



## BONANZA CALF REARING SURVEY 2011 NORTHERN IRELAND

### 1. Thinking of administering colostrum to calves, which of the following best describes your current practice? (one)

	Average Yield				Herd Size			
	NUMBER (100)	5,000 to 7,499 litres (50)	7,500 to 9,999 litres (41)	10,000 + (9)	60 to 99 cows (47)	100 to 199 (45)	200 to 299 (6)	300+ (2)
<b>All</b>								
A stomach tube is used to feed colostrum to all calves.	58%	48%	71%	56%	51%	67%	50%	50%
Rarely or never use a stomach tube to feed calves	23%	32%	12%	22%	32%	16%	0%	50%
A stomach tube is used to feed colostrum to all calves	19%	20%	17%	22%	17%	18%	50%	0%
<b>Column Total.</b>	100%	100%	100%	100%	100%	100%	100%	100%

### 2. How much colostrum would you normally feed in the first 24 hours? (one)

	Average Yield				Herd Size			
	NUMBER (100)	5,000 to 7,499 litres (50)	7,500 to 9,999 litres (41)	10,000 + (9)	60 to 99 cows (47)	100 to 199 (45)	200 to 299 (6)	300+ (2)
<b>All</b>								
1 litre	2%	4%	0%	0%	2%	2%	0%	0%
2 litre	14%	16%	7%	33%	15%	13%	17%	0%
3 litre	10%	10%	12%	0%	11%	7%	33%	0%
4 litre	24%	22%	27%	22%	19%	31%	0%	50%
6 litre	11%	4%	22%	0%	9%	16%	0%	0%
5 litre	13%	10%	20%	0%	13%	13%	17%	0%
8 litre	1%	0%	2%	0%	2%	0%	0%	0%
How much the calf will take	22%	28%	10%	44%	28%	16%	33%	0%
Not stated	3%	6%	0%	0%	2%	2%	0%	50%
<b>Column Total</b>	100%	100%	100%	100%	100%	100%	100%	100%
<b>Mean average (litres)</b>	4.0	3.5	4.5	2.8	3.9	4.0	3.5	4.0

### 3. Which of the following do you mainly use for rearing calves? (any)

	Average Yield				Herd Size			
	NUM- BER (100)	5,000 to 7,499 litres (50)	7,500 to 9,999 litres (41)	10,000 + (9)	60 to 99 cows (47)	100 to 199 (45)	200 to 299 (6)	300+ (2)
<b>All</b>								
Cow's milk	70%	76%	61%	78%	72%	69%	67%	50%
Skim based milk replacer	33%	32%	37%	22%	30%	38%	33%	0%
Whey based milk replacer	4%	2%	7%	0%	4%	2%	0%	50%



#### 4. Which of the following do you use mainly use for calf feeding? (any)

	Average Yield				Herd Size			
	NUMBER	5,000 to 7,499 litres	7,500 to 9,999 litres	10,000 +	60 to 99 cows	100 to 199	200 to 299	300+
<b>All</b>	(100)	(50)	(41)	(9)	(47)	(45)	(6)	(2)
Buckets	59%	54%	68%	44%	66%	58%	17%	50%
Teated feeder	43%	46%	37%	56%	47%	40%	50%	0%
Twice a day	86%	92%	78%	89%	87%	84%	83%	100%
Once a Day	4%	0%	7%	11%	2%	7%	0%	0%
Computerised	9%	8%	7%	22%	0%	16%	0%	100%
Automatic	7%	6%	7%	11%	0%	7%	50%	50%

#### 5. Would you consider once-a-day calf feeding? (one)

	Average Yield				Herd Size			
	NUMBER	5,000 to 7,499 litres	7,500 to 9,999 litres	10,000 +	60 to 99 cows	100 to 199	200 to 299	300+
<b>All</b>	(100)	(50)	(41)	(9)	(47)	(45)	(6)	(2)
No	79%	82%	76%	78%	94%	69%	50%	50%
Yes	16%	16%	17%	11%	6%	22%	33%	50%
Already feeding once a day	2%	0%	5%	0%	0%	4%	0%	0%
Not stated	3%	2%	2%	11%	0%	4%	17%	0%
Column Total	100%	100%	100%	100%	100%	100%	100%	100%

#### 5.b [If no] Why is that?

	Average Yield				Herd Size			
	All	5,000 to 7,499 litres	7,500 to 9,999 litres	10,000 +	60 to 99 cows	100 to 199	200 to 299	300+
<b>All</b>	(79)	(41)	(31)	(7)	(44)	(31)	(3)	(1)
Better to feed twice a day to ensure better management and healthier growth	19%	24%	13%	14%	20%	16%	33%	0%
They need more than one	19%	20%	16%	29%	23%	16%	0%	0%
We've always fed twice a day	10%	15%	3%	14%	11%	10%	0%	0%
Doesn't work, heard adverse comments	8%	5%	10%	14%	5%	13%	0%	0%
Insufficient	8%	2%	13%	14%	7%	10%	0%	0%
Not often enough	6%	5%	10%	0%	9%	3%	0%	0%
Using machine automatic feeder	5%	2%	10%	0%	0%	6%	33%	100%
Convenient as cows milk twice a day	4%	5%	3%	0%	5%	3%	0%	0%



