

# Calf

## 2021 Range



**MILK BAR**  
easy for you, healthy for them



[www.milkbar.co.nz](http://www.milkbar.co.nz)





# The digestive system in harmony

Calves are very important and have many future roles from the basis of your future herd to providing high quality beef. When it all goes right, raising calves can be very rewarding, when it goes wrong, extremely stressful. At Milk Bar, our focus is to provide you with information about a calf's digestive system so you can reduce some of the common problems that can make raising calves stressful.

When a calf suckles from a cow, she applies both positive and negative pressure (squeezing and suckling).

The squeezing stimulates the cow's teat so oxytocin is released.

Oxytocin causes cells in the udder to contract and eject milk from the alveolus into the cisterns above the teats.

The suckling overcomes the sphincter barrier, allowing the calf to remove milk from the teat. Oxytocin does NOT cause milk to flow from the teat. The teat canal must be physically opened to remove milk.

She drinks slowly, up to 4 or 5 minutes per litre of milk and produces a lot of saliva.



The saliva that is produced by suckling slowly is rich in lactoferrin-lactoperoxidase, an enzyme system with antioxidant and antimicrobial properties that boosts the immunity and improves the protection of the calf.

Saliva balances the pH in the abomasum so the milk can turn into a thick curd.

The slow delivery of milk combined with saliva gives rennin and other enzymes time to curd the milk, lipase digests fats, lactose is digested and absorbed into the bloodstream.

The natural suckling action of using positive and negative pressure activates the oesophageal groove to close and form a tube so milk bypasses the rumen and enters the abomasum. The oesophageal groove is a curved muscle that lies at the base of the oesophagus. It ensures that everything that enters the calf's mouth, ends up in the right place.



### **The Oesophageal Groove and the Rumen.**

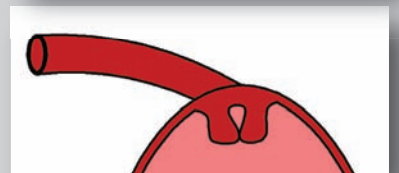
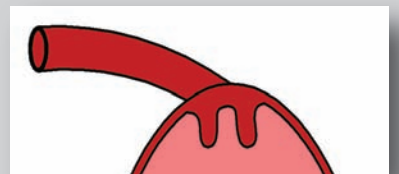
When a calf drinks water from a trough or eats meal and grains, the oesophageal groove stays relaxed and these food groups drop straight into the rumen for digestion.

### **The Oesophageal Groove and the Abomasum.**

When a calf suckles, the oesophageal groove closes and forms a small tube to direct the milk past the rumen and into the abomasum for digestion. Too much milk can cause it to overflow allowing milk to drop into the rumen.

Milk in the rumen is a no go for calves. The rumen has enzymes to digest grains and forage, but these enzymes are not able to digest milk so the milk ferments and produces lactic acid.

The lactic acid enters the bloodstream and can cause depression, anorexia and sometimes death. In nature this never happens.



Put simply, in nature, the calf drinks with her neck long and low, and the cow lets the milk down slowly. With the speed of milk controlled, the rumen is bypassed, and the abomasum creates the curd to start the digestion process. The enzymes do their job and get cracking with digesting fats and lactose. Happy, healthy calves!

## **Research TIP!** Controlling milk flow protects the rumen!

'It is vital to the health of the calf that all the milk goes into the abomasum. If milk enters the rumen through fast feeding, tube, or bucket feeding, it can cause gut ache, as the enzymes in the rumen cannot digest milk.

Milk in the rumen is a key contributor to rumen acidosis and ill thrift.' *Source - Dr. Jim Quigley*

# Common behaviour

Artificial environments put a lot of stress on calves and traditional feeding methods play a big role in calf digestive stress. By observing calf behaviour at feeding time, we can learn a lot and prevent potential problems before they become serious. Undesirable calf behaviour is so common, it is seen as normal, but if you know what you're looking at you will start to see the link between calf behaviour and feeding systems.

## Cross Suckling

### What is it?

Cross-suckling is when calves suckle on each other or their surroundings after feeding. It can be missed when feeders are filled and calves are left to feed, however it is worth taking the time to check for cross suckling as it can cause short term infections and long-term damage.

If you watch your calves after feeding you will see that the length of time they spend cross suckling is directly linked to the speed in which they drink.

For example: A calf fed 4L at 'nature's speed' should take around 12 - 15 minutes to drink. After drinking she will be quiet and settled. Her suckling urge is satisfied, and she is content.

If she drinks 4L in 8 minutes or less then she will spend the next 4-5 minutes cross suckling to satisfy the natural suckling urge.

