The secret to **successful calf rearing** is really no secret at all...

Peach Teats™

Millions of happy, healthy calves worldwide thank Peach Teats

The Peach Teat is the most natural feeding teat on the market and we can prove it. The Peach Teat simulates the cow's teat so perfectly that it can be milked on a milking machine, or by hand.

> We always made a poor job of calves on the bucket, especially friesian bulls, that wouldn't be good enough for export however hard we tried. An Irish bloke who ran the export job suggested we change to feeding yoghurt through teats (the Peach Teats). The difference was staggering, if I'm honest. We went from having calves rejected to having the best in the pen in 3 weeks. Must be up there with the best thing we've ever done, I reckon.

A South Wales Farmer – Google Discussions

The Peach Teat allows no more fluid to pass through it than a cow's udder naturally would, allowing the calf to suckle more intensely than conventional technology. This stimulates the flow of saliva and improves the PH-level in the stomach and leads to better digestion.

With traditional teats when a calf squeezes the teat most of the milk goes right back into the container.

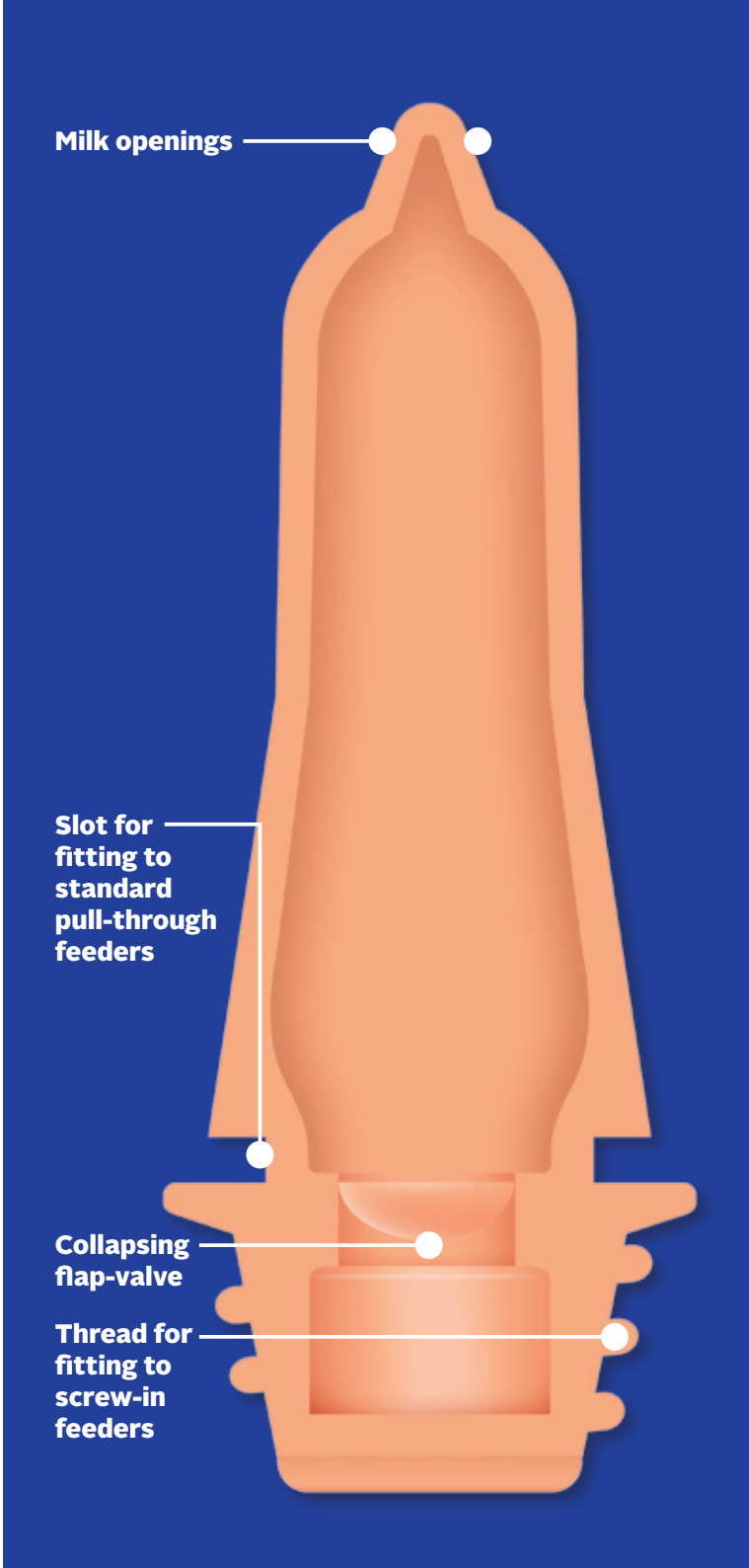
The Peach Teat's unique patented internal collapsing flap-valve holds the milk in the teat making it much more responsive to the calf's needs.

