

January 7, 2011

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 data ranger 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. Follow research protocol on feeding heifers in the heifer free-stall barn. They are also your responsibility, when applicable.
5. 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.**
6. Please clean off beaters in electric feed carts before they cause mechanical problems. If you need help please ask someone.
7. The research feeder is responsible for working with the cow mover, animal handler, or movement to and from the parlor and or exercise yard.
8. Make sure milking cows are not away from feed and water for more than 2 hours.
9. Ventilation fans are set at appropriate settings. **DO NOT TOUCH CONTROLS WITHOUT APPROVAL FROM MANAGER.**
10. Report any intake or health concerns to the assistant managers.
11. Consult with researcher on any changes to research protocol such as a change in milking group, selling a cow, or treatment.

BARN CLEANING

1. Upon entering barn in the AM, check to make sure that the gutter cleaner chain and overflow area were not left in an unacceptable condition.
2. If there is a problem, report it to the herdsman on duty.
3. Move non-banded milk cows to parlor. Move banded-milk cows to covered lane between heifer free-stall barn and tie-stall barn.
4. Start gutter cleaner and rake all manure from platform area into the gutter. Begin on the feed center side of the barn. Continue around barn until all manure has been pushed into the gutter. Re-bed stalls with bedding material currently being used.
5. Bring animals back into the barn and re-chain them in their assigned stalls. Coordinate with the other workers if you need help in getting the cows back into their stalls.
6. Sweep feed aisles into gutter, NOT an unoccupied stall, and remove all trash to dumpsters.
7. **IN WINTER** –Keep sliding and overhead door 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 milking animals to parlor. Move banded milk cows to covered lane between heifer free-stall barn and tie-stall barn.
2. Start gutter cleaner and rake all manure from platform area into the gutter. Begin on the feed center side of the barn. Continue around barn until all manure has been pushed into the gutter.
3. Push feed up to all animals.
4. Bring animals back into the barn and re-chain them in their assigned stalls. Coordinate with the other workers if you need help in getting the cows back into their stalls.
5. Sweep feed aisles into gutter – NOT an unoccupied stall!