

## Emergency Plan for Staff Machine Fed Calves Checklist

**Boots should always be disinfected when entering and leaving the calf facility**

Age of calves moved onto automatic feeder: \_\_\_\_\_ days

Reasons not to move calves from individual pens into group with automatic feeder:  
*e.g. not drinking milk well from teat feeder, ill health, space in pen*

Maximum number of calves per automatic feeder: \_\_\_\_\_

### Daily automatic feeder checks:

- Check for consumption and drinking speed (calves that have failed to take their allocation).
- Top up hopper with powder as required.
- Visually check that hopper is dispensing and that mixer is mixing properly.
- Ensure enough detergent for cleaning cycles.

### Cleaning automatic feeder instructions:

*e.g. switch teats once or twice a day, clean and disinfect after use if not done automatically  
clean mixer unit – how often?  
in-built cleaning cycle must be set to run at least 3x/day*

### Additional notes:

- Automatic calf feeders must be calibrated at least once a week and when there is a change in the batch of milk replacer.
- Regular manual cleaning should be carried out at least weekly including all milk lines and other components. This should be done between every batch of calves.

### Water:

- Check water troughs/drinkers are functioning properly.
- Clean out troughs/drinkers as required.

**Starter feed:**

- Ensure calf starter feed is always available.
- Remove any wet/spoilt feed.

**Calf daily health observations:**

- Check all calves have drunk their full allocation of milk. Regular checks to ensure calves drink at least 2x/day.
- If not, write down calf number, date and how much milk taken.
- Observe all calves for health measures: cough, scour, nasal discharge, eyes and ears (refer to University of Wisconsin Calf Health Scoring Chart).
- Any calf displaying signs of ill-health and poor milk/feed intake should be reported for assessment and treatment if required.

**Other relevant instructions:**

*e.g. remove calf jackets from calves over 3 weeks of age  
top up bedding daily – more bedding in area around feeder or scrape down hard standing around the feeder  
sweep floor in calf shed and keep as dry as possible  
top up racks with straw when required  
check stocks of milk replacer and starter feed for when to re-order*

**Useful Contact Details:**

Calf Feed Contact:

Number:

Company:

Automatic Calf Feeder Contact:

Number:

Company:

Vet:

Number:

Practice: