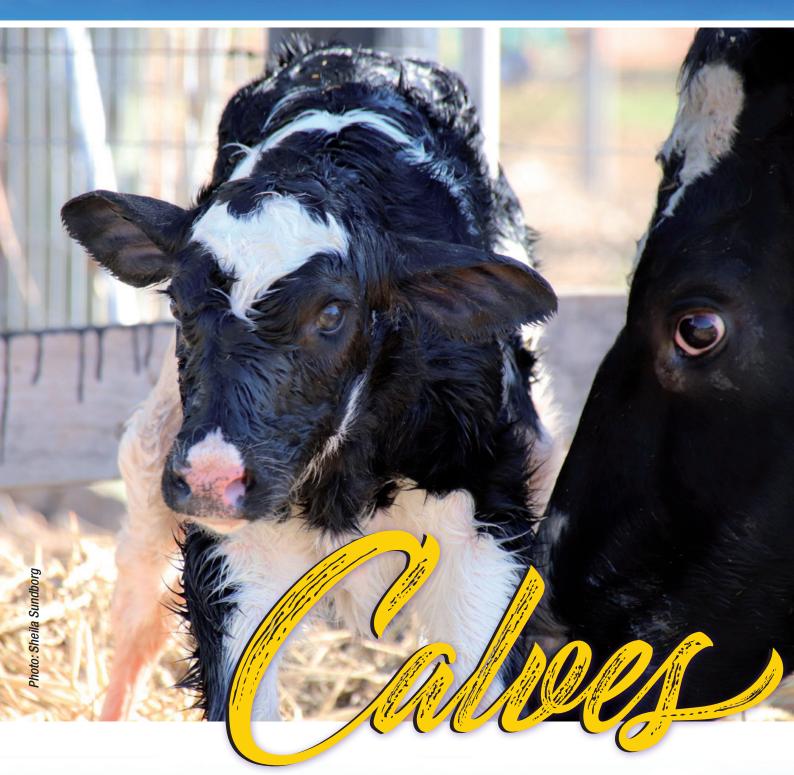


home of world-class dairy equipment & innovation



# REAR YOUR BEST





# Stress-Free Calf Tube Feeding

Safe, comfortable dualaction bottle/tube feeder

The smoothest and most practical feeding process for your calves. Designed by a vet and farmer, the Trusti Tuber significantly reduces calf stress and discomfort, giving the operator complete confidence. It has a soft and flexible tube, which is easily swallowed by the calf.

• Flexible tube can be held in place with one hand

• Large 4-litre capacity bottle

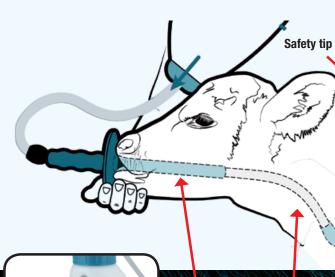
• Transparent, flexible tube makes it easy to clean & monitor flow

• Ergonomic handle – perfect for large and small hands

Reliable valve – fast-flow even if the colostrum is thick

• Shown in trials to almost halve procedure feeding time

Stopper & calf size markers provide easy guide for tube placement & positioning



The mouthpiece sits comfortably against the muzzle

Flexible tube is advanced through mouthpiece so the tube is easily positioned within the oesophagus

Clip on bottle keeps mouthpiece clean & away from surfaces



- TRUSTI TUBER
- FEEDER BOTTLE
- PEACH TEAT FOR BOTTLE FEEDING



Comes with Peach Teat cap for easy transition between teat and tuber

#### The Trusti Tuber has two significant design advantages which have drawn the praise of well-known veterinarian Rob Bonanno.



Rob is the former president of Australian Cattle Veterinarians. He has worked in large animal practice throughout his career, also taking in positions in the United States and China. He is now a dairy herd health consultant with Apiam Animal Health to help trouble-shoot and solve health issues within Australian herds.

