

Proactive hydration is smarter than reactive hydration

When it comes to raising calves being one step ahead is never a bad thing and can ensure calves are healthy and, growing to meet your farm's goals. One way to get ahead in calf health and nutrition is to keep them hydrated. You can take control of calf health and minimize effects from transportation, stress, temperature change, and scours.



Electrolytes need certain ingredients to be successful. Our calf and heifer experts understand this and have formulated the ideal solution for rehydration. Sweet Treat™ offers you the proactive advantage that you want and your calves need.

It pays to keep them hydrated

Nurture Sweet Treat[™] Electrolyte is a cost-effective solution to help improve calf hydration after transportation and during scours. When fed regularly it reduces the risk of dehydration, increases water intake, and improves growth rates through 8 weeks of age. Beyond calfhood benefits, Sweet Treat's flavoring is enhanced for palatability and is available in a 25 lbs box, which contains two 12.5 lb. bags, and bulk orders of 50 lb. bags.



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Nurture Sweet Treat Electrolyte is a cost-effective solution to help improve calf hydration.

Sweet Treat[™] Solution contains:

- Water The most essential part of any electrolyte solution.
- Electrolytes (Sodium, Chlorine, Potassium)

 These minerals are needed for a calf's body to function normally and help maintain fluid and blood volume.
- Energy Source (Dextrose) Dextrose is a simple sugar that breaks down quickly to provide the calf energy and nutrition.
- Alkalizing Agent (Sodium Bicarbonate) Calves with diarrhea likely have metabolic acidosis and an isotonic bicarbonate solution has the ability to rapidly correct dehydration and acidosis.
- Non-Essential Amino Acid (Glycine) Glycine helps facilitate the absorption of sodium, which will encourage the calf to drink more water.





Assess Calf Dehydration Accurately

Dehydration in calves experiencing scours is often underestimated. A scouring calf can lose anywhere between 5-10% of its body weight in water within one day. The information below can help you properly diagnose and rehydrate scouring calves.

Dehydration % – Percent of water loss relative to total body weight. Use this percent to calculate the amount of electrolyte solution for dehydrated calf.

Demeanor – Calf's appearance and reaction to feeding and stimulation.

Sunken Eyes – To assess, pull down the lower eyelid and measure the gap at the inner corner of the eye from the eyelid.

Skin Elasticity – To measure, pinch a fold of skin on the side of the neck and rotate it 90 degrees. You will record the amount of time for the skinfold to disappear.

Oral Treatment – Provide electrolytes in the morning in addition to their meal. Also, leave a bottle in between feedings and feed another bottle at night in addition to their meal.

IV Treatment – When a calf is 8 – 10% dehydrated, and has a poor or no suckling reflex, give fluids subcutaneous or with an IV. Consult with your veterinarian about IV fluid treatment.



Dehydration %	Demeanor	Sunken Eyes	Skin Elasticity	Treatment
<5%	Normal	None	<1 sec	None
6 - 8%	Slight depression	2 - 4 mm	1 - 2 sec	Oral
8 - 10%	Depressed	4 - 6 mm	2 - 5 sec	IV Fluids
10 - 12%	Unable to stand	6 - 8 mm	5 - 10 sec	IV Fluids
>12%	Unresponsive or comatose	8 - 12 mm	>10 sec	IV Fluids*

^{*}Consult with your veterinarian about IV fluid treatment.

Equation to get the amount of solution in pounds for oral or IV therapy.

- Body Weight x Dehydration %
- To convert this number to quarts, divide by 2. (1 quart = 2 pounds).
- Feed to rehydrate multiple times a day and continue feeding milk.