### Why it's a problem:

Short term problems like navel infections are a nuisance and take time and cost to treat.

We are more interested in the long-term damage because cross suckling removes the keratin plug and leaves the developing teat canal open to infections. Cross-suckling is strongly linked to mastitis and blind quarters in first lactation heifers.

### How to fix it:

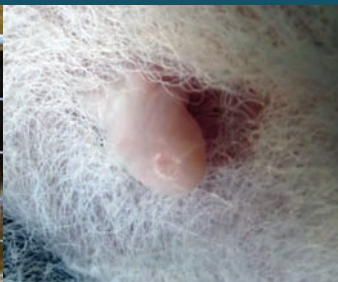
Allowing calves to drink at the 'natural speed' resolves cross suckling almost immediately. It really is that simple!

## Research TIP! The slower calves drink, the less they cross suckle.

'Calves suckling on each other can affect the development of the juvenile udder. This in conjunction with the transmission of mastitis pathogens is prone to lead to heifer mastitis' *Source - Schalm*

'Sucking the immature udder can lead to premature removal of the keratin plug, which protects the individual teats from infection, especially in heifers coming into first milk, as well as navel and skin infections. *Source - Jensen and Budde*

'During the trial, it was observed that group-housed calves fed the faster flow teats had a much greater incidence of hyperactivity immediately post feeding and were more likely to engage in non-nutritive sucking of each other's body parts (including muzzle, navel and udder). ' *Source - Journal of Applied Animal Nutrition*



Calves fed with Milk Bar Teats were settled and content after feeding. All calves had healthy, undamaged teats and the keratin plug remains intact to protect the teat canal. \*

Calves fed from a faster flow teat cross-suckled vigorously after feeding. Cross-suckling damage and loss of the keratin plug was common. \*

\*Images taken from research published in the Journal of Applied Animal Nutrition.

# Lactose absorption & nutritional diarrhoea

Nutritional diarrhoea can be linked to two major causes, poor digestion and stress.

Stress can result from a variety of causes. It could be due to irregular feeding, sudden changes in milk replacer concentration, or a poor quality milk replacer. Environmental stress like sudden weather changes can also play a part.

Digestive stress is a key factor. If the pH in the abomasum is not balanced and the acid secretion is reduced then the ability of the milk to clot is compromised as is the digestion of milk protein.

Inadequate clotting allows excess sugar (lactose) to enter the intestines and produce a nutrient source for pathogens such as E.Coli who's numbers multiply rapidly when in contact with raw milk or lactose. This is a leading cause of nutritional diarrhoea in young calves.

## Long term impact:

Aside from the cost and added workload of treating calves with nutritional diarrhoea, studies have shown that calves who suffer from nutritional diarrhoea pre weaning have a reduced average daily gain which can impact future conception.

Further studies have shown that nutritional diarrhoea pre weaning has a negative impact on first lactation milk production.

## Addressing the cause:

Alongside reducing environmental stress, improving digestibility and lactose absorption is key in reducing nutritional diarrhoea. We know from studies that a controlled flow of milk into the calf has a positive effect on digestion by promoting good clotting and improving lactose absorption. Saliva production helps to balance the pH to further ease stress on the digestive system. Feeding the calf at a slow, natural speed will maximise saliva production and ultimately reduce work load.

## Research TIP! Reducing feeding speed reduces diarrhoea

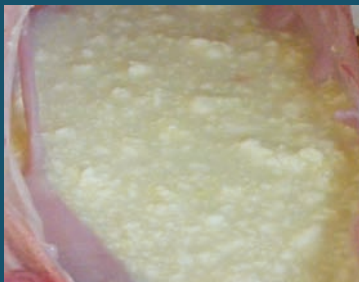
'Scours can usually be traced back to a failure of adequate milk digestion in the abomasum.

Nutritional scours is simply the end result of an oversupply of lactose in the intestines, caused by milk moving too rapidly out of the abomasum, so it cannot be broken down quickly enough.

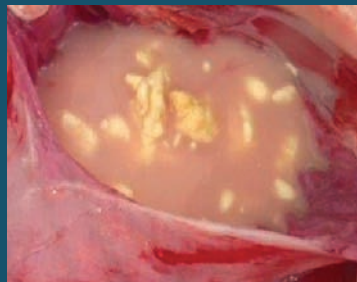
Nutritional scours often progress to infectious scours. Pathogens use excess lactose as a nutrient source to increase in numbers. *Source- Victoria Department of Primary Industries.*

Cows that had contracted mild diarrhoea during their first 3 months of life had 344 kg lower ECM305 than those without diarrhoea. *C. Svensson, J. Hultgren 2008*

Under farm conditions, slow release teat system may reduce scours and other digestive problems in young calves during peak milk intake (up to 15 d of age), due to increased ileal digestion of nutrients, preventing undigested nutrient flow to the hind gut *Source - Journal of Applied Animal Nutrition*



Calves fed with Milk Bar Teats had excellent curdling. Only 3mg/gm of lactose remained two hours after feeding indicating more effective absorption into the bloodstream.\*



Calves fed on a fast flow teat had inadequate curdling. High lactose levels of 12mg/gm remained in the abomasum and high concentrates in the intestine and faeces.\*

\*Images and statistics taken from research published in the Journal of Applied Animal Nutrition.