The Trusti Tuber is the only feeder on the market which features a stopper marker using the calf's weight. It gives the operator more confidence, and an easy guide for the safe placement and depth of the tube's positioning in the calf's oesophagus.

## TWO CLEAR ADVANTAGES ON NEW TUBE-FEEDER

The feeder holds four litres and can be used as a bottle feeder, or have the Trusti Tuber attached to it mid-feed. Combined with a soft, transparent, and flexible tube and a handle, the stress on the calf and operator has been eased significantly.

"I absolutely love these feeders," Rob said. "The real advantage of them is that the calf can suck from the teat, and if it stops you can attach the tube and tube-feed them the balance of the feed without changing the vessel.

"Once someone has been trained to use them properly, that is the main advantage of them over other feeders that the calf gets its four litres without having to swap and change bottles.

"I also really like the weight indicator on it, so that the tube can't be pushed in too far, or not far enough."

Northern Victorian dairy farmer Tony Hogan says he has also been impressed with his Trusti Tuber. Tony milks 110 cows at Skyview Holsteins at Merrigum.

"I really like the weight gauge, so you know you're not going too deep or too shallow," Tony said.

"I also like that it has a handle on it.

My last one didn't have one and it was hard to hang on to. The tube is also really nice to work with. With my old tube feeder, when a calf moved it could be a bit of a drama. Now, that can't happen, and that's been less stressful for me.

"To be honest, while I don't use it that often, it's good to know I have it and that it's so easy and safe to use."

With a reliable valve that features fast flow even with thick colostrum, the Trusti Tuber has been shown in trials to almost halve the feeding time.

Tony says he wouldn't hesitate to recommend the Trusti Tuber to his colleagues: "I wouldn't go back to my old tuber ever again," he said. "It may be a simple piece of equipment, but its additional features are logical, and they put it in a different league compared to other feeders on the market.

"No-one likes tube-feeding calves, but if you are going to do it, you may as well do it right, and as safely as possible."





### CHANGING THE GAME ON CALF REARING

Ben and Melissa Holloway say they wouldn't go back to the way they used to feed calves.



Rearing calves successfully speaks to the heart of any dairy operation.

It's often the final job after milking when many are fatigued, yet it stands as one of the most valuable investments in the future of every herd.

Ben and Melissa Holloway milk 500 cows on 371 coastal hectares, at Allansford, 8km from Warrnambool, Victoria.

They used to rear their calves in group housing. While they weren't losing big numbers, it was too many for Ben. They were also feeding the annual 160 calf-drop manually carrying 20-litre buckets from the dairy to the calf shed.

With Melissa coming on-board to help rear the calves, Ben knew they needed to make changes. They had considered building a new calf shed, but their final decision was to invest in Calf-Tel individual calf hutches, and a Holm & Laue 250-litre milk taxi.

"The main reason we changed everything was that we were getting a lot of scours," Ben said. "Even though we were trying to do all the right things with colostrum, if one calf got the scours, it'd just seem to go them all.

"We might have lost five or six calves out of 100. So, we definitely weren't losing heaps of calves. But it was frustrating, time consuming and expensive to treat sick calves."







#### **CALF-TEL PRO II**

- More useable interior calf space than other similar hutches
- The most efficient rear-bedding door of its kind
- Designed so each calf can seek its ideal micro environment
- Exterior feeding for the highest labor efficiency
- Comes fully assembled

The deluxe hutches are manufactured in the United States and include thermostat moulding with multi-layers so they don't sweat like many plastic moulded hutches do. Their thermal shedding properties, and cross-ventilation techniques keep calves warm in the winter, and cool in the summer. They are light-weight, making them easy to move, clean and to avoid disease. The modular design also allows for different configurations, and the ability to buy them as finances allow.

The milk taxi is the Rolls Royce of manual calf feeding. It warms, agitates and holds milk at temperature. It also shines when it comes to mixing milk powder – and importantly, it dispenses perfectly measured amounts of milk, warmed to the perfect temperature – time and time again. With a rechargeable battery-powered pump and dosing tap, the stainless-steel container's strength is consistency. It is easily towed by the motorbike.

