matter that can not only irritate a calf’s respiratory tract but also infect her with disease. If you

don’t have indoor calf housing with adequate ventilation, set up calf hutches outside and use calf

blankets. Calves can tolerate cold better than they can tolerate stagnant air.

Once calves have passed the neonate stage (2 weeks old), they are a little hardier. This is a time

when their immune system starts to work on its own and they are more resilient. This time of their

life should be focused on growing; they should be growing 1

-2 lbs per day. In order for them to

accomplish this, they need to be fed adequate milk. By two weeks of age, calves should be getting a

gallon of milk twice daily. Jersey calves will need a little less

,

and large Holstein calves will need

more. In the wintertime, when calves need to expend more energy to keep warm, you could

increase their milk by adding a third

feeding in a day. Calves will also need calf grain, high

-quality

first cutting hay, and free

-choice access to clean water

As calves get older,

they will start to get more energy from grains and forages and will be less

dependent on milk. As they approach weaning, their milk can be reduced and grain increased, both

gradually. At weaning, calves should be eating 3

-5 lbs of a calf

-specific grain daily. It is important to

recognize that whole a

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