New and Sick Calf Protocols

New Born Calf
1. Move calf into hutch if temperature is above 40 degrees. Put calf in hot box if temperature is below 40 degrees. When calf is dry, move to outside hutch.
2. Dip calf’s navel with iodine.
3. Feed new calf 2 bottles of good quality colostrum within 3 hours of birth (follow colostrum flow chart). Try to feed calf with bottle, if calf will not drink, use the esophageal tube.
4. Give each heifer calf 2cc CLOSTRIDIUM Type A vaccine and SELENIUM.
5. Write all calf information on calf record, yellow sheet and on cow’s card.
6. Give calf colostrum of equal or lesser quality for 2nd feeding at regular feeding time. You may use colostrum supplement added to milk replacer if fresh milk is not available for 2nd feeding.

Sick Calf
If calf has diarrhea with a temperature over 103 degrees:
1. Give heifer calf ANTIBIOTIC if for at least 3 days until diarrhea is cured. Give bull calf ANTIBIOTIC with now slaughter withhold for 3 days.
2. *Give probiotics once a day.
3. *Give calf an electrolyte as an extra noon feeding. Do not discontinue feeding milk replacer or grain to calf.

If calf has diarrhea without a temperature:
1. *Give probiotics once a day.
2. *Give electrolytes as an extra noon feeding. Do not discontinue feeding milk replacer or grain to calf.

If calf has pneumonia with a temperature over 103 degrees:
1. Give NSAID I.M. for 3 days.
2. If calf is a heifer, give ANTIBIOTIC. If calf is a bull, give ANTIBIOTIC with short slaughter withhold for 3 days.

Record all sick calves in notebook. Include temperature, number, date and treatment.

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DISCLAIMER: This page was developed as a generic protocol; complete protocols should be developed with the assistance of your local veterinarian.