

Checklist for pre-calving tasks and supplies

Task	Due date	✓ Done	Notes
Calving area			
Wash, disinfect and bed calving area			
Calving gate working properly			
Prepare a calving kit – jack, leg ropes, gloves and lubricant			
Calf shed			
Wash, disinfect and bed calf shed			
Order tags			
Buy electrolytes			
Tagger, tags, navel disinfectant, stomach tube and straw in calf shed			
Have a fridge and freezer for storing colostrum			
Milking Parlour			
Service milking machine and change liners			
Buy teat dip and detergents			
Have tape and marking spray in the parlour pit			
Stock up on calcium and magnesium etc.			
Grazing			
Farm map with paddocks labelled on display			
Fence reels repaired or replaced or purchased and stored centrally			
Fences checked and repaired			
Temporary fences put up immediately after Urea is applied			
Urea/ slurry spread when appropriate			
Roadways cleaned and repaired			
Animal care			
Train in calf heifers to milking parlour			
Clip in calf heifer's tails			
Silage analysed for DMD, UFL, PDI and Trace elements			
Dry cow diet, feeding plan in place, and supplementation purchased if required			
Thin cows sorted & fed to gain ½ to 1 of a condition score			
Dry cow minerals ordered to compliment silage mineral results			
Treat dry cows for fluke and worms			
Vaccinate cows according to farm vaccination plan (calf scours etc.)			
Office			
Dedicated office space and tidy the area			
Stock up on supplies – pens, envelopes, stamps, folders, boxes etc			
Personal			
Have a spare set of wellies, wet gear			
Visit GP for a check-up			
Other			