

# FarmSkills Calf Rearing Part 1 & 2

## At a glance...

### Customised Provision

Duration Notes:	1 day
Delivery Method:	Classroom

### Introduction

#### Calf Rearing – Birth to Weaning:

Trainees will be able to plan and prepare for successful heifer production, conduct basic first aid in the neo-natal calf and provide appropriate management to ensure maximum survival rates.

#### Calf Rearing – Heifer Rearing:

Trainees will be able to set targets and manage heifers to minimise problems for the calving heifer, maximise calf survival and heifer lifetime productivity.

### Overview in brief

#### Calf rearing- birth to weaning:

- Plan and prepare for successful heifer production
- Conduct basic first aid to resuscitate the newly-born calf and provide appropriate management to ensure maximum survival rates
- Describe basic physiological development in calves and outline the key management steps required to produce a healthy well grown calf which is in an optimum condition to be weaned.

#### Calf rearing- heifer rearing:

- Describe the optimum age and condition of heifers at calving



- Explain the problems of over or under condition in these animals
- Discuss the advantages of an integrated approach to heifer pre-calving management
- Understand the pros and cons of AI, Synchronisation and Natural Service
- Set targets for heifer calving: age, weight, height.



## The finer details

### Calf Rearing – Birth to Weaning:

- Produce a plan from birth to calving
- Assess the body condition of the dam
- Know how best to set up and run a calving system
- Evaluate a calf's ABC (Airway, Breathing, Circulation)
- List the major roles of colostrum: energy, warmth, laxative, passive transfer
- Know the correct amount and time frame for colostrum intake
- Know how to administer supplementary colostrum safely
- Appreciate that colostrum does not need to clot in the abomasum in the same way as milk.

### Calf Rearing – Heifer Rearing:

- Describe the optimum age and condition of heifers at calving
- Explain the problems of over or under condition in these animals
- Discuss the advantages of an integrated approach to heifer pre-calving management
- Understand the pros and cons of AI, Synchronisation and Natural Service
- Set targets for heifer calving: age, weight, height.

## Who should attend?

Anyone wanting to be able to plan and prepare for successful heifer production, conduct basic first aid in the neo-natal calf and provide appropriate management to ensure maximum survival rates and set targets and manage heifers to minimise problems for the calving heifer, maximise calf survival and heifer lifetime productivity.

## What will be covered?

### Calf Rearing – Birth to Weaning:

- Produce a plan from birth to calving
- Assess the body condition of the dam



- Know how best to set up and run a calving system
- Evaluate a calf's ABC (Airway, Breathing, Circulation)
- List the major roles of colostrum: energy, warmth, laxative, passive transfer
- Know the correct amount and time frame for colostrum intake
- Know how to administer supplementary colostrum safely
- Appreciate that colostrum does not need to clot in the abomasum in the same way as milk.



#### Calf Rearing – Heifer Rearing:

- Describe the optimum age and condition of heifers at calving
- Explain the problems of over or under condition in these animals
- Discuss the advantages of an integrated approach to heifer pre-calving management
- Understand the pros and cons of AI, Synchronisation and Natural Service
- Set targets for heifer calving: age, weight, height.

#### Other areas of interest

[FarmSkills Dairy Fertility \(DIY AI\)](#)

[FarmSkills Foot Trimming](#)

[FarmSkills Mastering Medicines](#)

[FarmSkills Sheep - Lambing](#)

