

In this practical book, you will find the essential features that need to be taken into consideration during gestation, calving and the postpartum period in order to deal with calving successfully.

3 Physiology of calving: normal delivery

Stages of normal delivery

Calving takes place in three well-defined stages:

1. Distension stage
2. Partial expulsive stage
3. Full expulsive stage

Stage	Duration	Signs	Comments
Distension	6-18 hours	Relaxation, restlessness, reduced feed intake. Usually, the fetal membranes can be seen in the vulva.	Gradually becomes protracted in the pelvic canal.
Partial expulsion	Usually 1-3 hours (Rarely 30 minutes-4 hours)	Abdominal contractions that increase in frequency, intensity, regularity, rupture of the foetal membranes and rupture of the foetal skin.	Foetus being pushed canal.
Full expulsive	Within 12-15 postpartum	Expulsion of the placenta.	Post-partum.

1. Distension stage



When the cervix is sufficiently relaxed, the foetal membranes can be seen protruding from the vulva.

- Cervix progressively relaxes until approximately the size of a fist.
- The position of the cervix is up and 15 and 18 hours before the foetus is born.
- Characterised by a specific foaming, restlessness, animal is restless, no interest in feed, no interest in water.
- Repeated series of abdominal contractions of 10-20 minutes.
- During contractions, which are slow, the uterine contents are pushed down.
- When the cervix is sufficiently relaxed, the foetal membranes can be seen protruding from the vulva.

2. Partial expulsive stage

- Abdominal contractions start as the calf's head passes down the canal.
- Contractions last about 10-15 minutes, but longer and more intense in intensity.
- During periods, especially before, when the calf is in the canal.
- Increased in intensity during the rupture of the foetal membranes. The "foetal membranes" are seen.



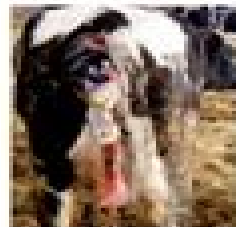
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Presentations

Definitions

- **Presentation** indicates the relation between the long axis of the foetus and the plane of the pelvic canal.
- **Position** indicates which surface of the foetus is in contact with the pelvic canal (dorsal, ventral or lateral).
- **Presentation** indicates the position of the foetus with head, in extension or flexion.

In a normal spontaneous delivery, two presentations are possible:



Normal

This is the most common position of the calf.

- **Normal presentation** is a term "head first".
- **Normal position** the calf's head is down and towards the pelvic canal.
- **Normal** the foetus should be in the pelvic canal and the head should be towards the head.

Abnormal

- **Abnormal presentation** is a term "tail first".
- **Abnormal position**.
- **Abnormal** the foetus should be in the pelvic canal and the head should be towards the tail.

Calving

Normal presentation



Abnormal presentation



Essential Guide To Calving

IM Harris



Essential Guide To Calving:

Essential Guide to Calving Heather Smith Thomas, 2008-01-01 Every cattle farmer from the keeper of a family milk cow to the rancher overseeing a large herd will gain confidence and control by becoming more knowledgeable about calving. Healthy pregnancies, safe births, and thriving calves are critical to every cattle operation, and in remote farm locations the veterinarian is not always readily available. Even if the vet is nearby, the farm's finances will be healthier if the farmer can oversee most of the calving process. Heather Smith Thomas, an expert on livestock with decades of firsthand experience, covers every routine situation likely to arise before, during, and after calving. And when the calving process is out of the ordinary, Thomas guides the farmer through pregnancy problems, difficult deliveries, recognizing when to call in a vet, and postpartum complications. Her thorough coverage of what to expect in every situation gives farmers the knowledge they need to care personally for their cows. The second half of the book is dedicated to ensuring that every calf gets off to a healthy start. Thomas helps farmers work with cows reluctant to nurse, substitute mothers, and frail calves. A complete chapter on calfhood illnesses explains warning signs and offers tips on prevention and treatment. As people return to farming in growing numbers, the demand for safe, humane livestock knowledge continues to increase. Farmers will turn to this reliable volume again and again as they welcome each new calf.

Essential Guide to Calving J. V. González-Martín, 2013

The Essential Guide to Beef Cattle Production Pasquale De Marco, 2025-08-11 Beef cattle production is a complex and challenging endeavor that requires careful management and attention to detail. This comprehensive guide will provide you with the knowledge and tools you need to succeed in this dynamic industry. From breeding and genetics to nutrition and feeding, reproduction and herd management, pre-weaning and post-weaning calf management, pasture and forage management, beef quality and grading, economics of beef cattle production, sustainable beef production, and the future of beef cattle production, this book covers every aspect of beef cattle production. Whether you are a seasoned rancher or just starting out, this book will provide you with the information you need to make informed decisions about your operation. You will learn about the latest advancements in technology and management practices and gain a deep understanding of the beef cattle production process. In this book, you will find in-depth coverage of all aspects of beef cattle production. Practical advice and tips from experienced ranchers. The latest research and data on beef cattle production. Stunning color photographs and illustrations. This book is the essential resource for anyone involved in beef cattle production. It is a must-have for ranchers, farmers, veterinarians, students, and anyone else who wants to learn more about this fascinating industry. About the Author: Pasquale De Marco Pasquale De Marco is a leading expert in beef cattle production. He has over 30 years of experience in the industry and has written extensively on the subject. His work has been published in numerous journals and magazines, and he is a regular speaker at industry conferences. Pasquale De Marco is passionate about beef cattle production and is committed to helping others succeed in this industry. He wrote this book to share his knowledge and expertise with ranchers and farmers.

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Poor management practices can lead to low growth rates delayed breeding stock diseases and even deaths among imported stock both before and after first calving Managing High Grade Dairy Cows in the Tropics addresses the entire range of management practices found on tropical small holder dairy farms highlighting those which are likely to adversely impact on heifer and cow performance hence farm profitability It is a companion volume to two previous manuals written by John Moran Tropical Dairy Farming and Business Management for Tropical Dairy Farmers **Your Calf** Heather Smith Thomas,1997-01-01 Offers information and advice on selecting feeding housing caring for breeding and showing both beef and dairy cattle *National Range and Pasture Handbook* United States. Natural Resources Conservation Service,1997 *The Country Gentleman* ,1907

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