



Est. 1911
DAVIESWAY
IDEAS TO FARM. EVERYDAY.

Est. 1960
DASCO
HYGIENE • HEALTH • NUTRITION

Raising elite calves



Look for Daviesway DASCO when you want the best results for your calves

Your calves. Your future.



We supply a broad range of quality calf rearing equipment and innovative nutritional products.



KWIK START

Colostrum supplement which boosts or replaces colostrum for newborn calves. It carries high levels of the immunoglobulins and antibacterials that are needed to give calves a flying start.

MADE FROM REAL DRIED BOVINE COLOSTRUM

ELECTRO-G

Your calves best possible defence against dehydration. For use as a supportive treatment option for sick, dehydrated or stressed calves.



ZERO BI-CARB CAN BE IMMEDIATELY FED BEFORE AFTER MILK



SUPERCALF PLUS+

Advanced powdered WHOLE-MILK additive combining industry-leading levels of micro-encapsulated probiotics with essential vitamins & minerals, Bovatec®, and Actigen®.

- Lays the foundation for the future growth, feed efficiency, and the ongoing health and development of your calves.



BIOBOOST – PROBIOTIC PASTE

Multi-strain encapsulated probiotic paste, also contains yeast.

- Use for sick calves or at times of stress.



40x Stronger than competing products



BIOCALF

High dosage probiotic powder designed to be added to milk.

- Contains probiotics, yeast and a yucca extract.

1000 DOSES PER PAIL



NUTRA-KEL

35% pure kelp-based liquid vitamin and mineral supplement.

- Use during sickness and /or recovery
- Can be added into milk or water, or fed as an oral tonic (using a drench gun or syringe).



MINI MIXER, TANKER

Compact and easy to use the mobile MT250 is real time saver. With a 12-volt dispensing pump for feeding and a 240-volt mixing pump, the MT250 can mix 250 litres of milk replacer in 5-7 minutes – suitable for 80-100 calves.

MT250 – single axle (250L tank)
1090H x 765W x 1520L

BONUS FEATURE:

You will love the tank's self-cleaning feature.

5-LITRE COMPARTMENT CALF FEEDERS



Each calf is guaranteed its full feed.

290H x 320W x 800L

CALF-TEL HUTCHES

Simply the best, most cost-effective housing systems for raising healthy calves.



CALF-SAFE

Non-rinse organic surface disinfectant – safe to use without shifting calves.



NEW



TRUSTI TUBER

Quality tube feeder for calves.



STOPPER POSITION & CALF WEIGHT SAFETY GUIDE

SAFETY TIP

Comes with a Peach teat cap for easy transition between teat and tuber.

SCOUR TEST KIT

Identify pathogens in calf manure.

- Contains 5 separate tests
- Each test covers E. Coli, Rotavirus, Coronavirus and Cryptosporidia
- Results in 15 minutes
- Does not test for salmonella as it requires a culture for identification.



STALOSAN® F

Broad spectrum, natural disinfectant powder for animal housing.

Available from your local rural stores

Supercalf Plus+ now includes Bovatec® by popular demand



Daviesway DASCO's SuperCalf PLUS+ now includes Bovatec® to help control and reduce the clinical signs of coccidiosis.

The powerful probiotic powder additive – formulated for whole-milk (only) – includes a potent mix of high-performance micro-encapsulated multi-strain probiotics, bacteria, yeast, enzymes, Bovatec®, and Actigen® with essential vitamins and minerals.

Its active ingredients carry no less than an industry-leading 11.6 billion CFUs [Colony Forming Units], with the added advantage of an extended shelf-life.

With Bovatec® also actively reducing faecal shedding of protozoa (*E. zuernii* and *E. bovis*), and improving live-weight gains, it puts SuperCalf PLUS+ firmly on the frontline when it comes to helping calves thrive.

Daviesway DASCO's calf rearing specialist Cindy Lucas says adding Bovatec® is a direct result of customer feedback.

"It really rounds out our range and gives our customers another great option in this space," Cindy said.

"That improved feed efficiency and control of coccidiosis was something our clients told us they wanted. So, that's exactly what we've done."