# Weight performance

Average daily gain (ADG) is the grams per day in weight gain. Good ADG has positive outcomes such as better conception rates and increased first lactation milk production to name just a few.

## Improving ADG performance:

Improving lactose absorption is key for calves to fully benefit from good nutrition programmes. Lactose is released from the milk curd in the abomasum. It is broken down to glucose and galactose and these are absorbed into the bloodstream to form the major energy sources for young calves. Using a fast flow or bucket system reduces the lactose absorption and so calves do not receive the full benefit of their food. By controlling the flow of milk, the digestive system can fully function for maximum utilisation of feed and optimum growth.



## Research TIP! Controlling milk flow increases ADG

‘Pre-weaning ADG had a significant positive effect on first-lactation performance: every 100 gm of pre-weaning ADG was associated with 85 to 111.3 kg more milk during the first lactation.’  
*Source: Soberon et al., 2012*

‘Using slow flow rate teats to feed calves from day old to weaning appears to have an important impact on digestive processes in the immature gut. Such improvements in digestion and rumen development in young calves may assist in the digestion of milk and other feeds, leading to improved growth performance.’  
*Source: Journal of Applied Animal Nutrition*

Controlled trials show a consistent and strong trend to higher ADG when calves are fed from a controlled flow teat.

Country	Year	Milk Bar Teat	Fast Flow Teat	Bucket Feeding	ADG Variance at weaning
New Zealand	2014	0.736	0.665		+2.98 kg
Italy	2017	0.697	0.620		+6.03 kg
Brazil	2015	0.724	0.616		+6.48 kg
Hungary	2018	0.994		0.680	+10.30 kg
Netherlands	2019	0.955		0.828	+8.89 kg



## **Research Tip!** Control the milk flow to prevent Breakaway Behaviour

When calves are fed from a fast flow teat they can struggle with the high flow of milk and will come off the teat (break away) and either drop their head and cough or try to find another teat that is more comfortable. Breakaway behaviour disrupts the feeding time and can influence the milk volume the calf uptakes. For calves fed in groups this can lead to unequal milk intake. Breakaway behaviour can contribute to extra training time.

‘Young calves fed fast teats exhibit ‘break away’ behaviour, whereby they release the teat and back off from feeding every now and then during the feeding period, and are harder to get started on the calf feeder at one day old. This may be due to satiety being reached faster, hence they’re not wanting to consume the milk in one sitting. For calves fed using the slow teats, these do not show so much of this behaviour, and appear to be easier to start on the teats at a young age. ’ *Source - LWT Animal Nutrition*

‘Calves fed from a fast flow teat were significantly more unsettled with feeding interrupted multiple times by breakaway behaviour.’ *Source - M. Sc. Ostendorf*



# Milk Bar® Teat

Milk Bar Teats work in harmony with the calf's digestive system to improve calf health.

With specialized flow control, calves create more saliva to boost immunity and strengthen digestion.

Improved digestion produces heavier, more robust calves.

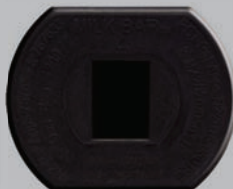
Increased lactose absorption reduces scours.

The natural suckling instinct is satisfied, so calves no longer need to suckle each other after feeding.

For best results, Follow the Teat:  
One Calf. One Teat.

## Milk Bar Teat

Milk Bar Code 900100  
Quantity: 10 per pack  
Back Design: Rectangular hole  
Feeder Type: All 'pull through teat' feeders.



## Milk Bar Teat - Round

Milk Bar Code 900100-R  
Quantity: 10 per pack  
Back Design: Round hole  
Feeder Type: All 'pull through teat' feeders. Tube feeders. Avoid using a non-return valve, it disrupts the natural suckling action and is hard to clean.



Milk Bar Teats with Drip Resistant Technology have great performance so why do I need to change teats?

