

LA BUVETTE®

The specialist in watering



NEWS

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EDITORIAL



Thanks to numerous visits during the last exhibitions fairs (such as SPACE in Rennes, Le Sommet de l'Élevage in Clermont-Ferrand, EuroTier in Hanover...) and to the major event Salon du Cheval de Paris, this year comes to its end with many friendly and professional meetings with breeders as well as with our dealers.

An encouraging sign is that, among many of these visitors, we noticed a regained confidence in the future, showed by the projects they wouldn't dare start up until now.

This keen interest of the visitors in our watering solutions strengthens us to look forward to 2015. It encourages us to continue our research and innovation efforts for the development of new high-performance products based on our experience in the field and our capacity to observe the day-to-day evolution of the breeding techniques.

Hoping to meet you at the SIMA in February, I wish you excellent end-of-year celebrations and fun reading this Newsletter.

Kind regards,

Jean-Philippe BOUSQUET
President



"INNOVATION: THE TRADE-MARK OF OUR COMPANY"

LA BUVETTE® launches about ten new products every year. This creativity is the result of our policy to invest in research and development which been initiated a very long time ago. The head of R&D, Vincent Cardot tells us a little bit more.

Is this involvement in research a new initiative for LA BUVETTE® ?

No, LA BUVETTE® has always applied a quite strong policy to invest in innovation. Each year, we invest 4,5 % of our turnover in research and development. This is a high amount compared to our peer companies. Innovation is our trademark. We are known for that in the breeding industry and by our clients and we launch about ten new products each year.

Can you give us a few examples ?

Among the major innovations recently launched by LA BUVETTE®, we can name the tipping drinkers, the 1,50 and 2,30 m models with large drain and the drinker series with stainless steel trough and polyethylene base. This combination of materials offers food safety, ease of cleaning, ergonomics, choice of several designs and easy frost protection. We can also mention our new footbath with grid to keep it manure-free for efficient treatment of the hooves while saving disinfectants. This year, we also launched individual drinkers with a rotomoulded polyethylene bowl directly integrated in its galvanised steel protection.

How does your service work ?

The R&D team consists of several people among whom project managers who engineer, design and develop products, a prototypist who creates the prototypes, and does laboratory tests, and people earlier in the chain who identify and anticipate the needs of the breeders and who draw up the technical specifications of the new products. During the creation of a new product we are following three main objectives: improve the working conditions of the breeder, better adapt the equipment to the needs of the animals and reduce their impact on the environment, mainly on the water consumption by providing non-spill edges for example.

WHAT RULES MUST BE OBSERVED TO HOUSE CALVES DURING THE

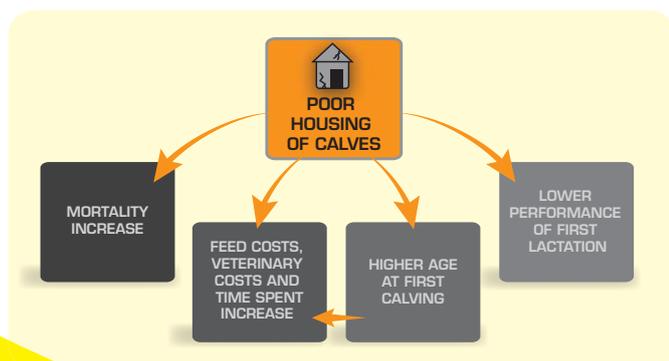


A successful start of the calves guarantees the replacement of the herd. Therefore, the first months of their lives are crucial. Although most breeding centres have a fairly good grasp of the hygiene and feeding practices, the importance of the housing circumstances is not enough taken into account yet, while offering your calves good ambient conditions is however a determining factor for their health and growth performance.

An observation: high mortality rates

The mortality in young calves is a problem which affects all dairy farms in similar proportions in Europe as well as in the United States (Brickell et al., 2009; Svensson et al., 2006). A study conducted in France shows that the mortality risk of calves aged less than one month is 10,2 % with almost 7 deaths out of 10 occur within the first 48 hours. The risk decreases with the age from 1,3 % between 1 and 2 months of age to 2,3 % between 2 and 6 months of age (Perrin et al., 2011).

Most pre-weaning deaths (except deaths during calving) are caused by respiratory and diarrhoeal diseases. New-born calves have in fact a limited resistance to diseases as they have almost no circulating antibodies that are able to destroy pathogens. During the first hours of their lives, the calves have to drink the colostrum which contains the antibodies needed to acquire their immunity. However, poor housing will affect their growth and create extra costs for the breeder.



Providing good breeding conditions (hygiene, feeding, housing) helps to prevent or limit the onset of diseases and to control the mortality rate (Jegou et al., 2006; Delafosse and Desvois, 2008). The ambient conditions are particularly important during the first 3 weeks when the calf needs special attention and specific care. Healthy and comfortable housing conditions are required: surface area offered to each animal, temperature, humidity, ventilation...

Rule #1: separate the calves from the adult animals

The pathogens causing diseases are mostly transmitted by contamination between animals. Therefore, it is desirable to house the young calves in individual huts during the first weeks of their lives.

Rule #2: control the ambient temperature

A calf is sensible to different temperatures depending on its age.

AGE OF THE CALF	WELL SUPPORTED TEMPERATURES
Younger than 24 hours	0 °C to 25 °C
Younger than 3 months	-10 °C to 30 °C
Older than 3 months	-15 °C to 35 °C

Besides low temperatures, it is even more important to avoid sudden variations in temperature and the variation between the day and night time temperature should not exceed 15 %.

