

Setting up Hygiene Protocols For Preweaned Calves A Checklist

Have you selected the appropriate procedures? Do they provide the opportunity for your employees to work to their full potential in providing quality calf care?

Let's consider how you set up protocols or standard operating procedures (SOP). Compare your actions with the standards in this checklist. When making this evaluation I like to use these scores:

1=never, 2=seldom, 3=often, 4=usually, and 5=almost always.

- _____ 1. My protocols are consistent with the goal of reducing pathogen exposure.

- _____ 2. Using the first four of the six steps as defined by Grusenmeyer
 - (a) Name the Standard Operating Procedure;
 - (b) Write the Scope for the SOP;
 - (c) Develop an Overall Task Description;
 - (d) Describe Each Task in Detail)write short, work-site protocols.
[for a more complete description of SOP development, go to www.calffacts.com, select "Metric" version at the top of the page, then scroll down the alphabetical list to "Hygiene and Standard Operating Procedures."]

- _____ 3. I include experienced staff in defining these farm protocols.

- _____ 4. I encourage employees to find their own solutions to typical problems.

- _____ 5. I state the protocol in "action" terms understood by employees responsible for calf care.

- _____ 6. When possible, I build performance standards into farm protocols.

- _____ 7. I keep the protocol steps short and to the point.

- _____ 8. I laminate work-site protocols and hang them near the job location for easy reference.

- _____ 9. I encourage regular protocol evaluation and revision by the employees regularly caring for calves.

For a sample Standard Operating Procedure form click [HERE](#). Or, enter this URL in your Internet browser <https://ecommons.cornell.edu/handle/1813/36919> .

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