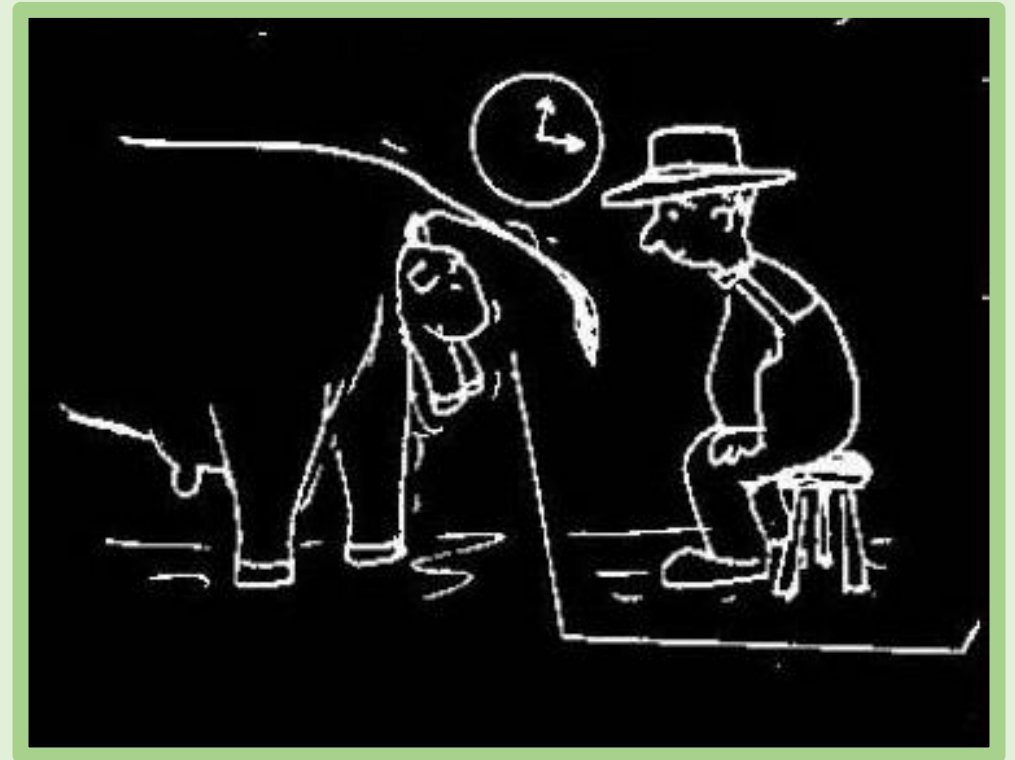


# CALVING PROCESS

## Level 1

Topic	Training & information Content
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):

- The three stages of Calving process from start to end



## 2. Introduction

- The Calving process can be divided into three stages;

Stage 1: Preparation for calving (3-6 hours in cows, up to 12 hours in heifers)