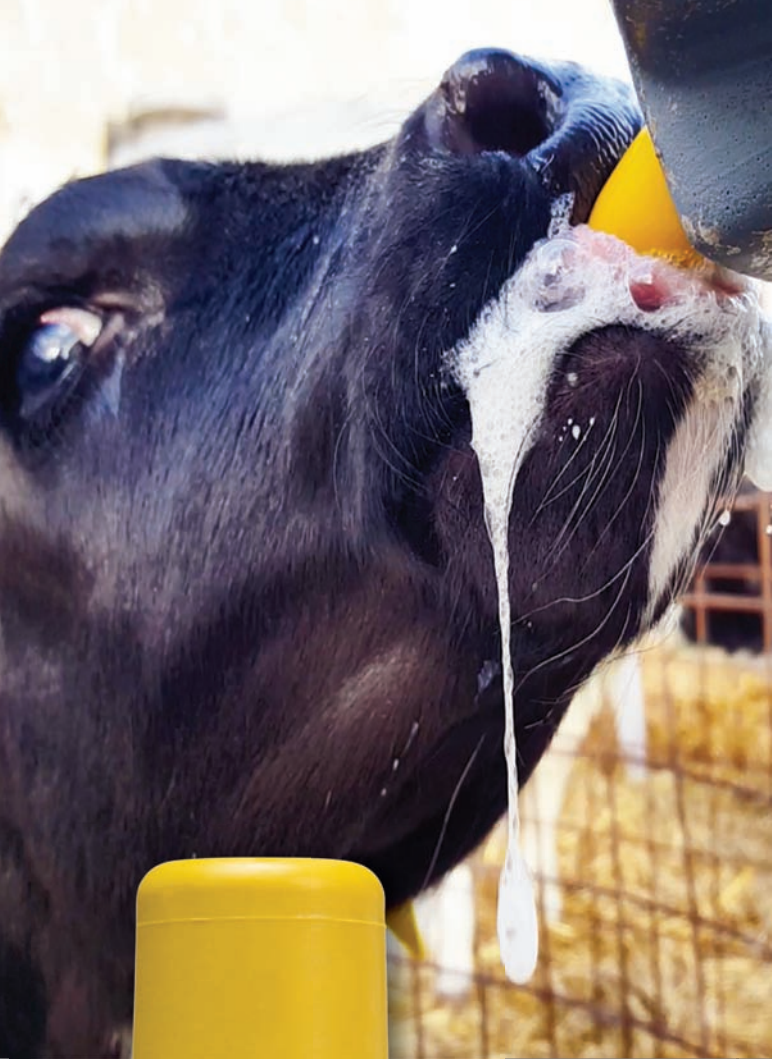
It is important for calf health that milk is delivered at the right speed to optimize digestive health and performance.

As a teat ages, the rubber becomes softer and milk flow increases. As a calf approaches weaning the developed digestive system can manage this slightly increased flow but for young calves a faster flow impacts health and can result in cross suckling and nutritional scours.

We know it's a pain changing teats but your calves will thank you for it!

NZ Pat Apps 757655 & 767633 & 727000. NZ Des Reg. 420972 PCT Patent Applications NZ2016/050190 & NZ2020/050110 International Patents and Designs pending or apply.

Under normal farm conditions Milk Bar Teats with DRT do not drip within a reasonable teat life expectancy. Performance specifications are believed to be reliable but are not verified across individual farm practices. As farm practices and natural raw materials may vary, Milk Bar can take no responsibility for teats that may drip occasionally.



# Milk Bar® Training Teat

Specifically formulated for very young or weaker calves.

Teat design encourages the correct suckling action so enough saliva is produced for boosted immunity.

Use a bottle or feeder with a Milk Bar Training Teat for the first two or three days.

When calves are fully trained, move them onto the Milk Bar Teat for optimum calf performance.



## Milk Bar Training Teat

Milk Bar Code 900300

Quantity: 5 per pack

Back Design: Rectangular hole

Feeder Type:

All 'pull through teat' feeders.



## Research TIP !

Saliva provides Pre-Gastric LIPASE which is necessary for the digestion of fats.

"Pancreatic Lipase activity is highest in calves fed with a teat vs bucket"

(Nelson & al, 1977)



Calves are drinking well on the Milk Bar Training Teats with Drip Resistant Technology so why should I change to Milk Bar Teats?

The softer rubber compound is specific for training but the flow is a little faster than the Milk Bar Teat. Changing to the more controlled flow of the Milk Bar Teat safeguards calves against the harmful effects of fast feeding.

Getting the first few feeds right are critical to the overall performance of the calf. The calf needs to suckle properly to produce saliva.

Saliva is important because it has antimicrobial properties and combined with the iGg in the colostrum, helps to boost immunity.