"Now, we rear 100 calves in a batch, and we might lose one," Ben said.
"The hutches have been the biggest change in those results. They've cut down on draft, and improved hygiene because the calves have no physical contact with the other calves for the first month. It's essentially allowed for individual rearing, without taking up huge amounts of our time.

"In the hutches, we know what every calf is eating and drinking. If they are sick, you pick it up straightaway. We move the hutches to a new spot every calving." The hutches are bedded with wood chips, and the calves have access to ad lib calf grain and water supported in specially designed holders.

"The milk taxi has made it easy for others to feed the calves because it makes everything so consistent," Ben said.

"Before, we used to get cold milk to the calves one feed, and warm milk the next. The milk taxi will hold the milk at the perfect temperature until we are ready to feed it, which is a massive advantage."

"Physically there was no way Melissa could have carried the milk to the calves the way we used to do it."

"With the new system it takes us no more than 30mins to feed every calf, which is about half of what it used to and we don't lift any buckets."

Ben and Melissa wean their calves aged 13 to 14 weeks, weighing 120kg. They feed 2.5 litres of milk twice a day when they are born, and move to 3 litres twice a day (fortified with an additional 300g of milk powder) as they grow.

"Our calves are definitely healthier, stronger, and they look better,"
Ben said.

"There's no way we'd go back to how we used to do it."



## **MILK TAXI**

- · An automatic calf feeder on wheels
- Electronic control with liquid level sensor, thermometer and statistics function
- Tank made of easy-to-clean, polished stainless steel
- Heats, mixes and dispenses measured amounts
- · Consistent feeding time after time
- Towable, push trolley and self-propelled models available
- · Pasteuriser model also available





# TAKING THE LABOUR OUT OF LABORIOUSLY THAWING COLOSTRUM









# Manually thawing colostrum for 20 newborn calves in a day is no-one's idea of a great time.

So when Tim McCann and his parents, David and Sandy, found a way to push "fast forward" on the challenge, their relief was palpable.

The Gippsland family milks 650 cows on 300 hectares at Nambrok. They also rear up to 700 calves, which includes herd replacements and bull beef — on another 400ha in the area. They are committed to feeding colostrum within the first six hours of every calf's life, so the clock is always ticking during calving.

Now 23, Tim came home to the farm three years ago, where some of his responsibilities include calving and calf rearing. Because they had historically frozen all their colostrum in Coke bottles, thawing it out was a protracted and labour-intensive task.

"Time was the enemy," Tim said.
"Especially when I decided I wanted to give all the calves two litres of colostrum within the first six hours of birth, and another two litres in the next six hours. Thawing it sometimes took us about four hours."

#### **Problem solved**

This season they solved that problem when they invested in a Store & Thaw unit. The award-winning innovation thaws four litres of frozen colostrum to feeding temperature within 15 minutes, and eight litres in 25 minutes.

The colostrum – frozen in space-saving, flat-pack, robust plastic bags – is thawed suspended in a metal cage, which is submerged in a warm bath of circulating water running at 45 degrees Celsius.

The flat-store feature has two advantages: convenient storage in the freezer, and a greater surface-area-to-volume ratio for rapid, uniform thawing.

Store & Thaw also pasteurises milk at 60 degrees Celsius within 60 minutes. Pasteurisation will kill *Salmonella*, *E.coli*, and *Mycoplasma bovis*.



"The biggest thing for me was that the Store & Thaw saved a lot of time stuffing around defrosting colostrum in hot water at our house," Tim said.

"It's finally made it practical to get the colostrum consistently into the calves at the right time – even at the numbers we're feeding.

"And, because the packing is flat, it heats up a lot quicker and more evenly because of the increased surface area to volume."

