HOW TO MIX CALF MILK REPLACER

Calves need and love consistency. Follow these steps to help deliver a consistent milk replacer diet to your calves.

1. WEIGH

Weighing milk replacer powder will always be the most accurate.
Use a calibrated scale to weigh the powder needed to feed all the calves.

2. MIX

Batch mixing is recommended.
Mix powder into water that is 110° to 120°F.
Fill the mixing container with half of the total volume of water needed.
Pour the powder on top of the water.
Mix while adding the remaining water to reach the total volume of solution to feed all calves.
Inspect closely to assure that all powder is thoroughly mixed.

3. SERVING SIZE

Assure the appropriate volume of solution is fed to each calf.
The amount of milk replacer a calf receives at each feeding depends on the number of times a day you feed.
A full potential milk diet should be fed at 2.5 lbs of dry matter/day and can be delivered 2x/day or 3x/day. This is typically done in 3 - 4 qts of total volume per feeding.

4. FEED

Buckets – use a flow meter or mark the correct volume on buckets to improve accuracy.

Bottles – nipples should be replaced at any significant signs of wear to avoid bacterial build up. Check the valve and opening size so milk replacer only drips when the bottle is inverted.
Stick to equally spaced, established feeding times.

5. TEMP

Target temperature of solution fed to calf should be 101° to 105°F.
Check the temperature of the milk replacer fed to the first calf, a middle calf and the last calf fed.

THE RIGHT TOOLS

BUCKET
CALIBRATED SCALE
WHISK OR PAINT MIXER
THERMOMETER

There is no second chance to feed calves right.
Information provided by Land O'Lakes Animal Milk Products Company.