

“Boost early rumen development with BioStart Calf prebiotic.”

Neal Hull, Calf Rearer

Neal and Shirley Hull own a calf rearing operation in Pahiatua, managed by their daughter, Becca, which finishes 2,500 top quality calves per year. BioStart Calf is a key part of their calf rearing operation.

Neal says “To support early rumen development we feed 2L of concentrated Calf Milk Replacer (CMR) per head once a day in the morning with 1ml of BioStart Calf per head. We also give a 5ml shot of BioStart Calf with a drench gun to any calves not thriving to give them a real boost.”

Achieve target weights faster

Becca says “Our target is for calves to reach 70kgs live weight, be off milk replacer by 28 to 35 days and out of the shed at six weeks old. BioStart Calf helps us achieve our target weights faster.”

Neal adds “We finish healthy 100kg calves earlier than a standard calf rearing programme of twelve weeks. We have also been told by our customers that our calves go on to reach target weights earlier. One customer told us out of 2,000 autumn reared calves our 250 calves outperformed the others.”

Less scours and low mortality rate

BioStart Calf contains rennet which promotes milk clotting and reduces the likelihood of scours. Becca says “I’ve noticed we don’t have any potty calves and our mortality rate is around 2.5% because they are so healthy.”

Low input cost, greater profit

Neal says “Dosing 1ml of BioStart Calf with our once a day feeding regime costs us less than \$2.50 per calf for 35 days. By reducing the time in the shed and introducing pellets we are saving on milk costs and our low morbidity and mortality rate also means greater profitability.”



Neal Hull, daughter Becca, and their shed which holds 1,000 calves.

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