

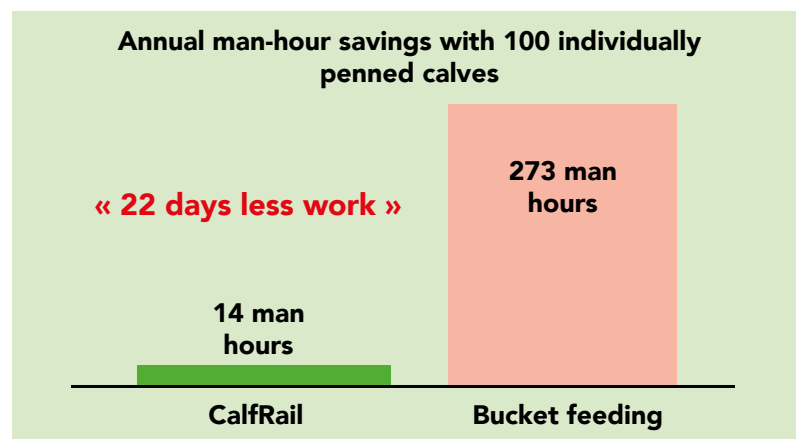
CALFRAIL 2.0 AUTOMATED INDIVIDUAL FEEDING.



CALFRAIL. NO MORE LUGGING BUCKETS.



In the spirit of the 40FIT Technology from Förster-Technik during the first approx. 40 days calves are fed more milk than before. Practical experience and scientific studies prove that this makes calves grow better and healthier thus achieving significantly higher milk yields as a dairy cow. Already during their first weeks of life also young calves may already take in more than ten liters per day which are converted into rapid growth. But how to administer such feed amounts to individually penned calves? Without overstressing the intake capacity of the animals? Or losing large residual amounts of milk? And concerning the labor: With traditional bucket feeding an intensive calf raising is



not feasible at a reasonable cost. Therefore Förster-Technik has developed already in 2012 the CalfRail which automatically feeds individually penned calves with animal-specific quantities in small, freshly prepared portions up to eight times a day. Immediately

after the colostrum stage, the calf can be trained and fed on CalfRail. This creates optimal conditions for intensive raising in the very first days of life – and without lugging buckets.



Only one calf feeder for CalfRail and the group

One Vario for everything

CalfRail is controlled and supplied with milk replacer feed or fresh milk by the Vario calf feeder. This eliminates the need for feed preparation, transportation and feed dispensing. Also the manual cleaning of buckets and equipment is no longer necessary. The animal control and care is no longer tied to fixed times.

The calf feeder delivers the information required for optimum calf management, e.g. feed consumption and drinking speed, at the push of a button. Often the calves are kept only for the first 14 days in individual pens and are then housed in groups. No problem for the Vario, which also provides the group calves with feed via feeding stations with animal identification.

Extensive control functions support the operational management and make it possible to monitor the development of the calves during the entire rearing period.

The data from the individually penned calves are of course taken over to group housing and are also available on your smartphone, tablet and PC via the CalfManager software.

How it works

Up to eight times per day the automated CalfRail system moves along a sliding rail to every calf pen to dispense feed animal-specifically and in a controlled way. A servo-driven hose pump moves the feed down into the teat, ensuring comfortable feed consumption for even young calves.

Just one mobile feeding station

In the spirit of the Förster-Technik philosophy there is only one direct hose from the mixing station to the teat. Thereby there are no dirty corners or waiting containers in which the milk may become stale. An intelligent heating is integrated in the hose to achieve a pleasant drinking temperature even in winter.

Flexible usability

One CalfRail unit can supply up to 32 individually penned calves. The automatic feeder is able to control up to four CalfRail units, thus in total 128 calves can be fed using one single calf feeder. Combined individual and group pen raising is possible as well.

Now it's turning!

The new CalfRail 2.0 is equipped with a curve-enabled drive for a more versatile and flexible use, including easy integration into older existing barns. In addition, the design was streamlined and the dispensing arm now has an integrated training button as well as an LED for entitlement.

Optimal hygiene

Automatic cleaning before and after every feeding cycle reduces work considerably and ensures optimum hygiene. Outside of feeding times there is no milk in the system, leaving no environment for microbes to grow. An optional teat cleaning feature can be employed to spray off the teat externally with liquid after every calf feeding.



Clean up to the top

Convenience for farmer and calf

An LED light strip attached to the CalfRail housing makes after-dark animal control easier. An acoustic signal reinforces calf conditioning to commence feeding.



Easy & comfortable calf training



Much, often, always fresh!

CALFRAIL – DEPLOYED BY THE FRANZ FAMILY



“The chief benefits of CalfRail are reduced workload, time savings, and punctual calf feeding four times a day. So we now need two hours less work with the calves per day on 45 - 50 calves. Using CalfRail it only takes one person to attend to the calves instead of two. We have been feeding our group-penned calves using a Förster-Technik automatic feeder since 2008, so it was easy to get going with the new system. After the single-pen phase you just re-assign the calves to the group on the automatic feeder.”