# Milk Bar® Single Feeders

Feeding calves individually gives the operator great control in the consumption of milk, water and starter ration.

Typically farms have a variety of gates and rails so we have developed hook systems to suit any farm.

Feeding volumes also vary from farm to farm so we have a different volumes options to suit any system.

Milk Bar Single feeders can be used for both individually fed calves or calves housed in the 'Buddy System'.

## Milk Bar Trainer Bottle

Milk Bar Code 901100

Fitted with Milk Bar Training Teat for easy training.

Ideal for new born calves, sick or weak calves.

Volume: 3L

Weight: 600gms

Length: 350mm

Height: 150mm

Width: 120mm

Handle: Carry handle



## Milk Bar 1

Milk Bar Code 910100

Fitted with a lid to reduce flies.

Self locking catch reduces feeder movement.

Ideal to use where all rails are 25mm or less.

Extremely durable with a very long life.

Volume: 3L

Weight: 700gms

Length: 210mm

Height: 210mm

Width: 210mm

Hooks: Moulded 25mm

Handle: Finger grips



### Milk Bar 1 4L

Milk Bar Code 910120

Easy change teat attachment makes teat changes fast and easy.

Marked gradients every 250ml.

Feeder interstacks with teat fitted reducing storage space.

Use where rails are 25mm or less.

Volume: 4L

Weight: 700gr

Length: 210mm

Height: 210mm

Width: 210mm

Hooks: Moulded 25mm

Handle: Finger grips



### Milk Bar 1EL

**Hangs outside the pen**

Milk Bar Code 910130

Adjustable, 100% lockable hooks.

Calves cannot bunt the feeder off the rails.

Locks to rails up to 75mm.

The feeder flips upside down for ease of use.

Extremely durable with a very long life.

Volume: 8L

Weight: 700gr

Length: 290mm

Height: 400mm

Width: 270mm

Hooks: Ezi Lock

Handle: Finger grips



### Milk Bar 1EL

**Hangs inside the pen**

Milk Bar Code 910131

As above but hooks are set to sit inside the pen,

giving the calves a solid wall to push

against to reduce feeder movement. Ideal in

pens where calves have good space.



### Milk Bar Euro Bucket

Milk Bar Code 910101

Transparent to easily sight the milk level.

Fits to standard hutch brackets.

Volume: 9L

Weight: 700gr

Length: 290mm

Height: 400mm

Width: 270mm

Hooks: Slots for hutch brackets

Handle: Stainless steel

Optional extra lid: Code 901102





# Milk Bar® Vitality System

We know that when a calf drinks 1 litre in under 2 minutes the lactose absorption is reduced which impacts daily weight gain and increases the risk of nutritional diarrhoea as lactose passes through the intestines.

It's important that the calf has a controlled milk flow from birth to weaning to help curding and improve lactose adsorption.

For optimum health calves should start with a new Milk Bar Teat and stay with that teat, or a teat of a similar age until weaning. The Vitality Management System gives you a simple method to ensure all calves are drinking at the correct speed until weaning!

## Milk Bar Vitality 3L Bottle System - 5 Pack

Milk Bar Code 901200

## Milk Bar Vitality 4L Bottle System - 5 Pack

Milk Bar Code 901207

Contains:

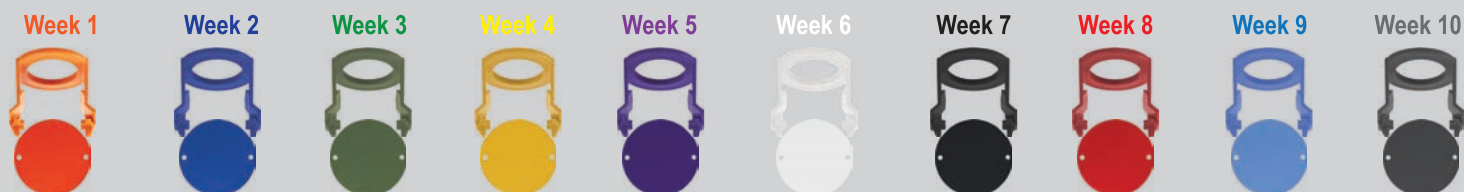
- |                                     |   |
|-------------------------------------|---|
| 5 Milk Bar Vitality Bottle 3L or 4L | 1 Milk Bar Colostrum Teat (training teat)               |
| 5 Milk Bar Vitality Bottle Cap      | 10 Milk Bar Teat  |
| 5 Milk Bar Vitality Bottle Chute    | 10 Milk Bar Vitality Teat Clips (one of each colour)    |
| 5 Milk Bar Vitality Aligning Socket | 10 Milk Bar Vitality Vitality Tags (one of each colour) |

Each pack of Milk Bar Vitality System comes complete for five hutches or pens. There are extra Milk Bar teats and coloured teat clips if you need them. When setting up your farm, allow one bottle per hutch, for example, for 10 hutches you will need two packs of the Vitality System.



