

What's important for the calf's environment?

Best practice farms provide clean, comfortable and enriched indoor & outdoor environments to support the social and physical development of calves.



Provide a warm

calves.

environment 12-22°C

and 10-20°C for older

for neonatal calves

Separate areas for

exercise in pens

(indoors).

resting, feeding and

Offer a variety of pleasurable feedstuffs to weaned calves.



Use feeding equipment which enables active and frequent natural feeding behaviours e.g. straw racks.



Ensure 1 feeding source per calf (e.g. teat dispenser or nipple bucket) without competition.



Raise calves with their dam or a foster cow until behavioural weaning.



Provide straw bales for enrichment while enabling calves to hide from bullies.





Provide cow-calf contact until weaning with either the dam or a foster cow.



Feed 20% of bodyweight in liquid milk/ replacer over at least 4 feeds/day.



Provide cow-calf contact or a system that enables natural feeding behaviour without competition from other calves.

Provide ample space (min. 3m²/calf) with daily access to an exercise area (min. 10m²/calf)



Offer calves pasture access in a sheltered dry location when weather conditions allow.





Use infra-red lamps or calf jackets for cold calves (indoors).

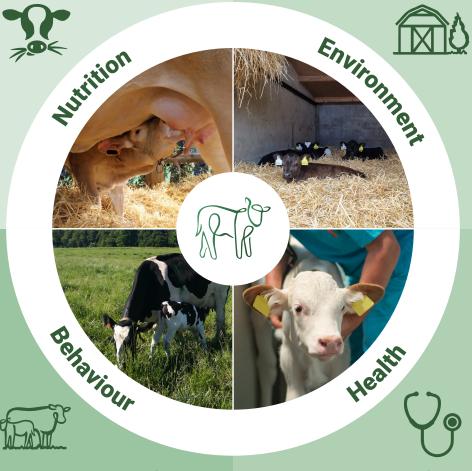


Create a comfortable lying area, with soft rubber flooring and deep straw bedding (indoors).



Provide a warm and dry environment with

ample space and designated areas for feeding, resting, exploration and play.



Raise calves with their dam or foster cow, or in paired or group housing systems. Use different types of enrichment to support good mental and physical development of calves.

Use at least 2 types of enrichment to support good mental and physical development of calves.

Use paired or group housing for calves (max. 8) of a similar age, size and health status.



Create a dedicated hospital area for sick calves and a medical area for procedures and recovery of healthy calves. Use cuddle boxes in cow-calf contact systems to isolate sick calves. Employ high biosecurity standards to help protect calf health and welfare.

Use dedicated clean equipment, clothes and boots when caring for calves.

systems to isolate sick calves.



Create a dedicated hospital area for sick calves and a medical area for procedures and recovery of healthy calves.



Disinfect empty pens and leave for 2 weeks before reuse.

















Use cuddle boxes

in cow-calf contact