6. For dry feeding calves, do you use coarse feed or pellets? (one)

	Average Yield				Herd Size			
	NUMBER	5,000 to 7,499 litres	7,500 to 9,999 litres	10,000 +	60 to 99 cows	100 to 199	200 to 299	300+
All	(100)	(50)	(41)	(9)	(47)	(45)	(6)	(2)
Coarse feed	57%	50%	63%	67%	66%	47%	67%	50%
Pellets	27%	34%	17%	33%	26%	29%	33%	0%
Both / no preference	16%	16%	20%	0%	9%	24%	0%	50%
Column Total	100%	100%	100%	100%	100%	100%	100%	100%

7. What age do you normally wean most calves at? (one)

	Average Yield				Herd Size			
	NUMBER	5,000 to 7,499 litres	7,500 to 9,999 litres	10,000 +	60 to 99 cows	100 to 199	200 to 299	300+
All	(100)	(50)	(41)	(9)	(47)	(45)	(6)	(2)
6 weeks	14%	16%	10%	22%	15%	11%	33%	0%
7 weeks	18%	12%	29%	0%	21%	16%	17%	0%
8 weeks	44%	44%	46%	33%	34%	51%	50%	100%
9 weeks	9%	10%	5%	22%	11%	9%	0%	0%
10 weeks	4%	2%	5%	11%	4%	4%	0%	0%
11 weeks	2%	4%	0%	0%	0%	4%	0%	0%
12 weeks	9%	12%	5%	11%	15%	4%	0%	0%
Column Total	100%	100%	100%	100%	100%	100%	100%	100%
Average (weeks)	8	8	8	8	8	8	7	8

8. Do you tend to wean when feed intake reaches a certain level or when they reach a particular weight and condition? (one)

	Average Yield				Herd Size			
	All	5,000 to 7,499 litres	7,500 to 9,999 litres	10,000 +	60 to 99 cows	100 to 199	200 to 299	300+
All	(100)	(50)	(41)	(9)	(47)	(45)	(6)	(2)
Tend to wean according to weight and condition.	63%	66%	56%	78%	70%	56%	50%	100%
Tend to wean according to feed intake.	33%	32%	39%	11%	28%	38%	50%	0%
Other / not stated.	4%	2%	5%	11%	2%	7%	0%	0%
Column Total.	100%	100%	100%	100%	100%	100%	100%	100%



9. While calves are still on milk what is the main roughage offered? (one)

	NUMBER	Average Yield			Herd Size			
		5,000 to 7,499 litres	7,500 to 9,999 litres	10,000 +	60 to 99 cows	100 to 199	200 to 299	300+
<b>All</b>	<b>(100)</b>	<b>(50)</b>	<b>(41)</b>	<b>(9)</b>	<b>(47)</b>	<b>(45)</b>	<b>(6)</b>	<b>(2)</b>
Straw	60%	58%	66%	44%	55%	64%	67%	50%
Hay	34%	32%	32%	56%	34%	33%	33%	50%
Haylage	3%	6%	0%	0%	6%	0%	0%	0%
Not stated	3%	4%	2%	0%	4%	2%	0%	0%
<b>Column Total</b>	<b>100%</b>	<b>100%</b>	<b>100%</b>	<b>100%</b>	<b>100%</b>	<b>100%</b>	<b>100%</b>	<b>100%</b>

10. Are your calves housed in.....

	NUMBER	Average Yield			Herd Size			
		5,000 to 7,499 litres	7,500 to 9,999 litres	10,000 +	60 to 99 cows	100 to 199	200 to 299	300+
<b>All</b>	<b>(100)</b>	<b>(50)</b>	<b>(41)</b>	<b>(9)</b>	<b>(47)</b>	<b>(45)</b>	<b>(6)</b>	<b>(2)</b>
Small group pens with fewer than ten calves	48%	44%	54%	44%	51%	51%	17%	0%
Housed in single pens	40%	44%	34%	44%	45%	36%	33%	50%
Larger group pens with more than ten calves	9%	10%	10%	0%	0%	11%	50%	50%
Calf hutches	3%	2%	2%	11%	4%	2%	0%	0%
<b>Column Total</b>	<b>100%</b>	<b>100%</b>	<b>100%</b>	<b>100%</b>	<b>100%</b>	<b>100%</b>	<b>100%</b>	<b>100%</b>



Data compiled by **The Survey Shop**

Full report including regional differences available

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