

In a recent survey in West Wales, 48% of calves born in a 3 month period didn't receive sufficient colostrum. (Welsh Dairy Youngstock Project) The figure is likely to be the same throughout the country.

**The Store & Thaw colostrum management system** has been designed to make sure all colostrum can be tested and graded according to quality. There is always a supply of colostrum stored in the freezer, and having a thermostatically controlled, agitated water bath on stand- by means it can be defrosted, safely, without destroying the antibodies in less than half an hour.



For many years the importance of colostrum has been acknowledged and yet some still haven't given it top priority. The widespread use of in- feed antibiotics has helped to mask calf disease on certain farms, but now that there is a drive to get rid of blanket treatment with antibiotics, there is a real opportunity to look thoroughly at calf rearing protocols and put a plan in place to make the most of this fantastic resource and reduce calfhood disease without antibiotics.

A human baby absorbs some immunity via the placenta, yet a baby calf is born with absolutely zero immunity. All the immunity to bacteria is passed on from the cow's colostrum. Zero colostrum means zero immunity. Late feeding of colostrum means partial immunity, and poor health. A simple blood test via the Vet will tell you how well your current practices are working.

Colostrum comes as a 'free gift' with every calving, and yet much of it is wasted if the timing of feeding is too late. The first 6 hours of life is the key time to offer colostrum. The calf's gut lining is receptive to antibodies at this time and later in the day it becomes progressively less able to absorb antibodies. So the vulnerable calves are those born at night, whose mother has problems, like a pendulous udder, fat teats, or a skittish heifer. Health problems like Milk fever and a premature calving can also result in a poor supply.

We spend plenty of money on sexed semen and good genetics but if the heifer can't express her genetic potential (or dies) all this money is wasted.



The Store& Thaw colostrum management system means high quality colostrum is always available day and night and can be warmed up and fed within a few hours of birth. This gives every calf a good chance of survival and also gives the herdsman a better lifestyle.

What our customers say:

**"I am very happy with The Store and Thaw product. It is a simple system that has enabled our colostrum protocols to be implemented with ease ensuring that all colostrum is stored in an easy hygienic way and then thawed quickly for feeding. We can be sure all our calves get the best possible start in life "- Fraser Jones, Calcourt Farm, Welshpool - 1000 cows & 450 bull beef**

**' I like having an organised system. The machine is always ready, and anyone can use it. The bags are easy to fill, freeze and defrost. The Speedyfeeder encourages the calves to suck soon after birth. Our blood results show antibody transfer is really good since changing to the Store& Thaw system' - Tom Bailey (herd manager) for RFJ & R Partridge, Lower Buckholt Farm, Monmouth - 470 cows**

For more information and video, go to <https://pyonproducts.com/shop/store-and-thaw/>