Michael Franz



Farm profile

Farm manager:
Michael Franz

Location, state:
Hof county, Bavaria

Farming type:
Dairy cattle, young cattle husbandry

Animal breed:
Fleckvieh and Holstein

Number of dairy cows:
220

Number of calves per year:
280

Calf feeding equipment:
One automatic feeder for one calf group
One automatic feeder for two CalfRail units

CalfRail in use since:
December 2013

CALFRAIL – DEPLOYED BY THE GÖGLER FAMILY

“It was no problem integrating CalfRail into the existing, older barn facility where our calves are raised. Training the calves on CalfRail is easy. Our calves are fed three times a day on CalfRail. After 4-6 weeks the calves are moved to the group pen. CalfRail means calf feeding is much less work than with buckets. All that hard physical labor is eliminated.”



Thomas Gögler

Farm profile

Farm manager:
Thomas Gögler

Location, state:
Legau, Bavaria

Farming type:
Dairy farming

Farm size:
40 ha

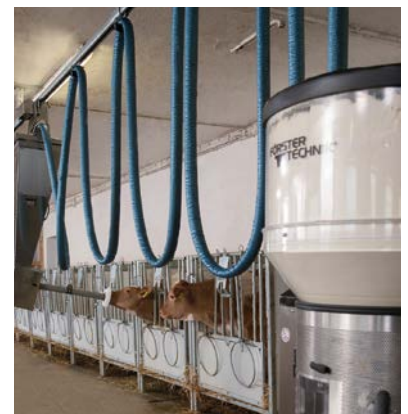
Animal breed:
**Braunvieh, Fleckvieh and
Holstein**

Number of dairy cows:
60

Number of calves per year:
65

Calf feeding equipment:
**One automatic feeder for
one calf group, one CalfRail**

CalfRail in use since:
Early 2014



CALFRAIL – DEPLOYED BY AGRAR-GENOSSEN-SCHAFT EG ZODEL



“After 25 years it was time to replace the calf feeder line. Previously the Igloo calves had been bucket-fed with whole milk three times a day. Changing the feeding regime over to powder and introducing the new device eliminated a lot of manual work. The best thing though is that the calves now get milk of even temperature in the winter. The 40FIT program enables us to raise calves applying the latest scientific insights. Changing the supplemental feed ration increased daily gain significantly in the raising period up to 100 days.”

Yvonne Günther and Agriculture Engineer (Dipl.-Ing. agr.) Kai-Uwe Eisenhut (management board member)



Farm profile

Assistant Facility Manager:
Yvonne Günther

Location, state:
Neißeau, Saxony

Farming type:
**Animal production
(dairy cattle + breeding)
Plant production**

Animal breed:
Holstein

Number of dairy cows:
360

Number of calves per year:
approx. 350

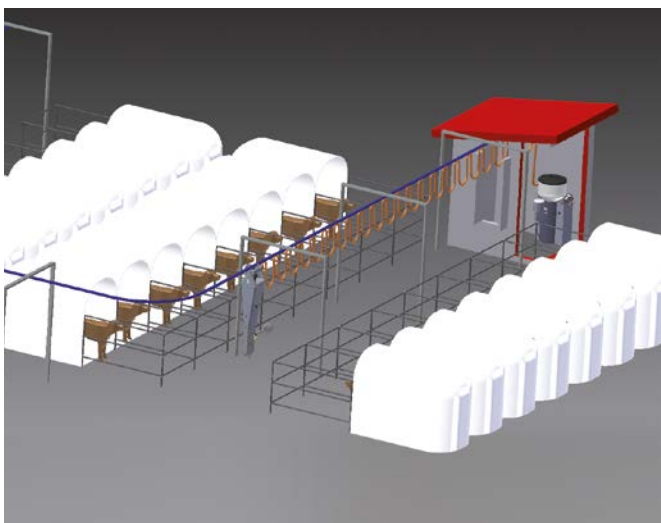
Calf feeding equipment:
**One automatic feeder for
one CalfRail unit
One automatic feeder incl.
4x pump unit for four calf groups**

CalfRail in use since:
July 2013

CALFRAIL OVERVIEW

Benefits of CalfRail

Healthy growth	Less work / optimum hygiene	Time savings	Effective in use
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Accelerated weight gains through up to eight feedings/day Healthy calves with freshly prepared, age-appropriate portions at optimum feed temperature 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Hard physical labor of lugging buckets eliminated Tedious routine manual tasks (bucket cleaning, etc.) eliminated Automatic cleaning before and after every feeding cycle Optional teat cleaning 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> The automatic feeder handles feed preparation, pumping and feeding itself. Flexible scheduling of daytime control tasks Faster training through mutual observation 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Individual and group pen housing in combination Controlled feeding through animal-specific consumption A single automatic feeder can serve 128 calves.



Takes curves easily !

CalfRail technical specs

Weight CalfRail unit:	approx. 40 kg
Power supply	230-240 V / 50-60 HZ
CalfRail units/device	4
Calves/CalfRail unit	32
Total calves	128

Förster-Technik GmbH

Gerwigstr. 25
 D-78234 Engen
 Tel.: +49 (0) 7733 9406-0
 Fax: +49 (0) 7733 9406-99
 E-mail: info@foerster-technik.de
 Internet: www.foerster-technik.de

Technical changes reserved (as of 11/2014).
 101953 CalfRail brochure English



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