

What do you see?



Picture 1. This is a feeder purchased quite a few years ago. The calf manager had taken the time to keep the outside clean and shiny. Why bother? Milk powder is a great growth medium for bacteria and this “small” factor keeps growth down. The manager could do a better job of keeping the door clean and the area around the feeder a bit cleaner. Scrubbing once a day with a detergent solution, followed by a warm water rinse is advised. See anything else? That “beard” where the powder comes out above the mixing bowl should be removed at least daily. Remove the metal insert and clean at least weekly. This will ensure accurate powder delivery. See the calfblog under “tips” heading and autofeeder maintenance for more details.



See the hoses coming off the mixer jar and that little rubber band? The hoses should be threaded through this rubber band when they are changed. Why? If the hoses touch the screen door when it's closed, this interferes with accurate measurement of delivered powder and detracts from mixing accuracy.

Little things can add up, particularly in the summer. Paying attention to details keeps the feeder operating at peak efficiency and effectiveness.