Cindy Lucas – 0427 192 421 or email: cindy.lucas@daviesway.com.au

Micro-encapsulated probiotics important

Research has proven that supplementing the rumen with probiotics every day accelerates calf growth, stimulates rumen development, and reduces the need for antibiotic intervention.

The probiotic mode of action in SuperCalf PLUS+ happens in the lower Gastrointestinal (GI) tract where 70-80% of an animal's immune function is driven from. To that end, its micro-encapsulated probiotics allows them to safely move through the rumen and into the abomasum where they come to life – providing direct competition for pathogenic bacteria every day.

Vitamins form an invisible thread

Vitamins are essential for healthy calf growth, and the intrinsic way they interact with the trace elements and enzymes in SuperCalf PLUS+ brings another important layer of support.

Copper, selenium, zinc and manganese are an essential component of many enzymes.

Thiamine B1 (vitamin B) is also essential for the effective use of enzymes. Efficient conversion of carbohydrates, protein and fats into growth requires close co-operation between enzymes and B vitamins. Adult cows generally produce enough of these

B vitamins in the rumen, but this is not the case for young calves because their rumen is still developing. B vitamins – in combination with copper, selenium, zinc and manganese – form the basis for efficient growth.

Selenium and vitamins E and C are the most important immunity boosters, while copper, zinc and manganese antioxidant impact support the immune system.

Vitamin A contributes to basic growth and development while Vitamin D is partially responsible for good bone development.

Actigen® binds salmonella and e.Coli

Actigen® is a yeast carbohydrate that normalises gut microflora and microbiome diversity.

This prebiotic stops bad bacteria populating the intestine and binds salmonella and e.coli pathogens.

It also maintains gastrointestinal integrity and stability, promotes nutrient absorption, and may help in the control of salmonella.

Doseage

The dosage of 10g of per calf, per day is easily blended with whole milk. SuperCalf PLUS+ is now available from Daviesway DASCO outlets.

PREMIX FORMULA

NUTRIENT	Active Level per 10gms
Vitamin D3	20.00 kiu
Thiamine B1	10.00 mg
Pyridox B6	5.00 mg
Cyanoc B12	0.10 mg
Biotin	0.20 mg
Folic acid	40.00 mg
Vitamin A	60.00 kiu
Vitamin E	150.00 mg
Vitamin C	500.00 mg
Cobalt	5.00 mg
Iodine	4.00 mg
Iron	40.00 mg
Potassium	520.00 mg
Copper	10.00 mg
Zinc	40.00 mg
Manganese	15.00 mg
Bovatec	60.00 mg
Selenium	0.20 mg
Actigen	1000.00 mg

PLUS PROBIOTICS:

- *Saccharomyces cerevisiae*
 - *Bacillus subtilis*
 - *Enterococcus faecium*, *Lactobacillus acidophilus*
 - *Bifidobacterium longum*, *Bifidobacterium thermophilum*
 - Amylase
 - Protease
 - Cellulase
 - Lipase
 - Pectinase
- @ no less than 11.6 billion CFUs per dose

8.5 KG PC: APSSCP8

16 KG PC: APSSCP16



Scan for more info

1800 666 269 • daviesway.com.au

Nita McRae is the anchor in her calf rearing operation which not only rears all the calves on one of three farms (collectively milking 1500 cows), she also rears all its bull calves, and contract rears bull calves from other farms.



You tell me if it worked?

Nita McRae is driven by detail, and her commitment to her calves allowed her to rear more than 1200 head in East Gippsland last year – with negligible losses.

The Denison farmer jumped from rearing 800 to 950 calves in the spring alone, losing just eight calves (0.08%). She says there were some significant and positive differences that changed how she emerged emotionally from the increased workload.

Nita has perfected calf rearing using every tool available to her with careful consideration and meticulous execution. The only help she has is a permanent part-time employee, Suzie Raymond (a self-titled “bovine hygiene technician” who Nita deeply appreciates), schoolgirl Georgia Anderson (who is starting a school-based traineeship with Nita through Longerenong Agricultural College), a casual employee, and a backpacker.

The anchor at the calves is without question: Nita. She was at the calf shed every day from July through to Christmas – with the exception of stepping out for 36 hours to be the birthing partner for her daughter, Sharnie.

