

As calving season is upon us we want to make sure that you are aware that we are ready for all of your animal health care needs. Our large animal department is stocked with calving supplies, our barn equipment and large animal staff is ready to assist you with calving problems, difficult births, c-sections, cold, weak and sick calves, etc. Our veterinarians are on call 24-7 to assist with after hour concerns and emergencies. We have compiled this newsletter to summarize some important information for you to have on hand during calving season.

Supplies to Have on Hand.....

- OB Sleeves
- OB Lube
- Disinfectant
- Clean Bucket
- Gentle Iodine Spray
- Lifeline Calf Colostrum
- First Defense Boluses
- Enema Bag
- Good Digital Rectal Thermometer
- Chains and Handles
- Calf Claim or O No More

Other Calving Supplies we carry....

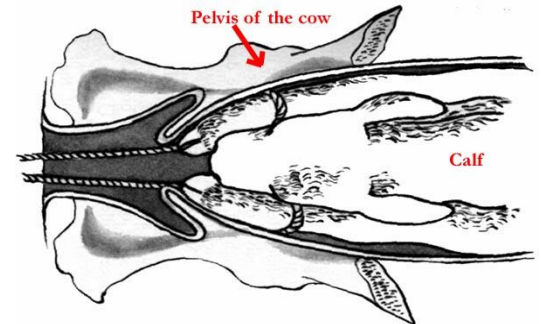
- Identification ear tags, colored, numbered 1-100 and blank
- We can custom order tags with higher numbers, names, etc.*
- Ear Taggers and Replacement Pins
- Ear Tag Markers
- Milk Replacer
- Calf Bottles and Nipples
- Electrolytes
- Scour Medications

If you are looking for something we don't currently have on hand, let us know and we can check with our distributors and special order it for you.

When to call for assistance...

- Once in labor, you should observe the heifer/cow every 30 minutes to 1 hour.
- If they do not make any progress in over 30 minutes or quits trying for more than 15-20 minutes...
- If the water bag has been passed for 2 hours and they are no longer trying
- If the calf is in an unusual position
- If the calf cannot be pulled
- If the cow or the calf is showing signs of stress such as:
 - If the calf's tongue is swollen
 - If the fetus is stained yellow (meconium)
 - If the cow has severe bleeding from the rectum
 - If the cow hasn't cleaned (retained placenta) within 12 hours of calving
- If the cow's uterus prolapses after birth. This should be considered an **EMERGENCY**, calmly tie the cow up where she is at and have your veterinarian come out immediately. The uterus will be a large whitish-gray mass with mushroom like buttons covering it.
- A normal calf's body temperature is 101.5 degrees Fahrenheit.
 - If you take the calf's body temperature rectally and it is below 95 degrees Fahrenheit, they need to be warmed up slowly.
 - ✚ Do **NOT** submerge the calf in a tub of hot water.
 - ✚ Place the calf in a small area with a heater or heated blower with the air directed on them. Rub them with warm towels or blankets.
 - ✚ Check the calf's body temperature every 30 minutes to make sure that they are not warming up too fast.
- Do **NOT** administer colostrum or medications until the calf's body temperature is in the mid-nineties. Ideally, the calf **MUST** be given colostrum (Lifeline) within the first 30 minutes after birth.
 - Only mix up ½ of a package with 1 quart of warm water. Open up and add the contents of a First Defense Bolus.
 - This mixture should be tube administered.
 - Give the other ½ of the package with 1 quart of warm water in 2 hours.
- Spray the calf's navel with Gentle Iodine Spray.
- Call your veterinarian for assistance with weak or scouring calves or if they need assistance with any of the following:
 - If the calf shows signs of inactivity or weakness.
 - If the calf is slow to stand, they should be sitting upright in 15 minutes and standing within 1 hour.
 - If the calf cannot maintain its body temperature.
 - Check for broken legs, especially if you have helped pull the calf.
 - Stimulate the calf to breathe by cleaning the mouth and nose, elevating the neck and lowering the head, and tickle the nose with a piece of straw.

Normal Positioning of the Calf



A Prolapsed Uterus

