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## CALF PNEUMONIA

A range of **infectious agents**, together with **management and environmental stress factors** can all combine to produce severe outbreaks of pneumonia in young calves. Usually there is an **initial viral cause** which damages the respiratory tract and allows **secondary bacteria** to invade and exacerbate disease.

Respiratory viruses are common in the environment, however, they only become important when environmental and management factors come into play. If there are many stress factors involved and poor management and housing then the calves are unable to mount a sufficient immune response and as a result go down with pneumonia.

### HOUSING AND VENTILATION: IMPORTANT FACTS AND FIGURES

Humidity: Should be **<0.8**

Minimum cubic air space: **6m<sup>3</sup>** per calf <6 weeks  
**10m<sup>3</sup>** per calf <12 weeks (up to 100kg)  
**12-18m<sup>3</sup>** per calf (150-250kg)

Maximum number of calves per airspace: **60**

Operate an **all in – all out system** and never mix ages groups

### Minimum requirements for youngstock:

		<u>Floor Area</u>	<u>Air Space</u>
100kg	3 months	1.5m <sup>2</sup>	10.0m <sup>2</sup>
200kg	5 months	3.0m <sup>2</sup>	12.5m <sup>3</sup>
300kg	7 months	3.5m <sup>2</sup>	15.0m <sup>3</sup>