

Are you offering your calves ad lib water?

Trials carried out in UK by Volac showed that at even high levels of milk replacer feeding calves with ad lib water compared to those without water had 33% higher preweaned daily live weight gains.

For the full article go to:

<http://www.volac.com/news/agriculture-news/news189/water-is-essential-for-all-forms-of-life>

Their research findings appear below in the table:

Milk Replacer Fed	Low Powder (21.6kg)	Concentration per calf	High Powder (32.4kg)	Concentration per calf
Water available to weaning	No	Yes	No	Yes
Calf liveweight at start (kg)	52.7	45.8	56.3	50.1
DLWG to weaning (kg)	0.33	0.55	0.43	0.65
Calf starter concentrate, total fed to weaning (kg)	10.4	26.3	10.0	25.4
Calf liveweight at 11 wks (kg)	97.8	99.6	106.2	111.8

Key: DLWG = Daily live weight gain
1 kilogram (kg) = 2.2 pounds