It is designed to function like a real cows teat, moving all the time while the calf is suckling, never closing in its relaxed state. This means that the teat is self-cleaning and resists blocking.

There is a milk opening on each side of the nipple, situated so that the crown of the nipple remains intact and the teat is leak resistant even when used at the bottom of a milk container. These openings also work as a second valve. Calves feed better and do not stress or fidget and health problems, such as scours or pneumonia, are reduced.

Peach Teats are manufactured from a natural rubber specially developed to meet the needs of calf rearers, ensuring that the teats feel natural and comfortable to the calf, and will eliminate mouth ulcers.

Peach Teats will pull through, or screw-on, all standard calf feeders. Peach Teats can be used for tube or gravity feeding using any container with a hole size of 22mm (⅞").



The Peach Teat is available in three models: **Black threaded**, **Pink threaded** and **Black pull-through**.

The Black and Pink threaded models can be **screwed on** or **pulled through** a standard or home made feeder with a 20mm (¾ inch) hole. A narrower Peach Teat is available for feeders with smaller holes.

Pulling through a teat on a home-made feeder

The Peach Teat™ EasyFit Adaptor

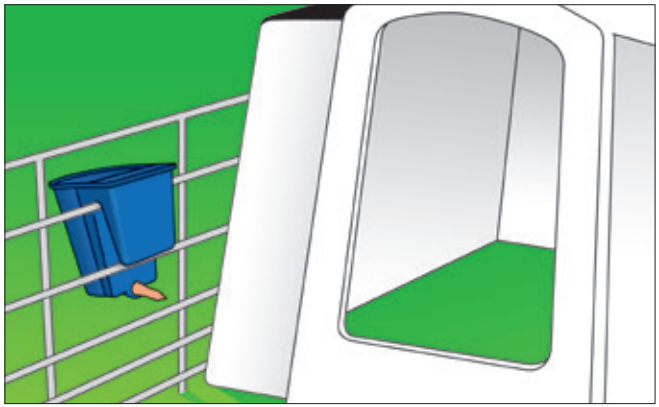
Adapts all feeders with ¾" holes to fit Peach Teats.

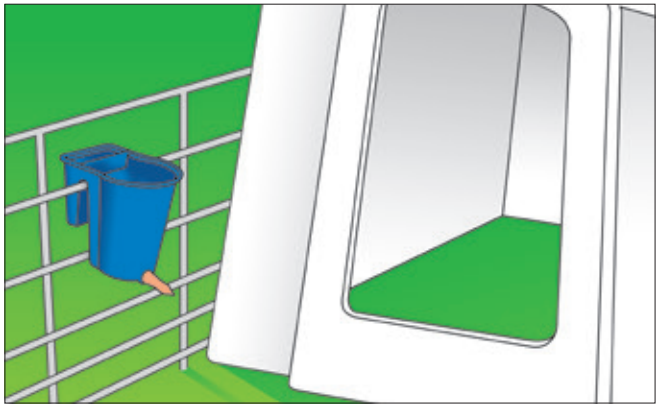
The Peach Teat™ Bottle Adaptor

The Peach Teat adaptor is available for calf-rearers who prefer to use standard nursing and hand-held bottles with threaded tops.

The Peach Teats Reversible Single Calf Feeder

Designed specifically to bring the advantages of the Peach Teat to calves being feed inside or outside of a calf pen or hutch, the Reversible Single Calf Feeder is a durable 6.34 quart (6 litre) feeder that has openings for the Peach Teats screw-in teat on both sides, giving you maximum flexiblity.





By **Dr Bas Schouten** B.V.Sc
Veterinary Consultant on Calf Rearing and The Growth of Young Stock in New Zealand

Successful Calf Rearing depends on many factors. These include:

- **The selection of the calf**
- **Good Housing**
- **Good Nutrition – with milk or quality calf milk replacers**
- **Good teat feeding systems**
- **Early detection and treatment of diseases**
- **Good husbandry and staff**

The following check list details these points that are important "Principals of good Calf Rearing"

Calf selection criteria:

- No twins.
- No induced calves.

Guidelines for successful calf rearing

- No freebies.
- Umbilicus must be dry.
- Eyes not sunken.
- Ears not droopy.
- Use breed-specific criteria.
- Be smart and pick the obvious strong animals
- Ideally calves should be over 40kg at 4 days (excl. Jersey calves).
- Avoid the use of antibiotics.
- Buy calves from as few sources as possible and ensure suppliers are reputable.
- Develop good relationships with your supplier(s).
- Avoid mixing age groups of calves where possible.
- Ensure calves have received colostrum within first 12 hours.

Ideally buy calves from a herd vaccinated against Rotavirus.

