

# CALF PEN CLEANING - BEST PRACTICE

## STAGE 1



### ENSURE ALL CALVES AND EQUIPMENT HAVE BEEN REMOVED

1. All calves and equipment should be removed before cleaning commences.
2. Removable equipment should be taken outside and soaked in a trough containing a solution of **Shift™** detergent at 1:250 (1L per 250L water) to remove soiling. A brush and jet wash may need to be used to remove stubborn dirt.
3. After soiling has been removed equipment should be disinfected using **GPC8™** at 1:100.
4. Equipment should then be dried and stored in a clean area before being returned to the cleaned and disinfected calf pen.

## STAGE 3



### WASH DOWN

1. To wash-down the pen make up a solution of **Shift™** at 1:150 or for heavy soiling **Target™ Powergel** at 1:50.
2. Apply to all surfaces in the pen using a foaming lance, work from top to bottom and back to front making sure all gates are also covered and leave for 30 minutes to ensure penetration into any remaining organic matter.
3. Rinse off using a low pressure washer, paying particular attention to corners and cracks.
4. Leave to air dry completely before the next stage.

## STAGE 5



### RESTOCKING AFTER DISINFECTION

1. Once the freshly cleaned and disinfected pens are completely dry.
2. Apply lime powder, place fresh bedding into the pen and replace any disinfected equipment that was removed for the deep-clean.

### CALVING SEASON

1. Individual and group calf pens should be kept as clean as possible.
2. Bedding should be replaced on a regular basis to keep organic matter to a minimum and the bedding warm and dry for the calves.

### BIRTHING PENS

1. Pens should be completely cleaned and disinfected after each birth to maintain a high level of hygiene.

## STAGE 2



### REMOVAL OF BEDDING

1. The bulk of bedding should be removed mechanically.
2. Soiled bedding should be taken to an area away from the calf housing.
3. Once the pen is free of the bulk of the soiled bedding.
4. Stubborn organic matter can be removed by scraping and brushing, you may need to jet wash to remove particularly stubborn matter.
5. This will make the wash-down more effective.

## STAGE 4



### DISINFECTION

1. Make up a solution of **GPC8™** disinfectant (at 1:50 if there is a known disease problem or 1:200 if no known problem).
2. The use of warm/hot water increases the effectiveness of the **GPC8™** disinfectant.
3. Apply the solution of disinfectant through a sprayer to all surfaces and gates working from top to bottom and back to front, ensure extra coverage on corners and cracks.
4. **DO NOT RINSE OFF.** Allow to dry overnight.

## STAGE 6



### FOOT BATHS

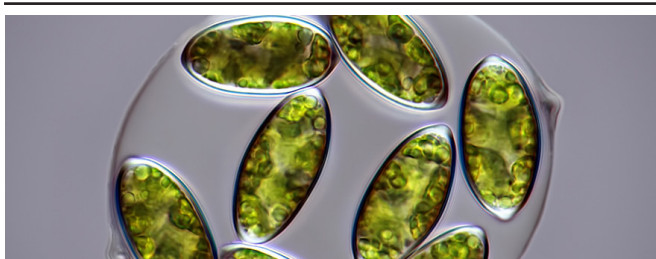
1. Foot baths filled with **FAM® 30** at 1:100 (for a 12L bath add 120ml of **FAM® 30**) should be placed at all entrances to the calf pen area immediately after filling.
2. Foot baths must be kept clean by changing the disinfectant regularly to prevent it from becoming a potential source of contamination.
3. Always dip feet before entering, if boots are soiled, clean with water and a brush before using the foot bath.
4. Replace the solution every 3 days (72 hours) or sooner if the colour begins to fade.

