES

**Objective:** To support the birth of live, healthy calves and to transition cows into lactation.

**Additional Objectives:**

Calving	
Who are the trained family and non-family employees responsible for managing animals who are calving?	
Are cows and heifers to be moved to an individual calving pen or stall when they are close to calving? If so, what location?	
Who is to be consulted to determine if calving intervention is required and proper assistance procedures are followed?	
Once calf is born, what details (example: identification, sex, calving ease, etc.) are to be recorded and in what type of system (example: paper records, Dairy Comp, etc.)?	
How often is calving equipment cleaned? Who is responsible for providing required equipment (gloves, lube, soap, water etc.)?	

**Additional Protocols Specifications:**

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Difficult Calving (Dystocia) Management	
Who are the employees trained to identify and treat the disease?	
What symptoms determine disease diagnosis?	
What medical treatment is provided for the disease?	

How long should the treatment occur?	
Where are treatments recorded?	

**Additional Protocols Specifications:**

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Newborn Calves	
Who are the trained family and non-family employees designated for pre-weaned calf care?	
Type of training or continuing education to be completed to work with pre-weaned calves:	
What type of navel disinfectant is utilized immediately after birth?	
What animal health products are administered to newborn calves (vaccinations, vitamins, etc.)?	
How soon after birth is colostrum or colostrum replacer provided?	
How much colostrum or colostrum replacer is provided?	
How is the quality of colostrum or colostrum replacer confirmed?	
How long after birth are calves moved to their designated living area?	

How are calves moved to their designated living area?	
What living environment are calves housed in?	
At what age are pre-weaned calves first provided with fresh water?	
How frequently and at what times are pre-weaned calves provided with fresh water throughout the day?	
How much milk or milk replacers are pre-weaned calves fed?	
At what age are pre-weaned calves first provided with starter feed?	
What quantity and type of starter feed is provided to pre-weaned calves?	
How frequently and at what times are pre-weaned calves provided with starter feed?	
At what point are calves weaned and using what process?	

**Additional Protocols Specifications:**

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Disbudding	
Who are the trained family and non-family designated for disbudding calves?	

At what age are calves disbudded?	
What type of pain mitigation as prescribed by the herd veterinarian, is provided prior to and following the disbudding process?	
What method is used for disbudding (paste, burn, etc.)	
How are calves restrained for the disbudding process?	
Special protections provided for recently disbudded calves:	

**Additional Protocols Specifications:**

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