# Using the Vitality Management System

Every week is allocated a colour and calves born in that week are tagged and identified by that allocated colour.  
For example:



For each new calf:

1. Fit a NEW Milk Bar Teat to the Teat Clip.



2. Snap the Teat Clip into the Bottle Cap and screw to the bottle.



3. Attach a Vitality Tag of the same colour as the Teat Clip to the calf's pen, hutch or chute.



The Chute secures the bottle into the correct position.

When calves from Week 1 are weaned, remove the worn Milk Bar Teat from the Vitality Bottle Cap and insert a new Milk Bar Teat for calves born in Week 11.

Smaller farms with 10 calves or less being fed at a time can also use the Milk Bar Vitality System. Simply allocate a different colour for each calf.

For pairing, or grouping calves, simply use two or more Teat Clips of the same colour and continue to match the coloured Teat Clips to the Vitality Tag until weaning.



**Important!** When calves are weaned it is important to discard the used Milk Bar Teats. By now they will be worn and will feed young calves too quickly.

There is no need to dismantle the Vitality Bottle Cap or remove the Milk Bar Teat for cleaning!

1. Rinse with water

2. Add Alkali Detergent

3. Soak for up to 10 minutes

4. Rinse clean and dry



**Important!** Do not soak for more than 20 minutes and allow to dry thoroughly before the next use.  
Using a basket allows all caps to dry.



# Milk Bar® Group Feeders

Feeders inter-stack with teats fitted making handling feeders quick and easy.

Easy to clean with sleek lines. No 'lip' around the top of the feeders, no threads, no valves.

Low teat channel reduces milk waste.

Milk Bar feeders come fully assembled with teats fitted and ready to use.

Hook systems to suit all hutches, pens or rails.



## Ezi Lock Hooks

100% bunt proof and adjust to fit gates up to 75mm rails!  
Feeders hang upside down to drain.

Replacement hook set available:  
Milk Bar Code 950200



## Aluminium Hooks

Used on wider feeders to make hanging easy.  
Pre-drilled to adjust width.

Replacement hooks available:  
Milk Bar Code 116002



## Moulded

Moulded into the feeder to fit 25, 45 or 50mm rails.  
Feeders with moulded hooks also have a self locking catch.

**User TIP!** Use a Milk Bar Plug if you have spare spaces in your group feeders!

Milk Bar Code: 900109



Group feeding calves significantly reduces time and labour, however people can be reluctant to group calves because of cross suckling issues (page 4). Calves fed from a fast teat or a bucket will suckle each other's navels and udders causing infections and long term damage.

The Milk Bar Teat resolves this issue so calves can be group fed with minimal risk. The controlled flow of the Milk Bar Teat satisfies the suckling urge so after feeding, calves are quiet, satisfied and contented.

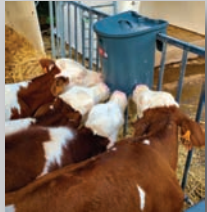
#### Milk Bar 4

Milk Bar Code 910180  
Volume: 36L  
Weight: 3kg  
Length: 700mm  
Height: 400mm  
Width: 300mm  
Hooks: Ezi Lock  
Handle: Finger grips



#### Milk Bar 5

Milk Bar Code 910200  
Volume: 15L  
Weight: 2kg  
Length: 300mm  
Height: 360mm  
Width: 300mm  
Hooks: Moulded 25-40mm  
Handle: Carry handle



#### Milk Bar 5EL

Milk Bar Code 910203  
Volume: 36L  
Weight: 3kg  
Length: 700mm  
Height: 400mm  
Width: 300mm  
Hooks: Ezi Lock  
Handle: Finger grips



#### Milk Bar 6

Milk Bar Code 910300  
Volume: 36L  
Weight: 3kg  
Length: 700mm  
Height: 400mm  
Width: 300mm  
Hooks: Ezi Lock  
Handle: Finger grips



#### Milk Bar 8

Milk Bar Code 910330  
Volume: 60L  
Weight: 5kg  
Length: 850mm  
Height: 430mm  
Width: 460mm  
Hooks: Ezi Lock  
Handle: Cut out handles



#### Milk Bar 10

Milk Bar Code 910400  
Volume: 60L  
Weight: 5kg  
Length: 850mm  
Height: 430mm  
Width: 460mm  
Hooks: Ezi Lock  
Handle: Cut out handles



#### Milk Bar 12

Milk Bar Code 910500  
Volume: 90L  
Weight: 8kg  
Length: 1.2m  
Height: 460mm  
Width: 430mm  
Hooks: Aluminium  
Handle: Finger grips and cut out handle



#### Milk Bar 20

Milk Bar Code 910800  
Volume: 120L  
Weight: 12kg  
Diameter: 900mm  
Height: 900mm  
Solid base stops calves pushing the feeder over.  
Fantastic for larger groups of calves.