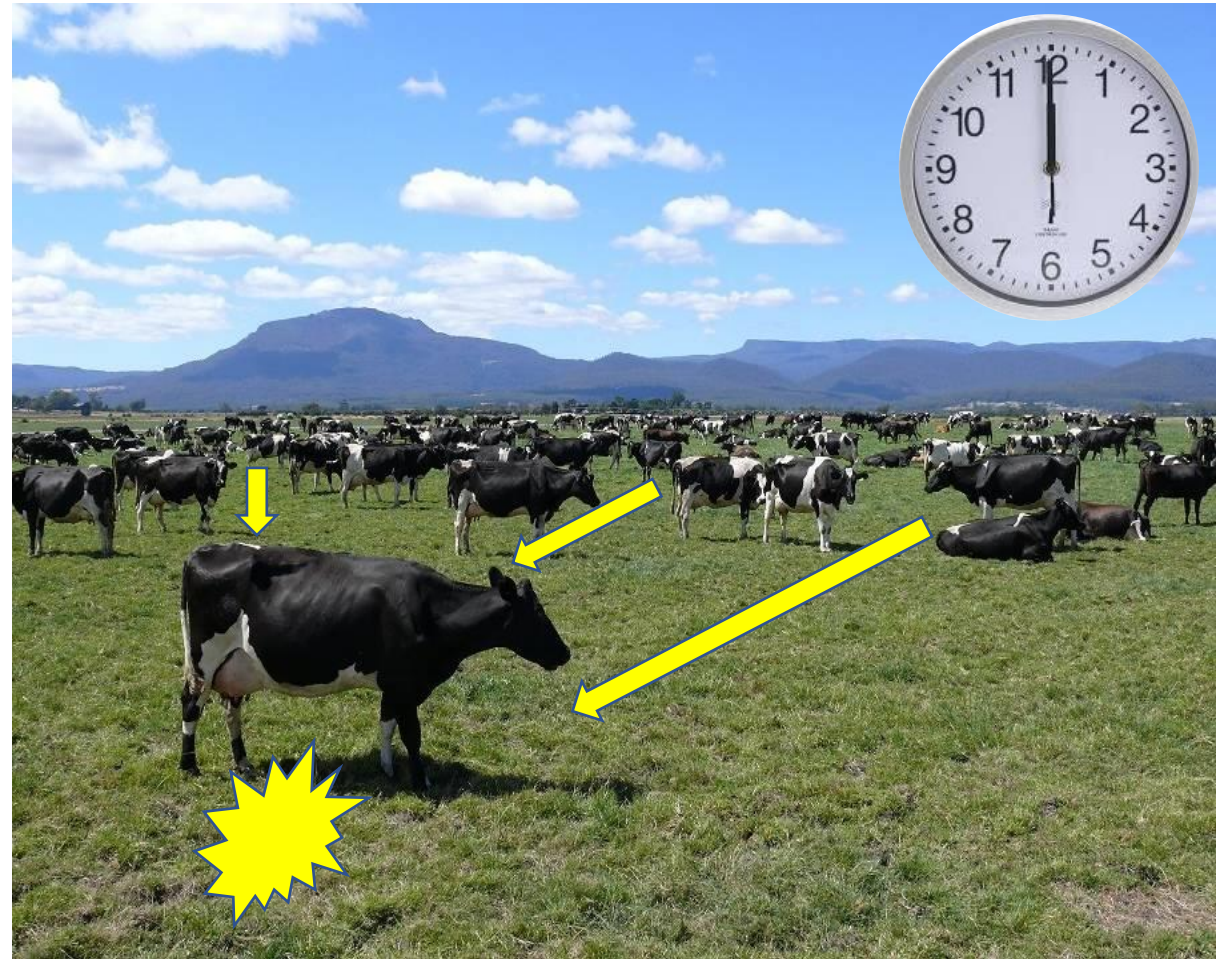
Stage 2: Birth of the calf (30 minutes in older cows, up to 4 hours in heifers)

Stage 3: Expulsion of the fetal membranes (2 hours up to 12 hours)



### 3.1 Calving Process: Stage 1 (3 – 6 hours)

- Cow starts by being in labour
- She separates/separate her from the herd



*Cow separation*

## 3.2 Stage 1: Tail raising

- Observation of the cows close to calving is a continuous process

Stage **1**



*Tail raising*

### 3.3 Stage 1: Kicking and licking of belly

Stage **1**



*Kicking and licking at her side*

### 3.4 Stage 1: Continuously lying down and getting up

Stage **1**



*Restless: Continuously lying down and getting up*

## 3.5 Stage 1: Arched Back

Stage **1**



*An arched back shows the cow is restless and in preparation for labor*



3.5.1 Stage 1: Visible abdominal contractions

Stage **1**



*Visible abdominal contractions*

## 3.6 Stage 1: Water bag

Stage **1**

Watch this video:

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=1Mtxft-8Pk4>



*Water bag protruding*

### 3.7 Stage 1: Remove traces

Stage **1**



*Remove traces*

**4. Calving Process: Stage 2 (30 minutes – 4 hours)**



*Amniotic bag*

**4.2 Stage 2: Presentation of the Calf**

Stage **2**



## 4.4 Stage 2: Calf is born

Stage **2**



## 5. Calving process: Stage 3 (1-12 hours)

Stage **3**



*Cow eating placenta*

- END -