



# December Challenge Kit

Thank you to this month's kit sponsor:

**Uhl's Feed & Small Engine**  
 Sales and Service - 812-738-1326  
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 360 Valley Rd., NE • Corydon, IN 47112

Mowers / Roto Tillers / Chain Saws / Trimmers / Blowers / Pruners

 Richard Uhl / Sonya Uhl   
 Nutrena



Extension - Agriculture and Natural Resources



**December Challenge Kits went out the door in record time this month! All 20 kits were distributed within the first week of the month. Thank you to Uhl's Feed and Small Engine for sponsoring these kits where youth learned a little bit about dairy cattle and made a DIY cow ornament.**

**THE PURDUE EXTENSION HARRISON COUNTY OFFICE IS OPEN MONDAY THROUGH FRIDAY 8:00 AM-4:30 PM**

# THE LIFE OF A DAIRY CALF



1<sup>2</sup>



My story starts before I am born...When my dam (mom) looks like she is going to calve, she will be placed in a pen by herself with clean, dry straw or other bedding. This helps to decrease the amount of bacteria I may be exposed to when I am born.

When I am born, the farmer helps clear my airways and makes sure I am breathing properly, will dip my navel in iodine, and will give me colostrum (the initial milk that a cow produces that contains antibodies to help my immune system).



3



I am then moved to a hutch with a small run. The hutch is bedded down with clean straw, and is warm and dry. I will be given colostrum at least two more times in the first 24 hours of my life, and will have access to clean water and feed.

4 I stay in my hutch for

5-8 weeks. The farmer checks on me multiple times a day. I have my own fresh water, milk and food, and room to move around. I can see other calves so I can socialize.



5



I will be weaned off of milk replacer and on to a diet of calf starter feed and clean water. I am moved to a pen with other calves and will stay with this group of calves as I grow and develop.

6 When I reach the

proper age, I will be bred. My calf will be placed in a clean, warm, dry hutch and is well cared for. I will enter the milking herd where I produce milk for drinking, or to be used for ice cream, butter, cheese, yogurt or many other products!





# BEEF COWS

VERSUS

# DAIRY COWS

## GET THE SKINNY



PRODUCING MASS VS. PRODUCING MILK

Include, but not limited to: Angus, Hereford, Charolais, Shorthorn, Limousin, Simmental

Include, but not limited to: Holstein, Jersey, Brown Swiss, Guernsey, Dairy Shorthorn, Ayrshire

Bred to be muscular, be able to develop and maintain a certain amount of condition or finish (fat)

Bred to produce milk and tend to appear a little "thinner" than beef cows

Tend to have stocky, round bodies and short necks

Have large udders that produce 8-10 gallons of milk a day

Build with strong legs to navigate pasture

Build more slightly due to not having to navigate much pasture