NZ Pat Apps 757655 & 767633 & 741934 & 727000. NZ Des Reg. 420972 PCT Patent Applications NZ2016/050190 & NZ2020/050110 NZ Pat 513590  
International Patent and Designs pending or apply.

### User Tip! Milk Bar Feeders sit tight against the rail

When group feeders tip forward, the calves at the side of feeder get less milk.

Milk Bar feeders sit tightly to the rail and lock into place so all calves have an equal share to the last drop.





# Milk Bar®

## Compartments

Compartment feeders are a useful tool for sorting calves into groups.

Ideal for high concentrate, low volume systems.

The Milk Bar Teat evens out drinking speeds to reduce break away behaviour (pg 7) and bunting. Another great benefit of controlling the flow!

Compartments hold 2.5L and are easy to clean.

### Milk Bar 2 Compartment

Milk Bar Code 912100  
Volume: 2.5L ea  
Weight: 2kg  
Length: 400mm  
Height: 400mm  
Width: 250mm  
Hooks: Ezi Lock  
Handle: Finger grips



### Milk Bar 3 Compartment

Milk Bar Code 912200  
Volume: 2.5L ea  
Weight: 3kg  
Length: 500mm  
Height: 400mm  
Width: 250mm  
Hooks: Ezi Lock  
Handle: Finger grips



### Milk Bar 4 Compartment

Milk Bar Code 912250  
Volume: 2.5L ea  
Weight: 3.5kg  
Length: 660mm  
Height: 400mm  
Width: 300mm  
Hooks: Ezi Lock  
Handle: Finger grips



### Milk Bar 5 Compartment

Milk Bar Code 912300  
Volume: 2.5L ea  
Weight: 4.5kg  
Length: 850mm  
Height: 390mm  
Width: 300mm  
Hooks: Ezi Lock  
Handle: Finger grips



### Milk Bar 10 Compartment

Milk Bar Code 912400  
Volume: 2.5L ea  
Weight: 11kg  
Length: 1.13m  
Height: 430mm  
Width: 480mm  
Hooks: Aluminium  
Handle: Finger grips and cut out handle





# Cleaning

If you want easy to clean, you've come to the right place.

We have no threads to capture milk.

We make the feeders with no 'lip' around the top so you can easily empty them.

Every design has to pass the Brush Test, if you can't get a brush into every part, we don't make it.

We only use a pull through teat to reduce little areas for bacteria to grow.

Teats do not need to be removed for cleaning!

Milk is tricky to clean off surfaces. Hot water removes fat, but the heat can bake protein onto the surface. Fats and proteins form a nutrient-rich biofilm where bacteria grows. Feeders look clean but bacteria is happily growing on the surface.

Cleaning needs to remove fat and protein to prevent the formation of a biofilm. An alkali detergent is the best for this job. We've made Milk Bar Feeders and Teats as to easy as clean as possible.



**Daily:** Rinse feeders with cold water.

**At least twice a week:**

Scrub feeders with hot water (50°C) and Alkali Detergent.

## User TIP! Use Alkali Detergent

Milk Bar Teats have no valves so to ensure a great clean, simply bend the teats over with your brush until you see a bubble pop back into the cleaning water. That's all you need to do.



# Using the Milk Bar System

## Follow the Teat & Colour Code

Some farms group calves from day one and some keep them separate till weaning.

Some do a mixture of individual and then into groups and now there is a wave of research supporting the Buddy System where two calves are housed together from birth.

The important thing is to choose a system that best makes use of your available space and man power.

Milk Bar adapts to all these housing systems and we have developed the Milk Bar Follow the Teat System to help you control and monitor the feeding speed so your calves can fulfil their potential.

## Individual to group

The key to successfully raising healthy calves in this popular system is to control the age of the teat for each calf.

The Follow the Teat System allows for farms of all sizes to successfully make groups of calves who will be feeding at a similar speed while controlling the drinking speed from birth to weaning.