#### **Greatly decreased calf mortality**

Tim said eliminating scours was impossible both with group housing for young calves and with older calves in paddocks, which had been used for three decades. However, with management changes — Store & Thaw, chief among them — the McCanns'

calf mortality rates dropped this season from more than 5% to less than .003%.

It hasn't hurt that Sandy is a veterinarian. She has been actively involved in diagnosing and treating calves within the new regime to help get everyone on solid ground.

Tim said, "I wouldn't say that the Store & Thaw solved our scour problem, but for me, getting the colostrum into the calves quicker has meant they bounced back quicker from any setbacks, and they seem to avoid any complications with secondary infections that can often make them critically ill."

#### Silent advantages

He also noted there were silent advantages with Store & Thaw.

"It's not just the one thing of thawing colostrum. It's also all the flow-on things. Because we're not spending so much time thawing colostrum, we're less under the pump for time. So, we are doing a better job of looking after the calves in general.

"And, we all feel more confident with the process, knowing that we're giving our calves the best possible start we can."

\*\* Footnote: Store & Thaw has won the UK's RABDF Livestock Machinery and Equipment Award – given to the product that delivers the most economic value to the livestock sector.



# **STORE & THAW**COLOSTRUM MANAGEMENT SYSTEM

Calves achieve passive immunity transfer (PIT) from their dam's colostrum. Failure to achieve PIT leaves them vulnerable to disease, poor growth and poor performance. One third of calves left to suckle their dam will fail to achieve PIT.

#### More colostrum means:

- · Greater immunity
- Less disease
- Faster growth
- More pregnant heifers
- Higher production
- Better lifelong performance



## **TIMING IS EV**

When you give your calves the right star on with the business of reaching thei



CALF SHED PREPARATION

GIVE COW KETA-GO WHEN SHE CALVES







**DAYS PRE-BIRTH** 

Daviesway / DASCO carries for dedicated calf rearers



### **ERYTHING**

rt, you limit setbacks so they can get r genetic potential and profitability

# best calves

FEED CALF KWIK START AT BIRTH

(supplement colostrum with Australia's only bovine dried colostrum) FEED CALF BIOBOOST PROBIOTIC DAY 1

(also ideal for stressful events like dehorning, sickness and weaning) FEED BIOCALF PROBIOTIC FROM DAY 2 TO WEANING







(+1)

+2

**DAYS POST-BIRTH** 

the most relevant range chasing the best result

For more information please call 1800 666 269 or visit daviesway.com.au

## Key points to managing colostrum

While for many years Australian dairy farmers have recognised the importance of their calves receiving maternal colostrum, it continues to be an evolving story.

The reality is that a calf is born with no immunity.

And, it doesn't develop until they are two to three weeks-of-age.

During that time, the calf's sole defence lies in the hands of a passive immunity transfer (PIT) of antibodies (immunoglobulins) it gets from maternal colostrum.

However, by the time a calf is 12 hours old, its ability to absorb those antibodies has reduced to 20%. At 24 hours old, that percentage sits at just 5%.

We already know that the quality of colostrum varies between cows, and that if the colostrum doesn't include enough immunoglobulins then calves will not achieve PIT.

Failure to achieve PIT is a sure-fire way to have more sick calves and higher mortality rates.

My job is all about breaking that cycle, and I remain extremely passionate about it. Achieving PIT with three Q's and one C There are three "Q's" and one "C" needed to achieve PIT.

#### QUALITY

Testing your maternal colostrum with a Brix refractometer will tell you its exact immunoglobulin concentration.

The following chart gives you a guide on how to handle colostrum, based on immunoglobulin levels.

The good news is that if your colostrum doesn't have a high enough concentration, it can be fortified with Australia's only dried bovine colostrum supplement, Kwik Start.

Kwik Start carries high levels of immunoglobulins and anti-bacterials, which help establish immunity and intestinal protection for new-born calves, kids, lambs and foals. Furthermore, it also contains whey protein, omega-3 and omega-6 fatty acids, vitamins and minerals.

