

July 27, 2022

Tie-Stall Barn Protocol

BARN FEEDING

1. Follow research protocol on removing all refusals and weigh and sample as required.
2. Follow research protocol on mixing feed in the Rissler cart, stationary mixer, and/or feed what was mixed in the TMR wagon.
3. Coordinate with the feeder when the Rissler cart or any other carts should be outside to get feed.
4. Lactating cows, both research and nonresearch, should have feed in front of them at all times. Pay special attention to the rations cows are being fed. **RECORD WEIGHT OF ADDITIONAL FEED FED TO ANIMALS.**
5. The research feeder is responsible for working with the cow mover, animal handler, or movement to and from the parlor and or exercise yard.
6. Make sure milking cows are not away from feed and water for more than 2 hours.
7. Ventilation fans are set at appropriate settings. **DO NOT TOUCH CONTROLS WITHOUT APPROVAL FROM MANAGER.**
8. Report any intake or health concerns to the managers.
9. Consult with researcher on any changes to research protocol such as a change in milking group, selling a cow, or treatment.

AM PROTOCOL

1. Move non-banded milk cows to exercise lot unless it is icy. Move banded-milk cows to covered lane between heifer free-stall barn and tie-stall barn.
2. Bedding the stalls
 - All employees are required to wear safety glasses when handling any type of bedding.
 - Start gutter cleaner and rake all manure and wet sawdust from the stalls and everything from the center alley into the gutter. *****You must continuously monitor the gutter cleaner to make sure the chain does not come apart. If this happens turn it off immediately and let a supervisor know*****
 - Begin on the feed center side of the barn. Continue around barn until all manure has been pushed into the gutter.
 - **Check to make sure that all the manure has been deposited off of the gutter cleaner into the bin outside.** In cold weather if manure is left on the gutter chain this can freeze and make it unusable for the next shift.
 - Scrape remaining dry sawdust from the stalls onto the center alleyway.
 - Spread hydrated lime on the back 1/3 of the stalls.
 - Cover entire stall with a thin layer of kiln dried sawdust/shavings.
3. Bring animals back into the barn and re-chain them in their assigned stalls. **Put snap over the entire chain so it slides through. Make sure the neckchain is not wrapped around the pipe before clipping to the cow.** Coordinate with the other workers if you need help in getting the cows back into their stalls. Only allow 2-3 cows into the barn at a time. Take care to keep all cows from eating feed that doesn't belong to them.
6. Sweep feed aisles into gutter, NOT an unoccupied stall, and remove all trash to dumpsters.
7. **IN SUMMER** –Keep sliding doors and overhead door on the end of the barn open to allow for proper ventilation and air movement to fans.
8. On a daily basis, during weigh-backs, clean brisket boards of old feed. No mold should be observed.
9. Water bowls should be checked daily, kept clean, and any leaks reported to the herdsman.

PM PROTOCOL

1. Move non-banded milk cows to exercise lot unless it is icy. Move banded-milk cows to covered lane between heifer free-stall barn and tie-stall barn.
2. Bedding the stalls
 - All employees are required to wear safety glasses when handling any type of bedding.
 - Start gutter cleaner and rake all manure and wet sawdust from the stalls and everything from the center alley into the gutter. *****You must continuously monitor the gutter cleaner to make sure the chain does not come apart. If this happens turn it off immediately and let a supervisor know*****
 - Begin on the feed center side of the barn. Continue around barn until all manure has been pushed into the gutter.
 - **Check to make sure that all the manure has been deposited off of the gutter cleaner into the bin outside.** In cold weather if manure is left on the gutter chain this can freeze and make it unusable for the next shift.
 - Scrape remaining dry sawdust from the stalls onto the center alleyway.
 - Spread hydrated lime on the back 1/3 of the stalls.
 - Cover entire stall with a thin layer of kiln dried sawdust/shavings.
3. Push feed up to all animals.
4. Bring animals back into the barn and re-chain them in their assigned stalls. **Put snap over the entire chain so it slides through. Make sure the neckchain is not wrapped around the pipe before clipping to the cow.** Coordinate with the other workers if you need help in getting the cows back into their stalls. Only allow 2-3 cows into the barn at a time. Take care to keep all cows from eating feed that doesn't belong to them.
5. Sweep feed aisles into gutter – NOT an unoccupied stall!
6. **IN SUMMER** –Keep sliding doors and overhead door on the end of the barn open to allow for proper ventilation and air movement to fans.
7. Water bowls should be checked daily, kept clean, and any leaks reported to the herdsman.