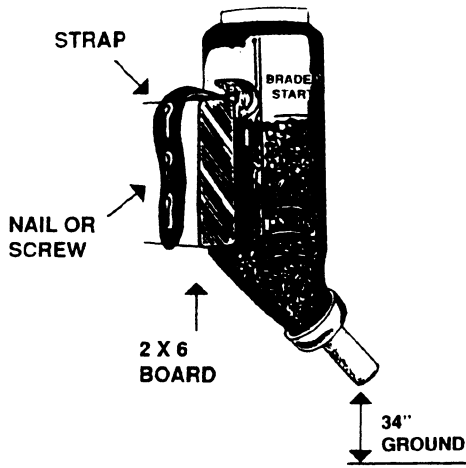


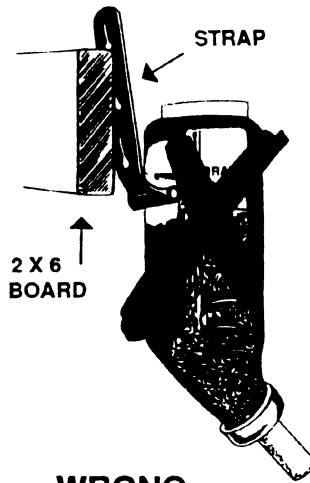
IMPORTANT PLEASE READ

*Earlier consumption of dry feed means earlier rumen development.
Earlier rumen development means healthier calves and earlier weaning.*

1. Hang bottle first day calf is brought to pen. The nursing instinct is strongest during first 3 days of calf's life.
2. Older calves must be shown the nipple.
3. Hang bottle in corner of pen with nipple approximately 34 inches from the ground. This may vary with size of calf.
4. Calves should reach up slightly for nipple. Nipple opening should be vertical.
5. Nipple must be replaced when the end is no longer flexible and does not retain its shape or loses the natural soft feel of the cows teat.
6. Calf feeds that flow easily should be fed with the Braden Start Bottle. Textured feeds with rolled or flaked corn and molasses (heavy syrup) tend to feed out slowly.
7. A bucket or utility feeder placed beneath the bottle will catch what little feed falls out of the calf's mouth. The calf will eat this feed also cutting down on waste. The bottle will not keep calves from eating out of a bucket but they eat more out of the bottle.

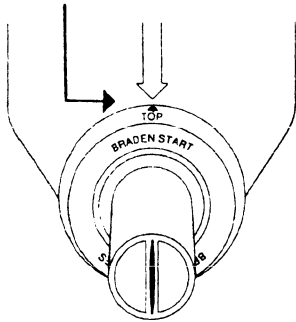


CORRECT WAY

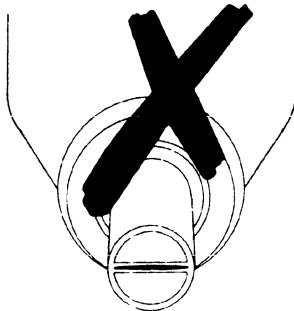


WRONG WAY

NOTE:
MATCH ARROWS



CORRECT WAY



WRONG WAY

Hang bottle first day calf is brought to pen.
Hang bottle in corner of pen with nipple approximately 34" from ground. This may vary with size of calf. Calf should reach up slightly.

Attach nipple matching arrows to top and bottom.

Pull bottle firmly against 2x6 board and secure with nail or screw in slotted key hole in strap.

Braden Start Bottle - Braden Industries, Inc.

2112 CR 2308 • Sulphur Springs, TX 75482

1-800-272-3361 or 903-439-3233

Email: braden@bluebonnet.net

www.bradenstart.com

QUESTIONS and ANSWERS on the BRADEN BOTTLE

Q: Do I have to use pellet type feed?

A: No. Most types of grain will flow through the bottle. Feeds that contain corn which has been flattened out larger than the end of the nipple will not work. Feeds with molasses are too sticky and will not flow.

Q: How do I hang the bottle:

A: Pull the bottle firmly against a 2X6 board and secure with a nail or screw in the slotted key hole in the rubber strap. On cattle panels or wire attach a 2X6 one foot long to the wire with one inch fence staples then hang bottle normally.