### DISINFECTION OF PATHS, ROADWAYS AND AREAS AROUND CALF HOUSING

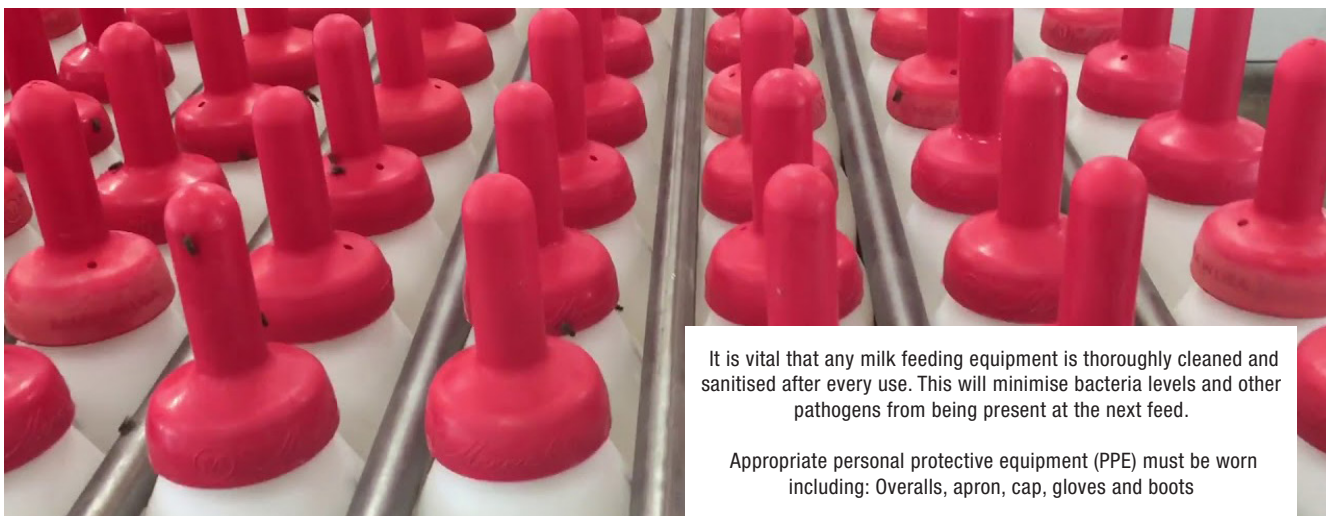
1. Keep paths and surrounding areas as clean as possible.
2. Make up a solution of **FAM® 30** disinfectant at 1:100. Spray or brush down these areas regularly at a rate of 300ml of solution per square metre.

## COCCIDIOSIS / CRYPTOSPORIDIUM REDUCTION

1. After all animals and portable equipment have been removed from the pen.
2. Remove any organic material.
3. Apply **Target™ Powergel** at 1:14 through a foam cleaner or low pressure washer (less than 70 bar). Allow a 1 hour contact time before rinsing off thoroughly with clean water and allow to air dry.
4. Spray all areas thoroughly with a solution of **GPC8™** at 1:35, at a rate of 300ml per square metre. For best results apply as a foam.
5. Refit portable equipment and allow to air dry.



# CALF FEEDING EQUIPMENT



It is vital that any milk feeding equipment is thoroughly cleaned and sanitised after every use. This will minimise bacteria levels and other pathogens from being present at the next feed.

Appropriate personal protective equipment (PPE) must be worn including: Overalls, apron, cap, gloves and boots



**ENSURE EQUIPMENT SUCH AS BOTTLES, TEATS, BUCKETS, HOSES, MIXING INSTRUMENTS AND STORAGE CONTAINERS ARE THOROUGHLY CLEANED AFTER EACH USE.**

**STAGE 1**

**RINSE**

Rinse equipment in lukewarm water (26-43°C) to remove dirt and milk residue by either spraying or by immersing in water. Water temperature is very important, if too hot, fat and protein from the milk residue can adhere to surfaces which forms a film which can make disinfectants ineffective and provide a growth medium for bacteria.

**STAGE 2**

**WASH**

Wash equipment in hot water (at least 74°C) containing **Q'det™** or **Kind™** detergent (30ml per 40L sink) by scrubbing or brushing, paying special attention to hard to reach areas e.g. rubber teats, tube feeders and milk lines. DO NOT allow the water temperature to fall significantly during the wash process. Visually check for any signs of wear and tear and replace equipment if required.

**STAGE 3**

**SECOND RINSE**

After washing rinse the equipment in clean fresh water.

**STAGE 4**

**SANITISE**

Fill the sink with warm or cold water containing **Peradox™** (at 1:50), soak the equipment for a minimum of 3 minutes, the acidic sanitiser will lower the pH on the surface of the feeding equipment. Most bacteria do not grow well under acidic conditions and bacteria counts are much lower when rinsed with an acidic sanitiser.

**STAGE 5**

**FINAL RINSE AND DRY**

Allow the equipment to drain and air dry on racks, if possible, between feeds. DO NOT stack buckets together before they are completely dry. DO NOT place freshly cleaned and sanitised equipment on to the floor.

**AUTOMATIC FEEDERS**

**TEATS**

Clean the teats using the same method used for the individual bottle teats (as above).

**TANK**

After removing the teats rinse the tank or trough with lukewarm water (26-43°C) to remove dirt and milk residue by spraying. Wash tank or trough with hot water (at least 74°C) containing **Q'det™** or **Kind™** detergent to remove any remaining residue then rinse with fresh water. Finally using **Peradox™** (at 1:50), soak the tank or trough for a minimum of 3 minutes (see stage 4 above).