#### **BRIX% Scale:**

- 20% or LESS: Leave for subsequent feeds (Keep Refrigerated)
- 21-25%: Supplement with 200g of Kwik. Start before feeding.
- 25% or MORE: Feed as is.

#### **QUANTITY**

Ideally, a new-born calf needs to be fed at least 10% of its birth weight with maternal colostrum within its first six hours. For example, a 40-kilogram calf needs four litres of high-quality colostrum.

The Antahi Trusti-Tuber (which doubles as a bottle feeder, see inside front cover) is the safest and least stressful way to feed the right amount of colostrum.

#### **QUICKLY**

There is no doubt that timing is everything. With the calf's ability to absorb immunoglobulins dropping dramatically as soon as it draws its first breath, the clock is ticking from the get-go. Remember, its PIT drops to 20% within 12 hours, and plummets to 5% at 24 hours.

#### **CLEANLINESS**

Bacteria levels double in the milk every 20 minutes that the milk sits in a bucket at 20 degrees Celsius, ambient temperature.

So, if there was ever a motivating reason to feed clean colostrum from a clean bottle to a calf with no immunity, this is it.

It is important to make sure that everything



#### **BRENDAN JOHNSON**

Calf Rearing Specialist – Daviesway/DASCO Mobile: 0419 950 044

Email: brendan.johnson@daviesway.com.au

Brendan Johnson has specialised in calf-rearing, nutrition and equipment at Daviesway for 12 years. Born on a dairy farm, he remains actively involved in his family's commercial calf-rearing operation. He is also notably the name behind the development and manufacture of Australia's first and only dried bovine colostrum supplement, Kwik Start.

you use to harvest, store and feed your colostrum is clean.

It's also important to store excess highquality colostrum in a clean, purpose-made colostrum bag, which has been frozen quickly to limit any bacteria developing. A colostrum-management system, such as Store & Thaw, is the fastest way to rapidly and hygienically manage your maternal colostrum.

Store & Thaw thaws high quantities of colostrum quickly (four litres from frozen to feeding temperature within 15 minutes). It can also pasteurise colostrum (at 60 degrees Celsius within 60 minutes, killing Salmonella, E.coli, and *Mycoplasma bovis*).

#### **SUMMARY**

Everyone knows that it takes the same amount of time to deal with one sick calf as it does 10 healthy ones. By establishing protocols, our team is confident you will achieve your calf-rearing goals.

# **KWIK START**FAST ACTING, IMMUNE BUILDING

**Fed to new born animals**, Kwik Start may considerably improve their health and development. Containing high levels of immunoglobulins and antibacterials, boosting growth and intestinal protection.



# CALF-TEL - CALF HUTCHES & PEN SYSTEM

Extremely lightweight & durable design

• Range of sizes available to suit farm requirements

Superior airflow and ventilation

• Ultimate sun and UV protection

Maximum strength and durability

Unparalleled health and biosecurity



210CM(L) x 122CM(W) x 138CM(H)









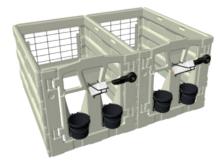
CALF-TEL DELUXE WITH PEN

HUTCH SIZE: 220CM(L) x 122CM(W) x 140CM(H)



CALF-TEL MULTI-MAX

HUTCH SIZE: 220CM(L) x 273CM(W) x 183CM(H)



CALF-TEL PEN SYSTEM

SIZE: 122CM(W) x 114CM(H)
LENGTHS AVAILABLE: 135CM, 183CM & 213CM

# MG SERIES

**ESTABLISHED 1984** 

MG80LT

#### **MOBILE GRAVITY FEEDERS**

- Manifold made for easy cleaning and milk flow
- Choice of larger tanks at 500L or 1000L
- Larger tank lids with three way locking system, built to withstand high wind

• Enclosed manifold means no contamination of the milk

• Enhanced stability with lower point of gravity

• Easy to level on uneven surface

• Stronger frame with heavier gauge galvanised steel

#### **Models**

MG26 / 26 teat / 250L tank (single axle) 1200H x 1200W x 1250L

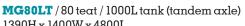
MG40S / 40 teat / 500L tank (single axle) 1180H x 1400W x 1900L