Q: Does it matter how high or low I hang the bottle?

A: Yes. Hang the bottle in the corner of the pen with the nipple approximately 34 inches from the ground. The calf should reach up slightly for the nipple. If the bottle is hung too low the calf will not go to it as often therefore reducing feed intake.

Q: The nipples aren't lasting 2 or 3 calves, what am I doing wrong?

A: The bottle should be hung in the corner of the pen so that the calf won't get the nipple in it's mouth sideways. The bottle should always have feed in it to keep the calf from chewing on the nipple because nothing comes out.

Q: How will I know that it is time to replace the nipple?

A: The nipple must be replaced when the end is no longer flexible and does not retain its shape or the nipple loses the soft feel of the natural mother's teat. When the nipple becomes hard and coarse feeling the calf does not go to the nipple as often.

Q: When should I put the bottle in the pen with the calf?

A: The bottle should be hung the first day the calf is brought to the pen because the nursing instinct is strongest during the first three days of life.

Q: What if I have an older calf? Will the bottle still work?

A: Yes. You will have to show the calf the bottle the first few days, most will take off on their own.

Q: We group our calves. How many calves can use one bottle?

A: We recommend no more than 2 calves per bottle. If there are not enough bottles, they will always be empty, and the smaller, less aggressive calves may not be getting enough, (if any) feed.

Q: How does the bottle stand up to cold or hot weather?

A: The bottle is made of poly-vinyl chloride with a UV inhibitor. This is a very tough material that is guaranteed for one year. This includes the bottle, strap, and lid. The nipple will last 2 to 3 baby calves. We are finding the bottle is lasting 18 to 24 months. In cold weather we have not experienced any problems. However in hot weather you will experience a small amount of moisture on the inside of the bottle. Generally this is not a problem. If it is, a small vent hole can be drilled into the top of one side of the bottle.

Q: Will a calf being raised on a nurse cow use the BRADEN BOTTLE?

A: Whether a calf is nursing a cow, bottle, or drinking milk from a bucket makes no difference. What does make a difference is where the calf is at. Running loose in a pasture the calf will likely never find the bottle. Kept in a confined area there would not be a problem and the bottle would work fine. Depending on the size of the area the calf should be shown where the bottle is a few times.

Q: Can the bottle be hung in a totally enclosed poly-dome hutch?

A: No. There is not place to hang the bottle in this type of hutch. The people with these type of hutches say that even though it does not work as well, by placing the BRADEN NIPPLE on a SUCKLE milk bottle and inserting it in the slot for the milk bottle after feeding the milk they still get the calves started on feed faster than the old method. On any hutch where the calf goes on the outside the bottle should be hung normally.

Q: How long should I keep the calf on the BRADEN START BOTTLE?

A: We keep our calves in pens until they are six weeks old. Calves are fed milk replacer twice a day until they are four weeks old. They are then given milk replacer once a day until they are five weeks old, then weaned from milk completely. At six weeks of age we remove the calves from the hutches and place them in groups in small pastures. I hang an old bottle of any kind (empty) over their feed trough to attract their attention. Calves are used to getting their feed from a bottle or bucket. This visual aid will attract them to the large trough. You will find calves do not lose weight when weaned when they have been started on the BRADEN START BOTTLE.

Q: Should water be given to newborn calves?

A: Yes. Fresh water is very important and should be available at all times.

Q: How much feed will the calves eat?

A: At the end of their first week they will be eating three-quarter to one pound of grain. It will generally average the following:
end of 2 weeks 2 pounds
end of 3 weeks 3 pounds
end of 4 weeks 4 pounds
end of 5 weeks 5 pounds
end of 6 weeks 6 pounds

Q: Will nursing the bottle keep calves from eating out of a bucket?

A: No. If you hang the bottle over a bucket what little falls out of their mouth they will eat it out of the bucket. They just eat more out of the bottle.

Q: Can I take the BRADEN BOTTLE away from the calf once I get them eating feed, say at two or three weeks?

A: You will lose the advantage of the early weaning and less stress at weaning. You will find the calves will eat less feed from the bucket and will tend to lose weight at weaning. Weight gain will also be less.