Nita not only rears the replacements for the three dairy farms she operates with her husband, Stewart, she was also the chosen pilot calf rearer for Elite Dairy Beef.

It's an exacting and concentrated contract rearing programme for 14 weeks (six weeks on milk), which ultimately finishes Holstein steers at up to 550kg liveweight aged 12 months, with a meat quality rivalling Wagyu.

Those calves leave the McRaes' farm two weeks after weaning, giving them time to adjust post-weaning before moving to a grower's property.

An example of its “exacting” nature is being deemed “never-ever”, which means no antibiotics, ionophores or hormones for the animal's lifetime. If they need to be treated, they drop to another tier of the programme, and the farmer is still paid the same. The programme was developed by Spanish company INZAR and has been running for decades in the UK and Europe, achieving premiums for dairy steers (see the section “‘Ridiculous waste’ of livestock addressed”, on inside back cover).

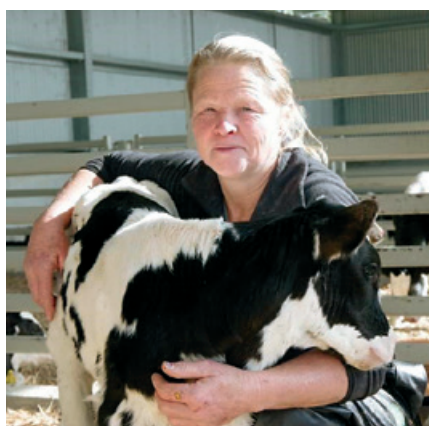
Nita and Stewart have three dairies which milk 1500 cows. All cows calve on the home farm of 202 hectares (500 acres) which has a 50-stand rotary. The other two farms include 162ha (400 acres), milking 600 cows

through a 30 swingover herringbone (8km from the home farm), and 200 cows on 61ha (150 acres) through a 14 aside herringbone (18km from the home farm).

Surviving calf rearing

In addition to being responsible for the couple's registered Gallrae Holstein heifer replacements, Nita also rears their own Holstein bull calves (and bull calves from other suppliers) on-farm under contract for Elite Dairy Beef. She's navigated the increasing numbers with her protocols, shed design and some key products she sources from Daviesway DASCO.

Her two custom-designed, 80m, north-east facing calf-rearing sheds reared more than 1200 calves through the spring and autumn. Each shed has 20 pens that are 4m wide by 9m deep. They are covered by a 12m roofline (4m high at the front and 3m high at the back). A 1m ventilation gap at the roofline combined with a 300cm gap at the top of the back concrete wall promotes exceptional ventilation; the constant airflow moves over the calves without being directly on them. Pine mulch is their chosen bedding.



Nita says, *“When you’re a farmer, everything has to be easy and practical, or it doesn’t happen when you’re in the thick of things.”*

The difference in the calf sheds this year for Nita was the maturation of a programme that is getting close to where she wants it.

“I enjoy it when it’s going well,” Nita says. “It can be a highly stressful job. I hate sick calves, and I found it a compounding stress. If they are unwell, I can’t stop thinking about them. I go to bed thinking about them, and I wake up thinking about them.”

“The mental strain for me this year – despite having more calves – was nothing by comparison.”

“Even though it was physically tough, it wasn’t mentally tough, and that was the difference.”

“The end product is that I reared 950 calves last spring, and I lost eight. Was it a success? You tell me?”

STALOSAN® F

Stalosan® F is an organic powder for sanitising bedding (sawdust, rice hulls, wood shaving, wood chips, hay and straw)



No silver bullet

Nita is happy to share how she has refined her protocols to the point that she can approach the season with confidence. Part of that involves the products she chooses.

Key products in her hygiene regime include Calf-Safe, Stalosan and Calf Klenz (for calf feeders and boots). Her preferred supplements include BioBoost and SuperCalf.

Calf-Safe is new to the market and Nita was relieved to see it introduced. It is a non-rinse, hospital-grade organic disinfectant that is safe to use on all surfaces in-season without shifting calves out of the pens. It also has a pleasant citrus smell. It has been used in other applications in agriculture, but this is the first time it’s been available to the dairy industry.

