WEANING
The calf should have reached
- Weight 50-70 kg
- Age 12 Weeks

Concentrate Intake
600–800 kg/day

Weaning can be immediate. The calf should remain in the pen for 2 weeks afterwards to reduce stress.

Calf Paddocks
(Easily digestible pasture)

CONCENTRATES
Necessary for good rumen development

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Breed</th>
<th>At Birth</th>
<th>At 1st Service</th>
<th>At Calving</th>
<th>Daily Gain</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Holstein</td>
<td>35</td>
<td>375</td>
<td>457</td>
<td>0.50</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Brown Swiss</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Zebu</td>
<td>30</td>
<td>330</td>
<td>470</td>
<td>0.50</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Jersey</td>
<td>25</td>
<td>180</td>
<td>280</td>
<td>0.35</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Important
Remember to:
- Disinfect the umbilical cord (iodine)
- Control parasites
- Vaccinate against pneumonia (week 1) and brucellosis (3-8 months)

The signs of good calf rearing are:
- Less than 5% mortality per year
- Little need for medicines
- Good physical state—strong bones/shiny coat

Recommended Body Weights (kg)

CONCENTRATES
High in Protein
70–75% TDN
Eg. Maize/corn

Rich in minerals and Vitamins

Low in fibre max 6-7%

Concentrate must be palatable and coarsely ground

A.) Before Weaning

B.) After Weaning

Protein 12-16%

TDN 70-75%

INTAKE 1-2kg/day

Examples:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Age</th>
<th>CP%</th>
<th>Corn</th>
<th>Soya bean</th>
<th>Salt</th>
<th>Minerals</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>0-2</td>
<td>16.0</td>
<td>74.40</td>
<td>22.00</td>
<td>0.60</td>
<td>3.00</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2-4</td>
<td>14.0</td>
<td>78.40</td>
<td>18.00</td>
<td>0.60</td>
<td>3.00</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>4-6</td>
<td>13.0</td>
<td>81.40</td>
<td>15.00</td>
<td>0.60</td>
<td>3.00</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

NB. Do NOT feed whole cotton seed to young calves, it is TOXIC for undeveloped rumens.

For more information visit: http://www.jddb.gov.jm
Telephone:+1 876 927 1731-41
Ex: 2218/2241
FAX:+1 876 977 1875
E-mail: dairyboard@micaf.gov.jm
In calf rearing care and attention is needed in:

A. FEEDING
B. HOUSING
C. HEALTH

The MOST COMMON CAUSES OF CALF MORTALITY

- Contagious diseases
- Unsuitable environment
- Poor hygiene
- Poor nutrition

HOUSING

PORTABLE CALF PENS
- Avoids contact
- Reduces contagion
- Prevents licking which produces hair balls in the rumen
- Individual feeding—more control
- Protection against the environment—sun, wind, rain

THE CALF PEN
Size 1.2 m²

NUTRITION

COLOSTRUM is vitally IMPORTANT

- It provides:
  - Antibodies—immunoglobulins in the first 24 hours of life
  - Easily digestible protein (14%)
  - Vitamins and minerals
  - High Total Solids (24.0%)

COLOSTRUM is the only source of antibodies for new born calves.

THE DIET

From Day 1 to Weaning

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Item</th>
<th>From</th>
<th>To</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>CALOSTRUM</td>
<td>Days 1 – 5</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>MILK</td>
<td>From day 6 for 12 weeks</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>CLEAN WATER</td>
<td>From day 6</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>CALF CONCENTRATE</td>
<td>From day 6</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>CHOPPED HAY/GRASS</td>
<td>From day 14</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

1. MILK

- 3-6 litres/day (8-10% of lw/day) 1-2 times daily at the same time using a CLEAN bucket, washed and sterilized daily.

2. CONCENTRATE

- For good rumen development it must be:
  - Palatable
  - Low in fibre
  - High in energy and protein (16-18%)
  - Coarsely ground

3. HAY/CHOPPED GRASS

- Fresh daily

- Important for rumen’s physical development - size and muscle

4. CLEAN WATER

- Very important to facilitate concentrate intake

THE HEIFER CALF IS THE FUTURE OF YOUR DAIRY HERD

The young calf is very susceptible to environment and infection during the