

A calf milk replacer to meet all your targets!

When it comes to selecting a calf milk replacer, producers should look beyond the price and the label – and at the bigger picture. Farm objectives will differ from herd to herd: some producers will be driven by reducing costs and others will be looking to maximise calf growth and performance. So it is vital to select a calf milk replacer to suit your set up and objectives, in other words your calf feeding system, calves and growth goals. Alongside selecting a milk replacer, producers must remember that there is no substitute for adequate colostrum feeding, hygiene, environment, and management in the rearing phase to get calves off to the best start.

Co-Op Source have developed TopStart, a quality calf milk replacer formulated to give your high value dairy and beef calves the best possible start in life, whatever your rearing system and production targets. TopStart is made up of carefully selected high quality raw materials providing excellent solubility, digestibility, reassurance, and safety during the tricky pre-weaning period. The attractive taste encourages high palatability and eager consumption enhancing early growth rates. TopStart contains Pep+, a unique combination of probiotics, prebiotics, blend of functional fatty acids and high Vitamin E to promote and support gut development and boost immunity and improve performance.

TopStart is a whey-based milk replacer and is suitable for bucket and computerised feeding systems. The easily digestible sources of energy and protein provide a smooth transition from colostrum onto milk replacer, stimulating quick initial and subsequent growth in calves. The milk replacer dissolves easily reducing the risk of errors during mixing and preparing of milk and the excellent solubility is testament to the quality assured raw materials and their method of manufacture. TopStart is easy to use, presents a high degree of safety and ensures excellent growth results in rearing young calves.

- Formulated to deliver high liveweight gain and boost calf health
- Quality dairy products
- Elevated levels of balanced amino acids
- Added flavours for palatability and encourage early calf intake
- Suitable for bucket and computerised feeding systems
- Includes PEP+ to boost calf immunity and gut health





PEP+ is a unique combination of **Prebiotics**, High **Vitamin E** and **Probiotics** to boost calf immunity and gut health.

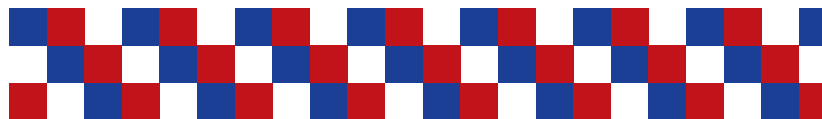
Prebiotics act in the large intestines to lower the pH level and have an anti-microbial effect.

Vitamin E is an antioxidant, which boosts the immune system of the calf.

Probiotics act in the small intestine that have a positive effect on gut flora. **Probiotics** help to strengthen the immune system and support the enzyme system.

Analytical constituents:

Protein	24%	Vitamin A	25,000 iu/kg
Fat	18%	Vitamin D3	6,000 iu/kg
Fibre	0%	Vitamin E	500 iu/kg
Ash	7.5%		



Machine feeding:

TopStart Calf Milk Replacer is suitable for all automatic calf milk feeders. Calibrate the feeder by adding 143g (12.5%) or 176g (15%) of milk powder to 1 litre of water.

Consult the automatic feeder manual or milk replacer representative for an appropriate feed curve.

Weaning:

Stepped down or gradual weaning is achieved by reducing the volume of milk fed over a period of 7 to 14 days. If calves are fed milk twice a day, weaning can be achieved by cutting down to once a day feeding.

Target 1kg/head/day concentrates pre weaning. Calves are ready to be weaned when consuming at least 1.5-2kg of concentrates for 3 consecutive days.

Bucket mixing and feeding:



Feed at least 3 litres of colostrum within the first 2 hours. Aim for 10% of bodyweight in the first 12 hours.



Feed 750-900g of TopStart per day, as per feed tables below, depending on target growth rates.



Add the milk replacer to half the required quantity of warm water (42-45°C) and mix thoroughly. Make up to the full quantity by adding additional water to achieve a feeding temperature of 41-42°C.



During cold periods, calves require more energy. For every 5°C drop in temperature below 10°C, feed an extra 10% milk replacer.



Ensure ad lib access to clean water from birth. High quality concentrates and straw should be available from day 4. Wean gradually over 2-3 weeks, and only when consuming at least 1.5kg concentrates for 3 consecutive days.



Twice-a-day bucket feeding at 12.5% solids (Normal Growth)

Days 1-3: Colostrum/Transition milk

Quantity per feed per calf				
Age	Water	Powder	Total volume (12.5%)	No. feeds
Days 4-7	175 litres	250g	2 litres	Twice/day
Weeks 2-6	2.65 litres	375g	3 litres	Twice/day
Weeks 7-8	175 litres	250g	2 litres	Twice/day
Weeks 9-10	175 litres	250g	2 litres	Once/day

Twice-a-day bucket feeding at 15% solids (Elevated Growth)

Days 1-3: Colostrum/Transition milk

Quantity per feed per calf				
Age	Water	Powder	Total volume (15%)	No. feeds
Days 4-7	17 litres	300g	2 litres	Twice/day
Weeks 2-6	2.55 litres	450g	3 litres	Twice/day
Weeks 7-8	17 litres	300g	2 litres	Twice/day
Weeks 9-10	17 litres	300g	2 litres	Once/day