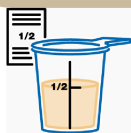


USING MILK REPLACERS CORRECTLY



Cases of dietary diarrhoea among calves fed on milk replacers are nowadays caused almost exclusively by their feed not being properly prepared. Good habits in feed preparation (compliance with the specified concentrations and temperatures) are essential for optimum performance.



Volumes and concentration

Stick to the volumes laid down in your feeding plan:

. Too large a volume may result in a reflux of milk into the animal's pre-stomach and cause unwanted fermentation.

- Too small a volume and you may not be meeting the calf's nutritional needs.

Stick to the concentrations laid down in your feeding plan:

• Make a clear distinction between grams/litre of milk substitute and grams/litre of water used in its preparation.

Recommendation: 130 g/litre of milk replacer

i.e. for 1 litre of milk: 130 g of powder dissolved in 0.87 l of water



Preparation temperature

Recommended temperature range = 45°C min-65°C max

• If the temperature is below the minimum, there is a risk that the point at which the fats melt will not be reached, and so they will not be properly dissolved in the feed. This may give rise to digestive disorders.

• If the temperature is above 65°, there is a risk of spoiling the proteins, and of the reconstituted feed losing its nutritional value.

It is important to check the volume and temperature of the hot water regularly using a thermometer.



Mixing time

Stick to the mixing times laid down in your feeding plan:

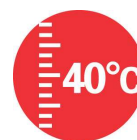
• Too short a mixing time will result in the feed not being adequately emulsified, with the fats merely dispersed, and this may cause dietary diarrhoea.

Our advice:

Refer to our feeding plans, which you will find under our "Products" heading.

Weigh out your feed and/or make sure that your AMD (Automatic Milk Distributor) is accurately calibrated.

Regularly perform a dry extract on the reconstituted milk to check its concentration.



Drinking temperature

Recommended temperature = 40°C min

• When distributing the milk, take into account the time this operation will take to complete and set the temperature accordingly, so the milk will still be warm enough (<40°C) when the last calves are fed.

• Maintain as constant a temperature as possible. It is better always to serve the feed at 45°C than at different temperatures on different occasions.

• Too low a temperature causes undesirable enzymatic activity, which may give rise to dietary diarrhoea and reduced performance.

For optimum results, use good quality water and do not forget to rinse and clean your distribution equipment thoroughly.

You will find further advice and information at www.elvor.com