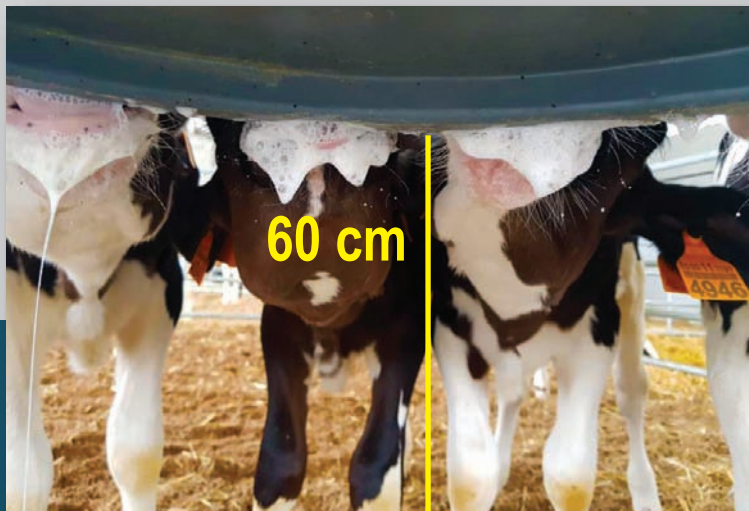
### Protocol:

1. Fit a new Milk Bar Teat to your Milk Bar single feeder.  
Use the Milk Bar Colour Code system and tag the feeder and the hutch.  
This feeder stays with this calf for the training period.
2. When you have enough calves to make a group, remove the Milk Bar Teat from each of the single feeders and insert them into the group feeder.  
This group feeder now stays with these calves until weaning.
3. Place a new Milk Bar Teat into the now un needed Milk Bar single feeder ready for the next calf.

**Important:** Ensuring calves get enough milk volume is important.

Make sure calves have no more than a two week age difference in your groups.

Bigger calves need more milk so it's best to group large calves together.



**TIP!** For the correct neck position, make sure teats are around 60cm from the bedding.



# Individual till weaning

The key to success in this system is to keep the same Milk Bar Teat with the same calf from birth till weaning.

This means that when the calf is young she is feeding from a new Milk Bar Teat where the controlled flow is so crucial to boost immunity. If you swap feeders between calves there is a danger of giving a feeder to a young calf that has an older, more worn teat. This teat will be feeding at a slightly faster flow which the older calf can manage but, for the young calf it can lead to health problems we want to avoid!

It's simple to use the Milk Bar Colour Code system. At a glance you can make sure that each calf has her own feeder.

Protocol:

1. Fit a new Milk Bar Teat to your single feeder.
2. Either number or colour code the feeder and the hutch.  
This feeder stays with this calf until weaning.
3. After weaning, replace the old, worn teat with a new Milk Bar Teat ready for the next calf.



## Pairs or Groups from Day 1

There is a lot of work being done around housing calves in twos from day one.

This system is often referred to as the Buddy System.

Studies in the US and Canada show improvements in feed and weight uptake and the cognitive development in calves raised in pairs.

The biggest drawback for calves in twos or groups is that if they are fed from a bucket or a fast flow teat, they cross suckle vigorously. The damage cross suckling causes can have a long term impact to the calf's future production capability so it is especially important they are fed with a Milk Bar Teat from Day 1 until weaning to control the flow.

Protocol:

1. Fit new Milk Bar Teats to two single feeders or a Milk Bar 2 Compartment.
2. Either number or colour code the feeder and the hutch.  
This feeder stays with these calves until weaning, or until they transition into a larger group.
3. If you move them to a larger group, use the Follow the Teat System and transfer the Milk Bar Teats from the Milk Bar 2 Compartment to the larger group feeder.



## **TIP!** The importance of **One Teat for One Calf**

Milk Bar Teats are scientifically formulated to replicate the correct milk flow and suckling action.

Calves produce maximum saliva to boost immunity and improve digestion.

Using a Milk Bar Teat for more than one calf softens the rubber and calves can drink too quickly.

Calves that drink too quickly cross suckle after feeding and suffer from nutritional diarrhoea and poor weight gains.

Follow the Teat from birth to weaning to make raising healthy calves easy.

# Drip Resistant Technology

*for ultimate teat performance*



Made from a renewable natural source, Milk Bar Teats have no oil or synthetic additives. Only premium natural rubber from carefully selected regions goes into our teats.

In recent times, climatic changes have altered some of the qualities in the rubber which can reduce teat performance. Delivering a premium product to you is our priority, so we've worked hard to find a solution.

Our new, highly innovative Drip Resistant Technology combats any changes to our rubber source so we can give you the best possible performance in your Milk Bar Teats.

A teat that lasts the distance.  
Healthier, heavier calves.  
Job done.

[milkbar.co.nz](http://milkbar.co.nz)



Milkbarcalves

