

COLLECTING MILK/MILK REPLACER QUALITY CONTROL SAMPLES

- 1. Use sterile milk sample tubes. If the tubes have been opened or had prior use do not use them for quality control sampling**
- 2. When bottle feeding, collect through nipple of a bottle ready to feed a calf. When bucket feeding, collect as milk is poured into a bucket – avoid contact with calf.**
- 3. Non-pasteurized milk feeding – if a small number of calves, collect 1 sample just as feeding the last calf. If a large number of calves, collect 1 sample each when feeding the first and last calf.**
- 4. Pasteurized milk feeding – collect 1 sample before pasteurization, 1 sample directly from pasteurizer, and 1 more as milk is being fed to the calves.**
- 5. Milk replacer feeding – if mixing for one calf at a time, collect from bottle or bucket when ready to feed. If mixing larger volumes, collect 1 sample from mixing bucket and 1 more as it is being fed.**
- 6. Write the farm name and sampling site description on the top of each bottle. For example, “mixing bucket,” “from pasteurizer,” “last calf fed,” or “raw milk.”**
- 7. Fill the sample bottle about one-half full. Do not overfill. Overfilling will cause leakage when the bottles are frozen.**
- 8. Freeze the sample as soon as possible after collecting. This prevents bacterial growth after sampling.**