MG50S / 50 teat / 500L tank (single axle) 1180H x 1400W x 2500L

MG50LT / 50 teat / 1000L tank (tandem axle) 1390H x 1400W x 2500L

MG60S / 60 teat / 500L tank (single axle) 1180H x 1400W x 3100L

MG60LT / 60 teat / 1000L tank (tandem axle) 1390H x 1400W x 3100L





Easy Clean Manifold Design



MG50S

# **MTF SERIES**

link to video

- Mix and feed out colostrum or milk to calves
- Carry up to 1000 litres
- Available in 50, 60, 70 or 80 teat units
- Self cleaning, simply quarter fill the tank with clean water and start the pump Feeder will self wash, within 3 minutes
- Made by New Zealand's leading calf feeding company and comes with a 2 year warranty

• Guaranteed to save you time



MTF 50 / 50 teat / 1000L tank (tandem axle) 1450H x 1520W x 3520L

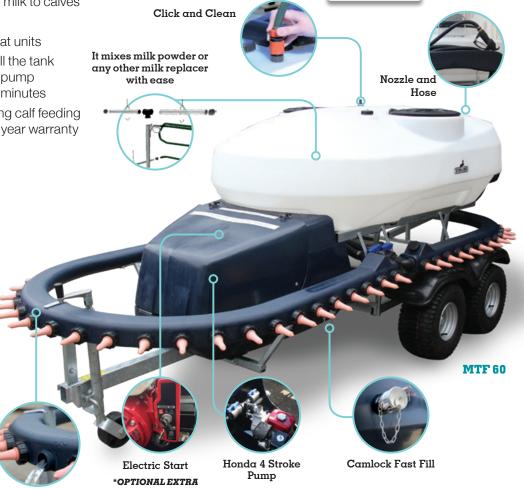
MTF 60 / 60 teat / 1000L tank (tandem axle) 1450H x 1520W x 3520L

MTF 70 / 70 teat / 1000L tank (tandem axle) 1450H x 1520W x 4200L

MTF 80 / 80 teat / 1000L tank (tandem axle) 1450H x 1520W x 4800L

1440H x 2320W x 3020L

Easy Clean Manifold Design





# Doctor Dasco Keeping it clean

The challenge with calf sheds, is that you're housing calves with little immune function in an intense non-sterile environment.

Most calf sheds start every calving season clean, but by the second and third batches of calves it is often a different story – depending on numbers – and the numbers within groups.

There can be no doubt that the calves born later in the season get exposed to more bacteria. In the past there have been very few options to reduce that bacteria mid-season, but we have found an easy, safe and proven solution at Daviesway.

Stalosan F is a Danish sanitiser, that is extremely popular in Europe. Most of Europe's pig and poultry producers prefer Stalosan F, and it's worth noting that these producers set the international benchmark for shed hygiene.

The beauty of it (for me) too, is that it is non-toxic, and it has almost no smell. Stalosan F contains two powerful naturally occurring anti-microbials that don't impact on a calf's mucus membranes, respiratory system, or hooves like hydrated lime can.

With a pH of below 4, Stalosan kills and inhibits a broad range of bacteria, viruses, fungi and flies which can spread disease.

Its unique combination of minerals makes it an excellent drying agent for animal housing. It binds up to 100% moisture where ammonia is present. In fact, it holds four times its weight in moisture content.

It is guaranteed to reduce levels of Ammonia odour, Diarrhoea, Septicaemia and other diseases in calves.

And best of all, it can also be safely used mid-season, whilst calves are in the pen.

There are certainly other drying agents out there but only Stalosan F has three primary functions that make it unique to the Australian dairy industry. It dries bedding, kills bacteria, and binds ammonia without that toxic afterburn.

