

agriculture & rural development Department: agriculture & rural development PROVINCE OF KWAZULU-NATAL

Beef Production: The Basics

## **Calf Housing**

## Addendum B

1. Pen space

	Age	Minimum space required per calf
Individual pens	up to 4 weeks from 4 to 8 weeks	1.5 x 0.75 m 1.8 x 1.0 m
Indoor standing crates	up to 8 weeks	1.4 x 0.6 m
Group pens	up to 8 weeks from 8 to 12 weeks	1.1 m <sup>2</sup> 1.5 m <sup>2</sup>

- 2. Housing alternatives
  - Individual pens Tethered to stake outdoors Outdoor hutches Outdoor umbrella shelter Indoor calf pens Indoor crates
  - Groups Indoor pens
  - Surrogate cow

Where calves are tethered to a stake, tethered under an umbrella or housed in outdoor hutches, placing the calf at the lower end of a slope and then moving them at regular intervals up the slope, reduces the incidence of intestinal parasites.

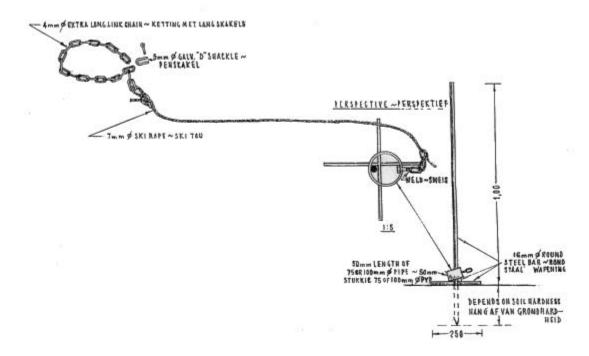


Figure 19. System for tethering calf to a post.

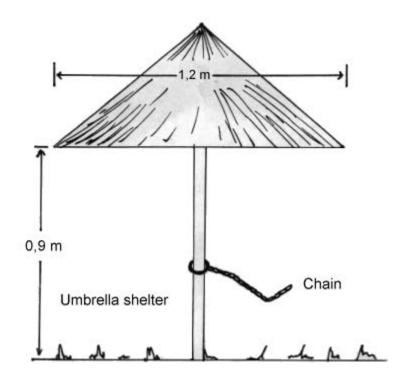


Figure 20. Umbrella shelter for calf rearing, constructed from thatch or other light-weight suitable material.

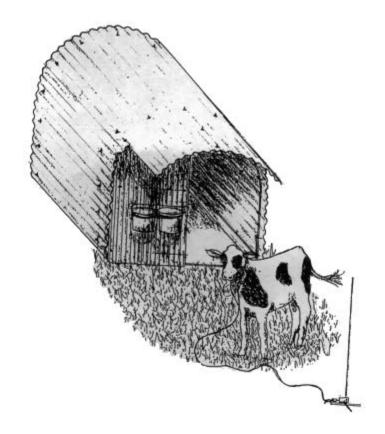


Figure 21. Calf tethered to post in front of calf hutch.

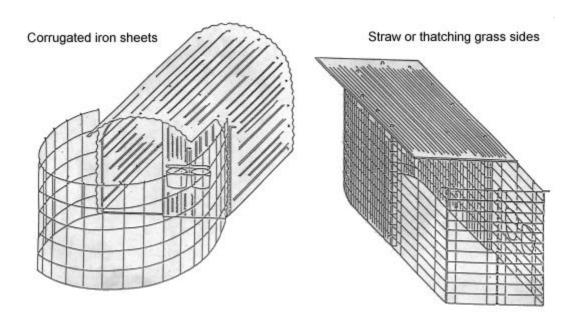


Figure 22. Calf hutches