

**NEWBORN CALF CARE****1. PURPOSE**

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To provide proper health care to a newborn calf. This will give the calf the best start at a long, healthy, productive life.

**2. RESPONSIBILITY**

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- 2.1 Trained and qualified personnel
- 2.2 Herd Manager

**3. MATERIALS**

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- 3.1 Navel dip (iodine based)
- 3.2 Towels
- 3.3 Calf coat
- 3.4 Ear tags
- 3.5 First Defense and applicator
- 3.6 Treatment book
- 3.7 Weigh scale or weight tape
- 3.8 Colostrum
- 3.9 Gloves
- 3.10 MuSe® or equivalent (e.g., Dystocel, Selon-E)

**4. PROCEDURE**

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- 4.1 Make sure the dam will allow you to get close to her calf.
- 4.2 HEALTH MONITORING:
  - 4.2.1 Breathing:
    - 4.2.1.1 Aspiration of amniotic fluid: If you suspect the calf has aspirated amniotic fluid,  
Gently pull the calf up by the hind legs to allow the fluid to drain from the mouth and nose.

#### 4.4 TEMPERATURE:

4.4.1 Cover the calf with a coat on cold days.

4.4.1.1 **NOTE:** You may need to replace the coat several hours .

4.4.1.2 If the calf continues to shiver, cover with blankets.

4.5 Once the cow is no longer tending to her calf:

4.5.1 Don gloves and spray the entire navel with iodine-based navel dip.

4.6 Determine the gender of the animal:

4.6.1 Lift the calf's tail and check the genitalia.

4.6.2 Males have a scrotum containing testicles and a sheath containing a penis, located near the belly. It is possible to confuse the umbilical cord for a penis, so you should focus on locating the testicles.

4.6.3 Females have a vulva, located closer to the tail. The best way to tell if the calf is a fee

