

## Tube Feeding Did Not Reduce IgG Absorption from Colostrum in Penn State Study

Dec 19, 2011

Esophageal or “tube” feeders can be very helpful tools for providing calves with adequate amounts of colostrum as soon as possible after birth. Some farms use them as the primary method of feeding colostrum, while others tube only calves that fail to consume enough colostrum from a bottle. A recent study at Penn State was designed to compare total serum protein and IgG concentrations and apparent efficiency of absorption (AEA) in Holstein heifer calves when colostrum was fed by nipple bottle or esophageal feeder. Results of this study were published in the December 2011 issue of Professional Animal Scientist (Elizondo-Salazar et al.).

**See Table:** *"Description of treatments and blood parameters at 24 hours of age in calves fed colostrum by nipple bottle, esophageal feeder, or a combination of both"*