Nita was already using Stalosan, a well-known powerful organic and non-toxic powder, to sanitise bedding as the calves grew. She now uses the two products in unison to shield her calves from pathogen loads in-season.

“There didn’t used to be a spray to really keep on top of all surfaces [to use while the calves were in the pen], and I knew I needed one,” Nita says.

“By the time you see crypto [Cryptosporidiosis], it’s usually already spread. Calf-Safe has been a really useful addition, and we use it once-a-week.”

She also uses Calf Klenz, which is a liquid alkaline detergent to clean calf feeders and to disinfect boots between pens. It offers effective cleaning at hand-washing temperatures and is residue-safe.



CALF KLENZ

Liquid alkaline detergent that is effective at hand-washing temperatures, biodegradable, and residue-safe.



CALF-SAFE

Non-rinse organic surface disinfectant – safe to use with calves in the pen.



Stewart McRae knows the next generation of heifer replacements at Gallrae Holsteins are in great hands with his wife, Nita.



Two custom-designed calf sheds have been part of the solution at Gallrae Holsteins.



BioBoost is a micro-encapsulated, multi-strain probiotic treatment paste that promotes immunity, recovery and improves digestion. It delivers powerful probiotics and vitamin E in an easy-to-administer tube. It is a natural support for immune function – boasting billions of colony forming units.

“The proof is in the pudding: it worked,” Nita says.

“With so many animals, you can’t always pinpoint one thing that helps, but I know with the BioBoost that if I have calves that are not well, they get a BioBoost every morning.”

Products did what was promised

Nita likes to stay on top of her choices, and, because she was already heavily invested in Daviesway DASCO’s calf rearing products, she was introduced to Daviesway DASCO’s Brendan Johnson by Nutrien team member James Mastwyk, from Traralgon.

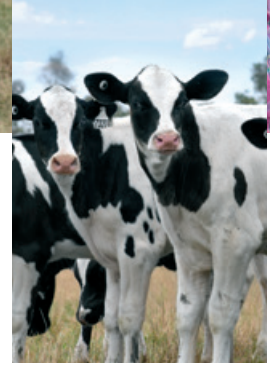
“I buy a lot of products from James, and I’m always looking for ways to improve,” Nita says. *“Those products have made a substantial difference to the health and wellbeing of my calves.”*

Brendan says the trick with calf rearing is that there is no trick.

“We never say we have a silver bullet,” he says. *“Everything is part of a management system. That’s the whole philosophy of the range.”*



Daviesway DASCO’s Brendan Johnson (left) and Nita McRae (right) agree that there is no silver bullet for successful calf rearing.



He says that the level of accountability to industry has never been higher – as it should be – and Nita agrees

“Those products did everything Brendan said they would do from season-to-season, each time we have added a new one. The year before I had salmonella, and I lost a few calves. This year I had it again, and I lost one calf.”

40x
Stronger than competing products



BIOBOOST

A potent probiotic paste – has become a “must-have” staple item in most Australian calf pens.

DASCO
Calf-Safe
Organic Disinfectant
Active ingredient – Octanoic Acid 1%
Disinfect surfaces without removing calves

FORMULATED TO KILL
VIRUSES • BACTERIA • PROTOZOA

NASAA
CERTIFIED ORGANIC
Cert. No. 3071M

Keep your calves safe

- Non-rinse organic surface disinfectant – safe to use without shifting calves
- Successful against a broad range of pathogens
- Pleasant citrus smell
- Effective on all surfaces
- Biodegradable and residue-free
- 5-year shelf life

NEW



DILUTION RATES:

For Regular Pen Hygiene – Dilute 20mls per 1 litre water

For Viricidal Treatment – Dilute 60mls per 1 litre water

Available in 1 & 5-litre containers



Dr Rod Polkinghorne OAM (pictured) says there is “zero doubt” that Holstein steers can weigh more than 550kg within 12 months with the right care.

“Ridiculous waste” of livestock addressed

The “ridiculous waste of livestock” in the bobby calf trade has been addressed by an Australian pilot programme with “infinite potential” – and the chops to get it done.



