



Purina 'Calf Insure' Nurse Chow[®]

And

Startena[®] Grow Healthy Calves On Wen-Crest Farms

For Scott and Robin Balsbaugh, tending dairy calves is a big part of the workday. During the past 15 years.

At any given time, they are responsible for raising about 200 calves under four months of age on Wen-Crest Farms, a heifer-raising operation near Schaefferstown owned by Steve Wenger & Family. Twice a week, a new batch of calves from three nearby dairy farms are brought under the Balsbaugh's care.

They depend on Purina products and



The setup for pre-weaned calves allows plenty of fresh air year-round, access to sunlight, and individualized attention.



Scott and Robin Balsbaugh are pleased with calf performance on non-medicated Purina Nurse Chow, ready-mixed with Calf Insure to promote health and growth. Purina representative Duane Nolt, right, helps measure this thriving example in the Wen-Crest Farms calf facility.

service to make the most of this critical stage in the dairy animals' life.

After starting out with colostrum at the dairy farm, calves at the Balsbaugh's begin on Nurse Chow with Calf Insure, a ready-made combination recently made available by Purina. This non-medicated products combine Purina's traditional Nurse Chow milk replacer with direct-fed microbials, special yeast cell sugars, and vitamins. These stimulate calves' appetites, help prevent scours and boost immune function.

Scott said he has been impressed with the calves' ability to eat and grow on the Calf Insure.

"It really does make a difference in their appetite," he said.

The starter feed is Purina Calf Startena with 18 percent protein. It is fed free choice

after the first week. The reason is simple. In side-by-side trials Scott did on the farm, he said calves began eating the Startena sooner before other brands of calf starters.

Beside providing quality feed for calves, Purina also offers comprehensive calf-raising expertise, including frequent walk-throughs, trouble-shooting, measuring calf growth, making recommendations, and complimenting growers on what they're doing right.

Duane Nolt of K&K Feeds, Richland, said that local Purina representatives like himself and Becky May, recently hired Purina calf specialist for the Northeast, are always ready to help.

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