



**ALWAYS “FIXED FORMULA”
FOR CONSISTENT
QUALITY, PERFORMANCE AND SAFETY**



**Feeding and Care Recommendations
Calves to 8 Months**

Up to 8 weeks (not on mother):

Housing:

- Provide a clean, dry individual hutch that allows the calf to choose between an area that has full fresh air and a well-bedded draft free area. Individual hutches should be about 8 feet long X 4 feet wide X 4 feet high. Place the hutch on top of a porous base of gravel or sand to allow drainage of liquids. Orient the pen to both block cold winds and allow sunlight penetration. Cover the pen with 6 inches of straw or shavings. Attach feed & water pail holders to outside of hutch, so that calf has easy access to feed & water, but cannot escape or be able to contact calves in adjacent hutches (prevents spread of disease). Thoroughly disinfect hutches and place in sun for 3 weeks before housing another calf.

Feed:

- Newborn calves should receive 2-3 quarts of colostrum (cow’s first milk) within 6 hours after birth. Continue feeding 2 quarts of colostrum twice a day for the first 3 days. After 3 days, begin feeding reconstituted KING Calf Milk Replacer at a daily rate of 10% of birthweight. Using the thumb rule “a pint is a pound”, a 100 lb calf would get 10 lbs = 10 pints = 5 quarts split into 2 feedings per day. Continue feeding the same amount of KING Calf Milk Replacer (don’t increase with age) for 8 weeks until weaning. At the same time, begin offering a handful of KING Calf Starter twice per day. Do not feed more than the calf will consume between feedings. At each feeding, replace any leftovers with fresh feed. Increase KING Calf Starter as appetite increases. For the first 8 weeks, offer only a handful of good quality alfalfa hay per feeding; contrary to common sense, feeding grain develops a calf’s future ability to digest hay significantly better than feeding roughage. Water- At 4 days of age (post-colostrum), calves should always have easy access to fresh, clean water at 55 degrees F. Provide water in a clean pail next to grain pail, replacing water once a day.

After Weaning:**Housing:**

- After weaning at 8 weeks of age, similar sized calves can be housed together in small groups of 4-6 calves. Weaner calves can have access to the outdoors, but should be provided with a well bedded area that provides shelter from wind & rain. Provide about 30 square feet of bedded shelter per calf..

Feed:

- Calves can now be group-fed in troughs raised 14 inches off the ground and providing 18 inches of trough space per calf. For the first week after weaning, continue to feed KING Calf Starter to appetite twice per day. Remove any leftover grain at each feeding so grain is always fresh. After the first week, gradually switch calves from KING Calf Starter to KING Calf Grower. A simple transition is the “1/4-4 Rule: replace ¼ of the KING Calf Starter with KING Calf Grower every 4th day- by the 13th day, calves will be on 100% KING Calf Grower. Continue to increase grain intake up to 4 lbs per calf per day. Feed good quality alfalfa hay to appetite. Ideally, calves should gain between 1.5-2.0 lbs per day. Avoid higher rates of growth which causes calves to get fat and deposit fat in their mammary (milk) tissue. Water- Calves should always have easy access to fresh, clean water. Calves will drink 3-5 gallons of water per calf per day.