The temperature of the milk to be administered should also be monitored and ideally be given at 40 °C. We recommend to use of an elevate pail with nipple to stimulate the reflex closure of the oesophageal gutter and salivation.

Rule #3: avoid humidity

It is important to monitor the ambient humidity. No traces of water should appear on the inside walls of the huts or pens, nor on the metal parts. The same goes for the coat of the calf and the litter, they may not be humid to the touch. The preparation of the milk inside the nursery should be prohibited as this can strongly increase the ambient humidity.

FIRST MONTHS OF THEIR LIVES

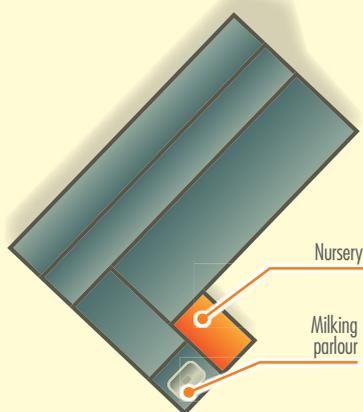
Rule #4: effectively ventilate the ambient air

The air speed at the level of the calves should not exceed 0,25 m/s. The air speed can be increased to 1 m/s to lower high temperatures (above 25 °C) during the summer.

Rule #5: install the housing in the right place

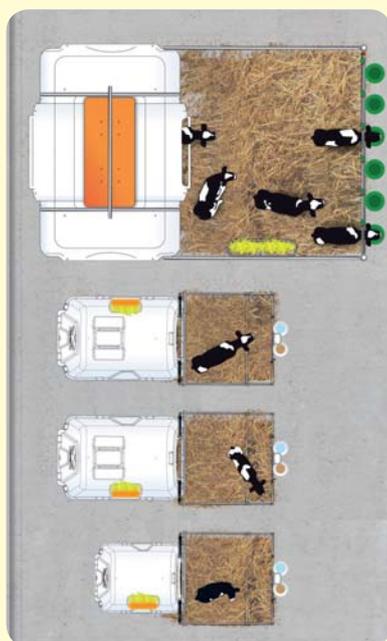
To simplify your work, it is preferable to install the nursery close to the milking parlour and the calving boxes, but make sure to separate them sufficiently from the housing of the adult animals to minimise the risks of transmitting infectious agents.

In case of half-open buildings or huts placed outdoor, southeast orientation is recommended.



Source: Capdeville & al. (2002)

- Proximity to the milking parlour.
- Sunlit from the morning on.
- Protection from the rain by the neighbouring buildings.
- Protection against the cold winds.



- Incline of 3 % for the evacuation of urine.
- Orientation: back to the prevailing wind and front to the morning sun.
- Vents adjusted to the weather conditions.



LA BUVETTE® HOUSING SOLUTIONS

BABY-STAR™:
for calves from 0 to 8 weeks of age



Modular, double-walled HDPE pens that can easily be assembled side by side or back to back.

MINISTAR™:
for calves from 0 to 4 weeks of age

MIDDLESTAR™:
for calves from 0 to 8 weeks of age

LOGISTAR™:
for calves from 0 to 8 weeks of age



Individual calf hutches in UV resistant pure high density polyethylene.

Gate and tipping fence available separately:



MEGASTAR™:
for calves from 2 to 6 months of age



Group hutches in UV resistant pure high density polyethylene.

EUROTIER 2014 FAIR: MORE VISITORS TO OUR STAND THAN IN 2012

Between 11 and 14 November, the LA BUVETTE® stand in Hanover welcomed not only many German breeders such as two years ago, but also more resellers.

Our visitors from Germany and other European countries appreciated meeting our reinforced and structured LA BUVETTE® export team that presented the new products to them, answered their questions and discussed their projects. For the record, EuroTier is one of the largest fairs in the world dedicated to the breeding industry. It is held in Hanover every two years.



OUR NEXT MEETING

SIMA

SIMAGENA SIMAVIP

Hall 7 - Aisle C - Stand 073

YOUR CONTACT In Your Country

Volker LORENZ
Tel. 0177/3410 964
v.lorenz@labuvette.com

Martin RENET
Tel. +33 680 46 30 88
m.renet@labuvette.com

Jürgen KNAPP
Tel. 0173/6611 364
j.knapp@labuvette.com

At the Office

<p>Sébastien MARC Export Manager Tel. +33 681 532 644 s.marc@labuvette.com Languages: </p>	<p>Diana PREZIOSI Sales Administration Tel. +33 324 52 37 23 d.preziosi@labuvette.fr Languages: </p>
<p>Cathy VANHOOREN Commercial Assistant, France & Spain Tel. +33 324 52 37 20 c.vanhooren@labuvette.fr Languages: </p>	<p>Élodie COLLINET Head of Marketing & Communication Tel. +33 324 52 37 22 e.collinet@labuvette.fr Languages: </p>
<p>Didier CORNIQUET Head of After-Sales Service Tel. +33 324 52 37 27 d.corniquet@labuvette.fr Languages: </p>	<p>David BROSE Technical-Commercial Assistant Tel. +33 324 52 37 21 d.brosse@labuvette.fr Languages: </p>

hickory Pictures: LA BUVETTE - J. Malleval



Rue Maurice Périn - Parc d'Activités Ardennes Émeraude - CS 50749 Tournes
08013 CHARLEVILLE-MÉZIÈRES Cedex - France
Tel. +33 324 52 37 23 - Fax +33 324 52 37 24
After-Sales Service +33 324 52 37 21 - Fax +33 324 52 37 24