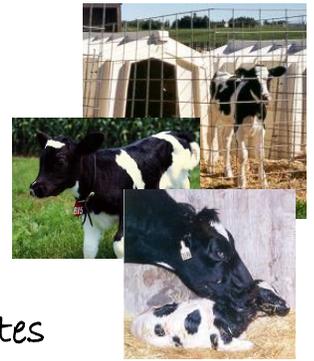


# Calving Ease

MAY 2019

By Sam Leadley of Attica Veterinary Associates



## Rebuild of Calfnotes.com

**WOW! WOW! WOW!**

Jim Quigley has a “re-design” for his calfnotes.com web site. To get to the new site there is a slight change in the web address – different from the one we have been using since 1997. Use [www.calfnotes.com/new](http://www.calfnotes.com/new) for this. Graphics on this revised site are super eye-catching. Dr. Quigley says that the old site will remain active for quite some time while the new site is populated with all his resources. Therefore, if you cannot find a resource at the new site, just go to the old one.

You will find these categories on the home page:

- Main Stories
- Editor’s Pick
- Trending Stories
- Categories
  1. Calf Starters
  2. Colostrum Feeding
  3. Milk & Milk Replacers
  4. Older Heifers
- Recent Posts

All the posts include a pdf feature for printing.

For folks needing Spanish resources you go to the header across the top of the site and select Español.

How do I know when a new Calf Note is added?

Jim has this post on his site: “Information is added to Calf Notes.com periodically. If you would like to be notified when new material is posted, click on [e-mail notification](#). You will receive an e-mail whenever new information is posted. Your e-mail address will be used ONLY for this notification.” This works just fine for me – I have been receiving these notifications for over a decade.

The 10 most recent posts include:

1. Beet pulp in calf starters, #197 Jan 2018
2. Colostrum fed by tube or bottle, #198 Mar 2018
3. A handy BRIX calculator, #199 Mar 2018 We use this in our vet clinic lab.
4. Pasteurizing colostrum – an update, #200 Apr 2018
5. Serum total protein and IgG, #201 Jul 2018
6. What's in your starter, #202 Oct 2018
7. Preweaning morbidity and mortality in the U.S., #203 Dec 2018
8. Colostrum quality and passive immunity in calves in the U.S., #204 Feb 2019
9. Prevalence of Cryptosporidium and Giardia on dairy farms in the U.S., #205 Mar 2019
10. Adding electrolytes to milk and milk replacer, #206 Apr 2019

I recently had a conversation with a calf raiser about starting calves on a pail. This triggered a memory that many years ago a poem about this appeared in this “Calving Ease” publication. If you have ever tried to teach a calf to drink surely you will enjoy this. Perhaps this rural rhyme appeared around 1994 in Country Woman and was credited to several readers who recalled reciting this poem as schoolchildren. Thanks to my friend Barb Sturm for this contribution.

### **Teaching a Calf to Drink**

The hardest thing on a ranch, I think,  
Is trying to teach a calf to drink.  
You pull and haul, get her head in a pail;  
She'll stand there and twist and wiggle her tail;  
And the very first thing, kerplunk goes her nose  
And most of the milk goes on your clothes.  
Hang onto your patience, your teeth you must grit;  
If you can't hold your temper, you might as well quit...  
For old Mother Nature, whose methods don't fail,  
Never meant for a calf to drink from a pail.  
Back her into a corner, straddle her neck;  
She won't damage you much, you're already a wreck!  
Just give her a finger, and maybe, with luck,  
That little old rascal will start in to suck.  
Pick up your bucket and push her head down,  
Then away you go again, around and around;  
Just do this a week with your back in a kink,  
And maybe by then you'll teach her to drink.

If you know of someone that does not currently receive this calf management newsletter but would like to, tell them to **CALL** 585-591-2660 (Attica Vet Assoc. office) or **FAX** (585-591-2898) or **e-mail** [smleadley@yahoo.com](mailto:smleadley@yahoo.com) with Subscribe as the subject.

Our thanks to Attica Veterinary Associates, P.C. for their support for this issue. Visit their web site, [www.atticacows.com](http://www.atticacows.com) for more information. Calf resources featured are Calf Facts Resource Library, Calf Management Newsletter, and “Calves with Sam” blog.