



Jones FEED MILLS LTD.

THE BI-MONTHLY BAWL



THE CALF GUY

Jones Feed Mills Calf Update— Published by Tom Mosterd— Mobile/ Text: 519-807-3870

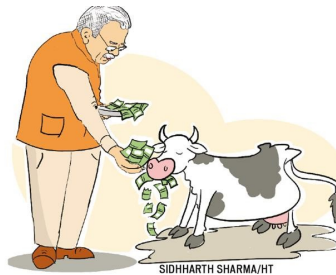
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E“cow”nomics

Whole Milk vs. Milk Replacer

With the record quota increase that we have seen recently, dairy producers are challenging themselves to fulfill all possible income opportunities. This is also a logical time to consider the economics of feeding calves whole milk vs. milk replacer. When a dairy has extra milk that is not saleable, it is understandable that a farmer would use that extra milk to feed their calves. When milk however is not in surplus, it can be more economical to feed the calves milk replacer.



One way to understand the basic economics of this is to calculate the cost of the milk replacer per litre fed and compare that to the current price of milk (litre). Labour, cost of production and capital may be also considered when determining these values. Talk to your Jones Dairy Consultant to assist you in determining your values and to calculate the potential costs or savings.

Another part of the equation to understand is the quality of the milk or milk replacer being fed. Jones milk replacers are formulated using an optimum ratio of fat to protein to ensure the calves gain, remain healthy, and grow to their genetic potential. Another benefit of milk replacer is the addition of Deccox, which whole milk, obviously doesn't contain. Additionally, Jones milk replacers are balanced with medium and short chain fatty acids which are conducive to rumen development, fewer treatment days and increased average daily gain. These short and medium chain fatty acids are not found in conventional whole milk at levels that are beneficial to the calf, due to today's high energy cow feeding programs.



Jones Feed Mills carries a variety of milk replacers, milk soluble treatments and additives, and are ready and willing to provide the most excellent service to your dairy. Talk to your Jones Feed Mills Dairy Sales Consultant today about Jones Whole Start Program!

Calves, Water, and High temperatures

We have entered the time of year when temperatures rise to a point that can be a stress to calves. One of the most important things that we can do to help the calves regulate their own temperature is to ensure that we keep water in front of them at all times. In addition to ensuring that calves stay hydrated, water has a linear relationship with starter intake. So not only will water help combat the high temperatures, but it will ensure the calves continue to intake starter, which is conducive to rumen development.



Got Calf Questions?

Call The Calf Guy!

Tom Mosterd

Mobile/ Text: 519-807-3870

This is also a logical time to consider the economics of feeding calves whole milk vs. milk replacer.

When you're walking through your calf facilities, look for these things to asses calf health:

- Appetite- are calves ready for meals and eating well?
- Manure- Firm to soft. Not too dry. Normal colour and smell
- Attitude & Comprehension- Reacts to people and noise.
- Eyes, Ears, Nose,- clean with no discharge
- Navel - not inflamed or painful

If any of these symptoms appear to be concerning ensure the calves are properly hydrated. It is also important to ensure feeding and management protocols are followed.

**The First 48 Hours
An Update on Colostrum Research**

Recently I had the opportunity to travel to Miner Institute in New York where I learned about new research in many different areas of dairy nutrition. Included were updates with the largest impact was the new information on colostrum.

For some time now, we have understood that Colostrum has a vital role in the health and well being of the calf. Now with updated research, we more fully understand why that happens. The two areas I will present are: 1) Mothers/Cows treating different genders differently and, 2) colostrum as nutrients and the dam's communication vehicle.

Hinde et al. evaluated the effects of the sex of the offspring on the milk yield that the mother would have. Interestingly, the results showed that first lactations cattle who gave birth to heifers produced 980 lbs more milk over their first two lactations. This information supports the investment of using sexed semen, but insinuates deeper results. Not only does the mother produce more milk and colostrum, but the makeup of the colostrum is also different. The mother's ability to affect the calf's development extends beyond the uterine environment, and continues through ingestion of milk-borne morphological factors (Barton, Wiley and Bagnell, 2009).

If we accept that a cow is trying to communicate development instructions to her calf, we now need to understand what those instructions are; so, what is the mother's ambitions for her calf? To answer this, we need only look to the makeup of colostrum. In the colostrum, we see a large amount of elements that are conducive growth, development, and health (Blum and Hammon, 2000; Bonnet et al., 2002; Blum and Baumrucker, 2008).

In conclusion, colostrum continues to hold a great importance to calves, and as research progresses with continue to more fully understand how and why these effects take place. Feeding colostrum is of utmost importance to getting your calves off to a good start!



Colostrum Concerns?

With the increasing understanding of the importance of colostrum, it is important to ensure that your colostrum is adequate. Contact the Calf Guy (Tom Mosterd) today to have your colostrum tested! 519-807-3870

The Laughing Calf

A lady from the city and her traveling companion were riding the train through Vermont when she noticed some cows. "What a cute bunch of cows!" she remarked. "Not a bunch, herd", her friend replied. "Heard of what?" "Herd of cows." "Of course I've heard of cows." "No, a cow herd." "What do I care what a cow heard. I have no secrets to keep from a cow!"

Q: What is every cow's favourite movie?

A: The Sound of MOO-sic!

Q: What do you get when you cross a cow with a sheep?

A: An animal in a Baaaaad Mooood!

THE HEAT IS (Randomly) HERE!!

With sporadic high temperatures it is important to implement management strategies to ensure that your calves stay cool.

Ensure that water is always fresh and available. Even though it may seem like calves will not drink much, the little that they do drink is vital to their thermal regulation, as well as intakes and growth.

If you are using hutches, consider propping up the rear end of the hutch. This will allow air to flow through the hutch, ventilating the space. Keep cool!

Another important factor to take into consideration is the nutrition that you are providing to the calf. Milk replacer should be formulated to an optimal fat to protein ratio. This is important in the warmer weather to ensure that calves meet their nutritional requirement, and continue to grow during the periods of stress. Jones Whole start program offer milk replacer and starter with optimal nutrient rations. Talk to your Jones Rep, or the Calf Guy Today!



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