

MILK (CALF MILK REPLACER) SCHEDULE (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 guide the calf throughout the first period of its life.
- Calf Milk Replacer (CMR) versus cow/whole milk



2. Background

- Feeding and raising calves can be rather simple if the calf stays with her mother.
- If raised separate from the mother cow, choose a rearing schedule with whole milk and/or Calf Milk Replacer (CMR).



Whole milk



Calf Milk Replacer (CMR)

2.1 Background Cont'd...

- Rearing schedule i.e., whole milk and/or Calf Milk Replacer (CMR) is key to the growth of a calf into a future dairy cow



3. Whole milk



- No room for mistakes. Consider;
 1. How much.
 2. How often.
 3. How exact.

3.1 Whole milk cont'd: **Observe rule 1**



1

Feed every day, milk from **same** cow to **same** calf.



3.2 Whole milk cont'd: Observe rule 2



2

Feed every day, **healthy** and clean milk, **same temperature**.



3.3 Whole milk cont'd: **Observe rule 3**



3

Feed every day, **healthy** and **clean** milk at the **same** time.



Feeding and treating a calf is similar to a baby child.

4. Calf Milk Replacer (CMR)



Be aware! Not every brand has the same concentration, read the operating instructions carefully.

4.1 CMR Cont'd: General rules



Calf Milk Replacer (CMR)



Exact weighing!



Exact measuring (temperature)!

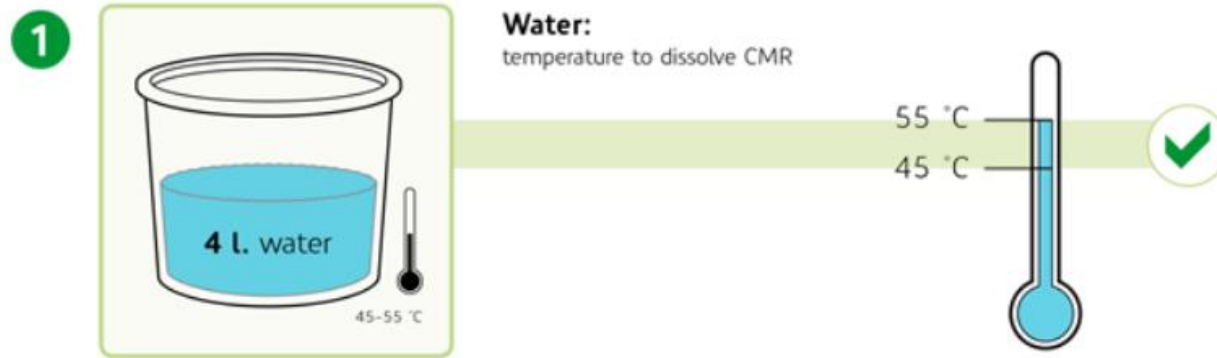


5 minutes stirring



Use clean warm water

4.2 CMR Cont'd: Water temperature



When the powder is dissolved in warm water, there is less chance of lump formation.



Further reading

Example how to prepare Calf Milk Replacer

<https://www.frieslandcampinaingredients.com/insight/ready-to-feed-kalvolac-read-here-how-to-prepare-it-and-what-the-optimal-dosage-is/#content>

4.3 CMR Cont'd: Concentration/dosage of CMR powder

2



Add 1 kg CMR powder

Concentration (dosage CMR powder):

Too much CMR powder:
too much nutrients > feeding diarrhoea

Perfect concentration:
1 kg CMR powder = 8 litres finished CMR



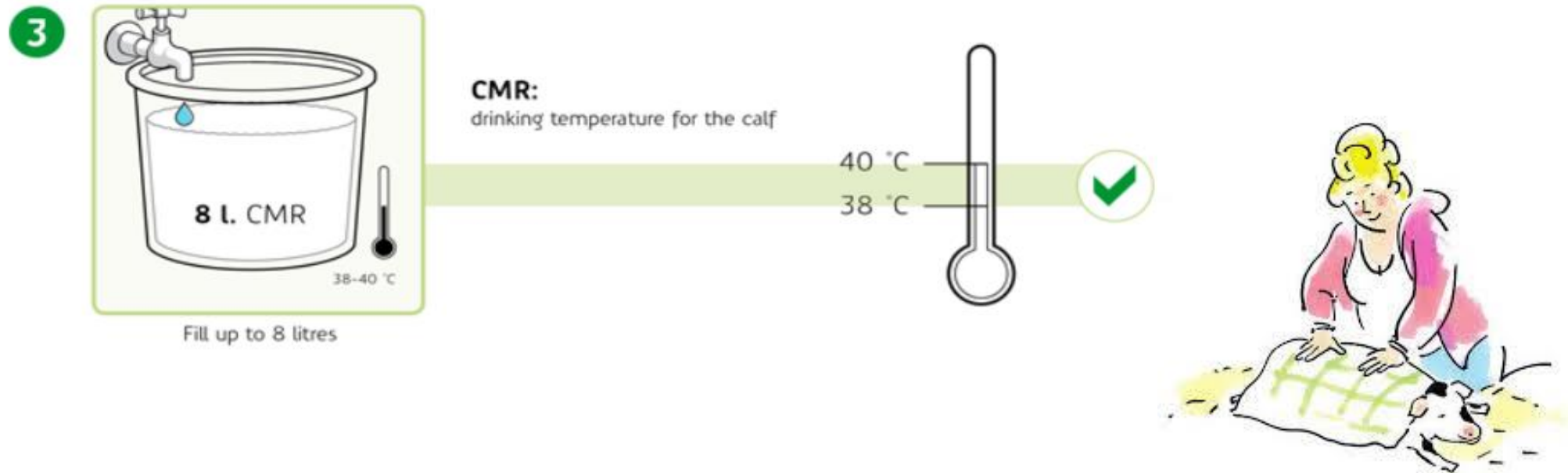
Too little CMR powder:
CMR in rumen instead
of abomasum > bloat

Concentration Table (Most usual)

CMR	Final Concentration
0.125 kg	1 litre milk.
0,750 kg	6 litre milk
1 kg	8 litre milk
2,5 kg	20 litre milk
5 kg	40 litre milk
10 kg	80 litre milk

4.4 CMR Cont'd: Drinking temperature (Cold Milk)

- (Too) cold milk will enter the rumen instead of the abomasum, and sucks energy from the calf to warm up again; this means the energy that cannot be used to gain weight,



5. Summary: Take home message

- Feeding and treating calves is similar to a baby child.
- Every mistake you make is shown to you by the calf.
- Feeding schedules must be followed strictly.
- There is no room for nonchalance; the calf demands regularity, time and precision.

Further reading: <https://www2.sprayfo.com/calf-rearing>

