**Water Tanks**

Water is the most important nutrient for general animal well-being. If water or water tanks are not clean, cattle may refuse to drink from them. Cattle that don’t use the water tank will be stressed, dehydrated and have decreased feed intakes. This is a preventable problem through the regular monitoring and cleaning of water tanks. The receiving period is often a critical time to ensure the adequate supply of fresh water as calves are often dehydrated when they arrive.

**Water Tank Protocol**

\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ will ensure that in the receiving pens there is sufficient water tank space and adequate water flow rate to supply the cattle’s daily water requirement.

Acclimation may require the addition of supplemental tanks to be located \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ of the pen.

Ensure that the water in the tank is accessible to calves. \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ will monitor all tanks in receiving pens to ensure a clean water tank and will fill them by \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ as needed.

\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ will make sure that water tanks are functional and filled with clean water before cattle are placed in any pen.

If necessary, \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ will \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ in the permanent water tanks to help new cattle find the water tank.

\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ will be responsible for cleaning all permanent tanks at least every two weeks and before a new set of cattle are placed in a pen.

A scrub brush with hard bristles should be utilized in a back and forth motion across all sides and bottom of the tank to remove debris buildup.

When the tank is properly clean the walls should be smooth. The color of the rim of the tank should be seen throughout the entire tank.

The scrub brush should be washed and returned to the maintenance area when finished cleaning tanks.

The hospital pen should have its own scrub brush and be cleaned last. The hospital pen water tanks should be cleaned at least \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_.

\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ will monitor water tank function and cleanliness daily by visually inspecting the tanks and reporting any problems immediately to \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_.