Water ad lib Effect on Preweaned Calves

Advantages of ad-lib water over no water:

- 45 percent increase in concentrate intake in first 4 weeks.
- 60 percent increase in weight gained in first 4 weeks.

	Water Feeding	Method
	Ad-lib	None
Number of calves	20	21
Concentrate intake (Kg)	11.7	8.1
in first 4 weeks		
Weight gain (Kg) in	8.4	5.3
first 4 weeks		
Water consumed (litres)	44.5	None
in first 4 weeks		

Reference: Kurtz, A.F., L.F. Reutzel, and J.H. Mahoney, "ad libitum water intake by neonatal calves and its relationship to calf starter intake, weight gain, feces scores, and season." American Journal of Dairy Science 67:2964-2969.

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