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The Calf Bawl

Jones Feed Mills Calf Update – Written and Published by Lisa Zieleman — JFM Market Support Specialist Mobile/ Text: 519-807-3870

Cleaning and Disinfecting for Calf Areas Part 1:

Having a Proper Cleaning Routine for Feeding Equipment

Cleaning calf feeding equipment is something that gets overlooked very easily on farms. It takes time to clean and disinfect, and with a busy schedule on most farms, who has time? When feeding equipment doesn't get cleaned properly bacteria starts building up, which can create many problems. Whole milk or milk replacer will leave a residue behind that bacteria likes to grow in. Calf feeding equipment like bottles, pails, lids, and milk bars are some of the places where milk proteins get stuck and are a struggle to remove. When these milk proteins don't get cleaned off the calf feeding equipment, biofilms start building up. Biofilm is a slimy, greasy film of bacteria that sticks to surfaces and is pathogenic; meaning it may cause diseases in calves. The tricky part of biofilm is that it typically is resistant to conventional methods of disinfection. So, how do we get rid of this biofilm and stop the growth and spread of bacteria that our calves are coming into contact with? A product that has shown us the best



results to stop the growth and build up of bacteria is 'Biosolve Plus'. Biosolve Plus is a multipurpose heavy duty cleaner and degreaser. This product will lift the greasy proteins left behind from the milk and expose the bacteria underneath. When the bacteria is exposed, rinsing the feeding equipment with water and letting it dry is critical. Using a disinfectant like Virkon on the feeding equipment once a week will prevent bacteria growth and biofilm build up. Have more questions about cleaners and disinfectant? Give me a call!

Got Calf Questions?

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Flys - Plan for Attack!

Plan for attack with your calves so they can be comfortable and stress free. Having a good program set in place can make a big difference when it comes to fly control. Here's an example; a quick kill product like **Disvap** spray or **Multivap** spray will kill flies on the spot. This is great, but it doesn't last long and you will need to re-apply every day or sometimes even twice a day. Therefore, when combining this with a residual fly control like **Zap-it** spray, you will only need to re-apply once every 1 to 2 weeks or when flies become troublesome. This is a safe product to use on calves, cows, horses, and sheep with no milk withdrawal for cows. Having a fly control plan in place will make it much easier for you as a farmer, but more importantly for your animals during these hot and humid months where flies become very bothersome. Talk with your JFM Dairy Sales Rep about how to use and order these products to help reduce flies on your farm.

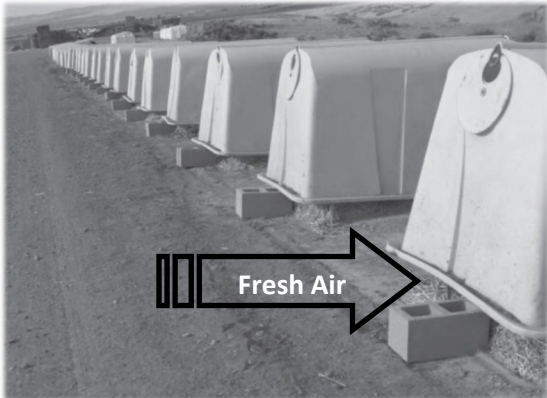


A-moozing Hints

Heat stress is not good for anyone or any animals. Keeping them cool when the sun is shining and the temperatures are high is a struggle! Here is a handy hint to help keep calves cooler when housed in hutches (both inside and outside).



Try elevating the hutches with either a large brick or large block (as shown in the picture) underneath the back of the hutch. This creates air flow and pushes the hot air up so cooler air can come in. This will help keep calves cool and reduce heat stress.



Fly Problems?

Flies live and breed in tall grass, so if you are finding that there is a large population of flies around your livestock, consider removing area grass (or at least cutting it). This will help cut down on the amount of flies that you have! Ask your JFM Dairy Sales Consultant for other methods to control flies in your calf/dairy areas!

Udderly Hilarious Jokes

Why does a milking stool only have 3 legs?

Because the cow has the udder!

What happens when you talk to a cow?

It goes in one ear and out the udder!

Why do some cows have bells around their neck?

Because their horns don't work!



Thrive Milk Supplement!

At Jones Feed Mills, a lot of research and technology goes into each of our products and programs. One of the products that we are proud to offer to our dairy customers who feed whole milk is **Thrive Milk Supplement**. EL4L (Essential Lipids 4 Life), the driver in Thrive is an ingredient similar to that in our milk replacers, calf starters and growers, which can be added to whole milk once a day; which mixes very easily. Thrive has been proven to reduce scours, improve ADG (Average Daily Gain), frame growth and feed efficiency. This product is easy to use, is low cost, and provides many positive results. Talk to your JFM Dairy Sales Consultant to learn more about **Thrive!**

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