The rearing facility

- Provided calves are dry and in a draught-free environment they can cope with lower temperatures, so provide adequate shelter to prevent draughts. Trials indicate there can be up to 20% difference in growth rates between sheltered and non-sheltered calves.
- Do not expose calves to wind and rain.
- Provide protection from a prevailing wind.
- Ideally shelter should be twice as long as it is wide to minimise draughts at the back, even if the front is fully open.
- Cover the floor surface with untanilised sawdust, shavings, post peelings or wood chip to a depth of 200-300mm or more.

Guidelines for successful calf rearing

- Ensure the floor drains properly. Ideally have it higher at the back and lower at the front. A drain at the front to remove effluent and water is essential to prevent pooling of water and mud at the front of the barn. Coil drains placed in sand or river metal under the bedding is helpful to remove excess urine (ammonia).
- Top up bedding area regularly to ensure it remains clean and dry.
- If you are using grated floors similar to those found in woolsheds, use wind or shade cloth over the slats and cover with bedding as before.
- Ensure a minimum of 1.5 square metres/calf, ideally minimise calf contact between pens. Best is 10 calves/pen with a maximum of 20 calves/pen. Calves are less stressed and more content in smaller groups and drinking intakes are more easily monitored. It also makes the observation of individual calf health easier. Ideally no more than 100 calves per barn (per environment), so have more than one barn. This allows for easier separation of age groups and feeding levels. This provides a safety barrier between barns in the case of disease outbreak. Allows a barn to be rested for cleaning and sterilisation between batches.
- Do not use a high pressure hose inside the barn, as this will aerosol bacteria and viruses to calves in adjacent pens – a broom will easily remove excess materials in laneways.
- Good ventilation is essential. There should never be a smell of ammonia in the barn. Lack of ventilation is most critical at the floor and calf height level. Provide ventilation where the walls meet the ceiling. It is always easier to ventilate across the barn, not down the length of the barn. Ventilation should be adaptable for weather conditions with gaps, interrupted boarding, removable shutters or wind cloth. Through-the-roof ventilation with fans is rarely effective.
- Provide a water trough to each pen. The water must be clean and of good quality. Troughs should be checked and cleaned daily. Remember that calves will require 2–6 litres of additional water per day under hot conditions, where restricted feeding systems are used, with high meal/fibre intakes or during episodes of scours.
- Meal troughs should be long enough to give at least half the calves free access to the trough at any time. As a rule of thumb, provide 300mm of trough space per calf.
- Keep milk lines as short as possible – no stale milk left in hoses between feeds.
- Control rodents and birds as much as possible. They are the biggest spreaders of disease in the barn.
- Ensure you have a designated area where you can isolate sick calves, as this will minimise risk of diseases spreading.

Caring for new arrivals

- Check and spray (if necessary) the navel cord daily for the next 3 days. Start initial feeding 2 hours later with milk or electrolytes, no more than 2 litres per feed.
- The addition of a curding agent like rennet, yoghurt (lactobacillus, acidophilus) is beneficial in the transition to the new diet and environment.

Guidelines for successful calf rearing

- Check teats quality and numbers. Best practice is to have several spare teats per feeder (i.e. 8 calves to a 10-teat feeder).
- Check for slow drinkers and, if necessary, reassign calves on drinking speed and vigour.
- Warm feeding (30 – 40°C) of milk or electrolytes will encourage fluid intake and prevent nutritional upsets.
- A gut modifier like sodium bentonite (in the meal trough) is useful.
- Check the calf's temperature if signs of illness are suspected. These signs may be: calves dull, depressed, slow drinking, reluctant to stand/ walk, or scours.
- The normal temperature for a calf is between 38 – 39°C. If in doubt consult your vet.
- Check faeces at each feed for colour, smell, consistency or the presence of blood.

Cleaning the rearing area

- Do not use a high pressure hose anywhere near the calf pens.
- Calves must not be splashed by manure waste. This aerosols the bacteria/viruses in a polluting mist. Ingestion or the breathing in of these pathogens may cause disease.
- Spray the rearing area, including feeding utensils and teats, with approved virucidal product at least twice a week. Daily during a disease outbreak.

MILK MAID SERIES

All Stallion feeders come with Peach Teats with a range of 1 teat through to 10 teat feeders. Stallion Plastics complete range of calfaterias (MM and FC range) have been thoroughly tested and proven to effectively feed calves from first day through to weaning. A must for every calf rearer.

MM3
275H x 250W x 400L
16 Litre
3 teat

BKT
285H x 240W x 315L
10 Litre
3 teat

FC5
275H x 250W x 700L
30 Litre
5 teat

A calf that won't drink?

Try a **Peach Teat!**

Peach Teats™

Calves love 'em

www.peachteats.com
www.skellerup.co.nz
www.stallion.co.nz

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