

Suggested Calf Jacket Protocol

Jackets must be made of breathable materials:

1. Locate max / min thermometer in calf house.
2. Reset thermometer every morning during autumn / winter housing.
3. Decide on a set temperature for your system – eg 10 °C.
4. Agree starting protocol with staff - eg 3 consecutive night-time. minimum temperatures below for example 10°C.
5. Calves must be dried off before using jacket.
6. Place clean jacket on every calf under 1 week old and on entry to the calf house.

Removing jackets:

When to remove the jackets is dependent on a variety of factors including the condition and appetite of each calf and the expected weather conditions. The jackets can safely be left on the calves until they are 4 weeks old or they grow out of them.

1. Check the weather forecast – beware of removing the jacket too early if temperatures are forecast to fall.
2. Check recent night-time minimum temperatures.
3. Agree with staff a temperature protocol for health calves – eg 1 week old remove if over 10°C, 2 weeks old remove if over 5°C.
4. Consider the condition of the individual calf; feed intake, health, growth rate.
5. Remove the jacket in the morning not the afternoon.
6. Wash jacket according to instructions.