

10 ITEMS YOU WANT IN YOUR CALVING KIT

Calving season is upon us. Stock your kit correctly to make the season brighter.

10: An extra set of coveralls and dry boots

Warm and dry is good. Cold and damp makes an unhappy rancher.

9: Colostrum replacement

For those calves that didn't get off to the best start.

8: An esophageal feeder

Have it with you, have it clean and dry, and know how to use it.

7: Ear tags

What better time to tag than Day 1?

6: Something to write down records

A notebook, blank note cards, an app on your phone, a piece of week-old mail — whatever it takes to make sure records are kept on each animal.

5: Lube

Lots of lube.

4: OB sleeves

Have an abundant supply on hand. (Literally.)

3: Calf chains or calf straps

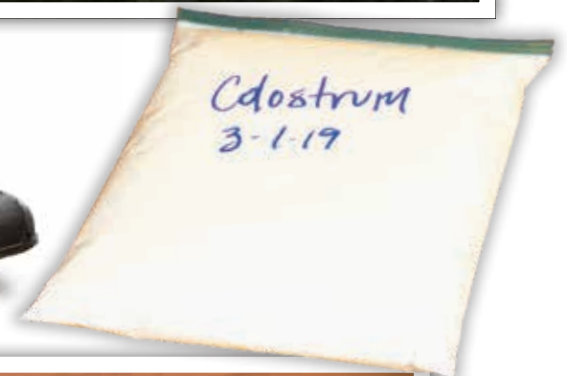
Calving-assistance extraordinaire.

2: Handles to go with your chains and straps

Teamwork makes the dream work. Get all of your components together before you head out.

1: A good relationship with your veterinarian and his or her phone number

Tough calving situation? If you call your veterinarian late on Friday during his or her child's basketball game, studies suggest he or she will be more likely to help if you've established a successful working relationship as client and veterinarian. |



Editor's note: This checklist is reprinted with permission from the Beef Cattle Institute of Kansas State University. Content originated in BCI's podcast *CattleChat*.