It's true that Stalosan isn't a new product, and because of that it comes with a welcome amount of extensive peerreviewed research.

When we re-discovered Stalosan, we knew we had to make it available to Australian dairy producers, because it's safe and it works.



#### **HAMISH HUNT**

Special Projects – Daviesway/DASCO Mobile: 0400 118 749 Email: hamish.hunt@daviesway.com.au

Hamish has worked with DASCO/ Daviesway on special projects for 21 years. The Industrial Chemist graduated with a degree in Bachelor of Applied Science in Applied Chemistry from RMIT University in Melbourne in 1986 – before adding further study in Bio Science and Genetics.



# A simple and accurate cassette style test kit, to identify pathogens in calf manure.

 Kit tests for Rotavirus, Coronavirus, E.coli (K99) and Cryptosporidium

 Quick and easy to use, with results available in less than 10 minutes

• Each kit contains 5 tests



### CALF BEDDING – WHICH ONE IS RIGHT FOR YOU?

# There are lots of different options when it comes to choosing calf bedding.

Whichever option you choose, it's important to make sure there is a minimum depth of 150mm throughout the pen. Most operations start the season with adequate bedding, but it's important that it is topped up regularly as it compacts down. Bedding also needs to be replaced every time a new batch of calves are introduced.

With a poor rice harvest recently, rice hulls are expected to be in short supply, and therefore they will get more

**expensive.** Straw is cheap, but calves tend to chew at it and ingest bacteria. Wood chips are always a good option, but they are traditionally in the higher price bracket.

Given there is likely to be little difference in the cost of rice hulls and wood chips this season, wood chips appear to be the best option. Again, spread at a depth of 150mm, add Stalosan F on the top every seven days to dry bedding, kill bacteria and bind ammonia.

As wood chips don't compact as fast as rice hulls or straw, you will save money because the bedding won't have to be replenished or replaced as quickly. And, you will still have a dry, clean environment for your calves to bed down in.

Using Stalosan F on the top of the bedding is a wise investment because it saves on the total amount of bedding needed for the season.

### DASCO CALF SHED – HYGIENE SOLUTION

# Powerful & extremely cost effective

#### Germidet

Perfect for cleaning and disinfecting animal housing – calves, pigs, poultry... biodegradable and non-irritant.







## Stalosan<sup>®</sup>F

Guaranteed to prevent or reduce levels of ammonia odour, mastitis, diarrhoea, septicaemia... and other related diseases in calves.

GERMIDET VS VIRKON S
(Per 100lt solution)

\$15.30 VS \$39.00

"Sacrifice on price, not quality"



#### **DIRECTIONS:**

- 1. Clear shed of last season's bedding (ideally when the season ends to rest the shed)
- 2. Spray pens, walls, and gates thoroughly with Germidet mix at 200ml per 10lt water
- 3. Spread Stalosan F at 50g/mt2 on the ground in pen
- 4. Bed with a minimum depth of 150mm
- Spread Stalosan F at 50g/mt2 on the top of bedding once every 7 days (and maintain a minimum depth of 150mm of bedding at all times)
- 6. Stalosan F is safe to use during the season
- 7. Repeat process every time a pen is emptied



**Auto Calf Feeder & Hygiene Station** 

## Is your calf feeder truly automatic?

There are many different versions of what are referred to as "Automatic Calf Feeders". However, if all it does is transfer milk from storage to the calf then your system is only doing half the work!

A truly Automatic Calf Feeder has the flexibility to feed calves on an individual basis, automatically increase or decrease consumption (wean) according to your needs and, most importantly, it washes itself.

If you have to pull apart your feeder to do a system wash, then it's not automatic!

#### The HL100 feeder and new hygiene stations:

- Allow up to 150 calves to be fed individually (or in groups)
- Allows set feeding curves and weaning programmes
- · Rinses the milk line after every feed
- Fully Automatic Wash cycle twice daily (acid & alkali)
- · Rinses the teat and bowl after every calf visit





HOLM LAUE







