

CARE OF COW AND CALF AFTER CALVING (Level 1)

Topic	Training & information Content
6.1	Selection of bulls, use of sexed semen, feeding management of dry cows
6.1.1	The calving process
6.1.2	Use of equipment around calving
6.1.3	Care of cow and calf after calving
6.1.4	Colostrum management
6.2	Milk (replacer) feeding schedule
6.3	From birth to weaning
6.4	Disease and health management
6.5	Handling of calves after difficult birth
6.6	Young stock rearing info and Key Performance Indicators



1. You will learn about (learning objectives):

- How to treat a calf during the first 24 hours after birth
- What to do to reduce calf mortality rate during the first 24 hours
- How to treat the “mother” cow after parturition
- Colostrum management



2. Background

- Worldwide, many calves die during the first 48 hours
- In most cases it is the farmer who is responsible for these calf deaths/losses, generally caused by;
 - Lack of skills
 - Lack of knowledge
 - **Low level of awareness;** and
 - Ignorance



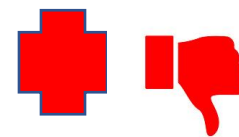
3. Checklist for pre and post calving



Calf Care ?

Cow Care ?

Hygiene!



3.1 Checklist for pre and post calving Cont'd...



+++Calf Care

+++Cow Care

+++Hygiene



4. Calf care: Licking and/or drying

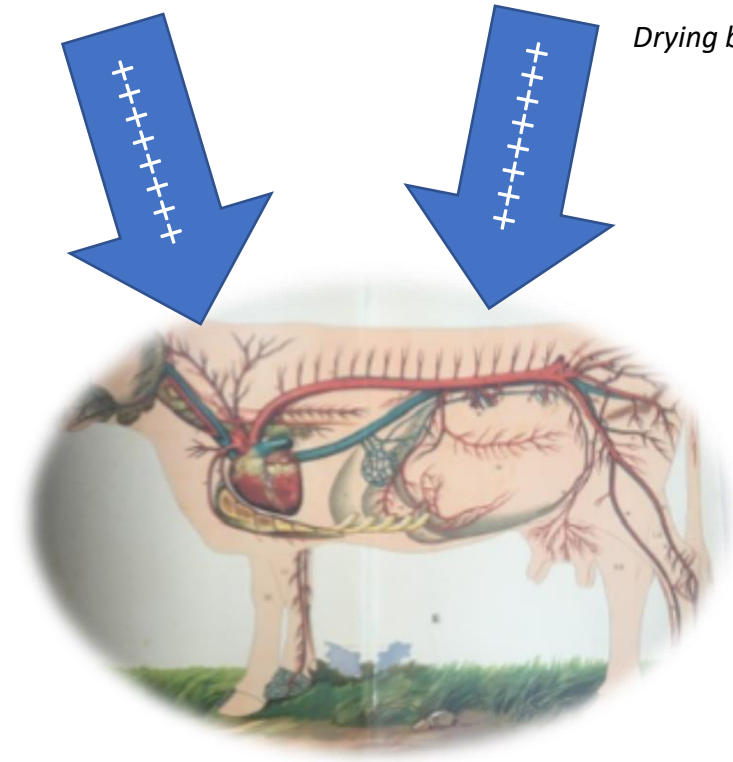
- Calf's blood circulation is stimulated under influence of licking by the mother or drying by the farmer



Licking by the mother



Drying by the farmer



5. Caring for both Calf and Cow

++ high level of cow care, offering water
-- low level of calf care, dirty underground, calf can easily be infected through (open) navel cord



6. Cow care

- All the feedstuff available in the farm must be offered to newly calved cow



7. Calf care – after birth

- Immediately after the calf is born, ask yourself: Is the calf alive, active, breathing, navel not bleeding?



What next:
Navel cord
disinfection

8. Calf care: Navel cord disinfection

- This is a number one priority immediately after birth
- Should last between 10-15 seconds



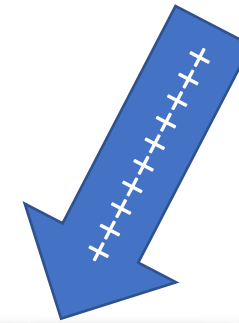
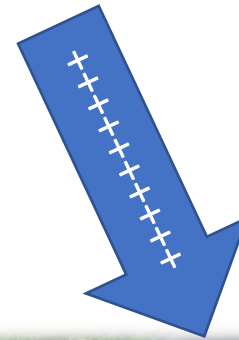
15 seconds



Source: Roodbont

9. Placenta

- Placenta will come off soon after calving, give cow the opportunity to lick the calf and do frequent milking



10. Hygiene

- Maintain hygiene at all times

Hygiene!



11. Colostrum management

- In summary, calves can suckle colostrum from;
 - a milk feeding bottle
 - a teat bucket
 - the 'mother' directly



- END -