Elite Dairy Beef has been established by one of the red meat industry’s biggest names, Dr Rod Polkinghorne OAM. Dr Polkinghorne is the founder and principal of Birkenwood International – a leader in innovation in red meat quality. He has been recognised with an Order of Australia for his services to the beef industry. As an original team leader of Meat Standards Australia (MSA), he developed the base concept and is still involved in its scientific development. As an Adjunct Professor of Meat Science at the University of New England, he leads collaborative consumer red meat research projects in Japan, Korea, USA, Northern Ireland, Ireland, France, South Africa and New Zealand.

Within his own herd Dr Polkinghorne developed a paddock-to-plate branded beef production and retailing business. He was also a key element in the establishing the now-famous Charlton Feedlot in Victoria, which mushroomed from 300 head into 20,000 animals in 1989.

Dr Polkinghorne’s unique combination of academia, networks and hands-on understanding of the dairy and beef industries has been integral to Elite Dairy Beef’s reliability. Greenhams, Maxum Foods and Reid Stockfeeds have added their weight to the movement.

Dr Polkinghorne says,

“Under our programme the results are pretty extreme, I suppose. But within 12 months they can weigh more than 550kg with a 300-plus kilogram carcass of really high-quality meat.”

“There is zero doubt – particularly with Holstein cattle – that you can do it. It’s a totally different feeding system. Holsteins are a naturally late-maturing breed. By growing them fairly quickly from a young age, and giving them unlimited access to high quality feed, it changes their maturity pattern.”

“Elite Dairy Beef should be among the highest quality meat that is killed in Australia because of its age, its weight and the life that it’s had,” he says.

Pilot programme confirmed results

Dr Polkinghorne approached Nita McRae to be involved in a pilot programme on her operating dairy farm in Australia in 2018.

The results were everything Rod hoped for. Six weeks after weaning, the cattle weigh between 120kg and 140kg – on-track to reach their weight-for-age targets.

Farmers are assured of the price they will be paid, and there are different layers at which to be involved. Everything they need is supplied – including access to strong technical support, experienced vets, nutritionists and experts in grain purchasing, beef processing and marketing. Nita says it was fulfilling to see the value of her bobby calves captured.

“I think it’s amazing to see how fast they grow and the quality of their meat. It looks very similar to Waygu.”

Elite Dairy Beef has grown its programme to 2000 head on-feed, and the future is theoretically infinite. The sole limitation that Dr Polkinghorne sees is the number of detailed and dedicated calf rearers ready to get involved.

“We’re trying to grow it sensibly, and it is always subject to economics, but in a general sense we don’t see any particular limits,” Dr Polkinghorne says.

“We want to make sure it persists, and we want to build collaborative partnerships – like, for example, Greenhams, Maxums and Reid’s. Everybody in this chain must make money from it, or it will always fall over.”

“I think it is a great opportunity for the Australian dairy industry.”

WORLD'S No.1 OPEN TROUGH FEEDER



HOT DEAL BEST SALE

RRP \$6495 inc GST

OPEN TROUGH FEEDERS

- Designed with a low mounted tank for maximum stability
- Open troughs allow for easy cleaning and visibility of milk flow

**50 teat
500L tank**



OT50S - SINGLE AXLE

50 teat • 500L tank 1280H x 1850W x 2800L

STRICTLY LIMITED STOCKS

Fitted with 50 Peach teats -
WORLD'S No.1 Calf teat

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Daviesway Pty Ltd – 15 Helen Street,
Heidelberg Heights, VIC 3081
Phone: +61 (0) 3 9459 4533 • 1800 666 269

daviesway.com.au

GIPPSLAND:
Brendan McGrath: 0400 107 761
Pete Parniak: 0428 328 717
Glyn Stuckey: 0409 387 828

WESTERN VICTORIA:
Leon Lourey: 0457 847 139
John Karlinski: 0408 629 948

NORTHERN VIC/ SOUTHERN NSW:
Simon Shorland: 0408 563 297
Mark Nichols: 0417 030 565

TASMANIA:
Shaun Kingston: 0417 560 660
Wayne Harper: 0439 523 890

QLD/NORTHERN NSW:
Mark Giebels: 0428 879 265
Mark Payne: 0419 975 565

CALF REARING SPECIALIST
Cindy Lucas: 0427 192 421