Regardless of supplying nutrition via liquid or solid means, expect foals to consume small amounts in weeks of age,” Freeman said. “A gradual adjustment from milk replacer sources to creep feeds is “Milk replacer sources can be replaced with creep feeds when the foal reaches three weeks to four weeks. Pelleted milk replacers are more easily supplied and have a longer shelf life once fed. Liquid sources to be more or less dilute. Milk replacers likely will suggest lower volume, as mixtures will supply nutrients in a denser formula. This amount relates to around 3 gallons of intake per day for a 100 pound newborn.” Intakes will vary, but expect around 25% of a foal’s body weight in liquid per day,” Freeman said. “Teaching Foals
"That’s not a good situation for any animal, let alone a newborn foal,” Puffinbarger said. Teaching Foals
Foals will have to be taught to consume milk from a bucket or bottle. Bucket feeding is more desirable as a foal will naturally consume small amounts very frequently throughout the day. Suggestions for�adapt ing a foal to bucket feeding are readily available. Commercial supply sources usually outline as part of the product’s label. Teaching Foals
"If a source of milk is needed before a mare’s milk formula can be obtained, 2% cow’s milk can be used,” Freeman said. “It is best to add a sugar source
"Occasionally there is a need for colostrum replacement. The foal and forms that the animal can use to sustain life. Without a dam’s supply of milk, the first several weeks of life require the foal to receive some type of milk replacement. Once a foal’s immune system has been established, attention turns to supplying nutrients in amounts
"Proper thawing is essential to maintain the integrity of the antibodies, so obtain advice from your veterinarian or knowledgeable farm manager,” Puffinbarger said. “If the foal doesn’t ingest colostrum within its first 12 hours of life, it is likely that the foal will have a compromised immune system, as the ability to ingest antibodies decreases after that time,” Freeman said. “The first concern with orphans, actually all foals, is to receive a source of antibodies.”

For foals orphaned at birth, colostrum replacement will have to be administered within the first several hours of life. Recommendations for colostrum replacement schedules and amounts will vary, emphasizing yet again the need to work with an equine veterinarian.

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