

Farm Name: \_\_\_\_\_ Date: \_\_\_\_\_

**SOP 8 - Standard Operating Procedure for Colostrum Management and Calf Feeding**

Newborn calves are fed at least 4L (for a 45 kg calf) of good quality colostrum within 12 hours of birth, with first meal as soon as possible and no more than 6 hours after birth. The following is our procedure to ensure this is done:

- Use colostrum from dam/frozen/powder
- Use bottles/buckets/stomach tube for the first and subsequent feedings
- Feed newborn calves colostrum for at least \_\_\_\_ feedings or \_\_\_\_ days

Our calves are fed a volume and quantity of milk or milk replacer to maintain health, growth and vigour. To feed our calves from birth to weaning our feeding program includes: (please describe milk/grain/hay feeding schedule with various ages from birth to weaning)

- Provide calves with access to grain starting when they are \_\_\_\_\_ days of age

- \_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_

To keep our calves healthy, we also do the following things:

- Wash all calf feeding equipment thoroughly after each feeding
- Provide clean water to calves ad libitum

Start to wean calves when they are \_\_\_\_\_ days old and do so gradually by reducing their milk intake over \_\_\_\_\_ days

Increase volume of milk feed to calves by 25% during cold stress

Other information/procedures concerning colostrum management and calf feeding:

## SOP 9 Standard Operating Procedure for Animal Practices

### Disbudding and Dehorning

Dehorning on our farm can be performed by the following people:

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Dehorn calves before \_\_\_\_\_ of age whenever possible.

All calves are properly and safely restrained for dehorning by using \_\_\_\_\_.

**Before** disbudding/dehorning we administer an anesthetic ( i.e. freezing) product of \_\_\_\_\_ and an analgesic (i.e. pain control) product of \_\_\_\_\_ to all calves.

Wait adequate period of time for pain control to take affect

We dehorn calves using: \_\_\_\_\_

Steps for Dehorning (including bleeding control method):

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## Standard Operating Procedure for Castration

Castration on this farm can be performed by:

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We castrate calves at age:

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We use the following pain control methods (must be used for all ages):

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Steps taken in restraining and castration:

- Provide a clean, dry environment for animals after castration
- Monitor the calves closely for \_\_\_\_\_ (time frame) after castration for bleeding or other issues
- Treat wounds as necessary

## Standard Operating Procedure for Supernumerary Teat removal

Supernumerary teats removal can be performed on our farm by:

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Teats are always amputated using surgical scissors or scalpel blade.

Remove extra teats as early in life as possible. This is done at around \_\_\_\_\_ of age.

Ensure proper physical restraint of animal using \_\_\_\_\_

Provide adequate dry bedding to heifers for 72 hours post teat removal to avoid infection.

## Standard Operating Procedure for Euthanasia

On our farm Euthanasia is performed by: \_\_\_\_\_

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We ensure that cattle with untreatable conditions, cattle who are not responding to treatment and who are not fit or transport are PROMPTLY euthanize by the following method:

Note that the following are the only acceptable methods for on-farm euthanasia of cattle (please indicate which method(s) you use on your farm):

- Free bullet: .22 caliber for calves, .22 magnum or high powered rifle for mature heifers, cows and bulls
- Penetrating captive bolt – followed by pithing, bleeding or cardiac puncture
- Non-penetrating captive bolt – followed by bleeding – not for adult cattle
- Injection with barbiturates and other drugs (only to be administered by a licensed veterinarian).

Confirm death prior to moving. This is done by:

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## SOP 6 - Standard Operating Procedure for Shipping Cattle

- Ensure all Cattle intended for shipping are identified with dairy approved (DairyTrace) dual tags or single whit button tags (calves born on a dairy farm outside the province of Quebec and destined for purposes other than diary production may be identified with an approved DairyTrace single white button tag).
- Ensure animal birth or tag activation information is reported to the national traceability database (DairyTrace) before animals leave the farm (particularly for bull calves).
- Check Treatment record to ensure that all cattle going to slaughter have met all meat withdrawals.
- Check Broken Needle Record
- Pass all information on to the purchaser. Provide a letter of guarantee if going to another production facility for milking purposes.

Asses every animal prior to loading. Do not transport:

- Non-ambulatory animals
- Animals that are emaciated or weak
- Animals with severe lameness or that cannot bear weight on all four legs, except to a veterinary clinic for veterinary treatment or diagnosis.
- Do not transport animals that are likely to give birth during the intended journey or that require hobbling in order to walk.

Prepare

- Feed new-born calves at least 4L of colostrum prior to loading
- Feed and water dairy cattle within 5 hours of loading, if the expected duration of the trip is longer than 24 hours from time of loading

Load

- Only experienced and trained handlers should load cattle
- Avoid the use of electric prods
- Ensure cattle that are incompatible are segregated

Other information/instruction concerning shipping cattle:

- Transport calves only if they are healthy, vigorous, have a dry cord and are at least \_\_\_\_\_ days of age.

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Move the animal over the shortest distance possible. Use equipment according to the manufacturer's specifications and support the animal as necessary during the movement.

Do not pull, push or lift an animal by the neck or legs unless human or animal safety is at risk and there is no other option. Even then, only do so for a few feet with the force being applied for a very brief period of time. Carefully protect the animal as much as possible and then use your preferred method of moving the animal.

Never use hip lifters or clamps to move or carry down cattle from one location to another.

Wherever the animal is located for recovery, ensure that the following are provided:

- Proper non-slip flooring, or if in a tie stall, the gutter is covered
- Shelter from the elements (direct sun, rain, extreme cold or heat, moisture) and protection from predators. Shelter is provided by:  

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- Frequent easy access to fresh food and water
- Isolation from other animals to prevent injury and support recovery.

We always move cows as gently as possible and we never pull, drag or lift cows by their neck or legs UNLESS there is no other option, and then only a few feet until they are safe.