

Tips from Farmers: Birthing Remedies

Farmers share their tips and experiences using homeopathy during calving - just as relevant for other livestock.

Top calving remedies:

- Weak contractions - **Caulophyllum**.
- Nervous 1st timer - **Aconite** and **Gelsemium**
- Post birth - **Arnica** routinely to cow and calf, sometimes **Bellis Perennis** to cow as well.
- Traumatic Labour - **Arnica**, **Hypericum**, **Bellis Perennis**.
- Haemorrhage - **Aconite**, **Ipecac**, **Phosphorus**
- Calf not breathing - **Aconite**, **Camphor**
- Calf fading - **Carbo veg**, **Laurocerasus**
- Calf Stillborn - **Ignatia** to the cow.

'Cimicifuga (Black Cohosh) can be a useful calving remedy especially at the beginning of labour when the cow is shivering and will not settle down. I've used it for retained placenta successfully too.'



Two cases of Caulophyllum:

*'When I found one cow, she had obviously been straining for a while, the calf's nose was swollen, about 4 times normal size. It was all I could do to get my fingers around the head, let alone get in to be able to massage the vulva, she was very tight, so it was really surprising how fast the **caulophyllum** worked. It couldn't have been more than 10 minutes from first spraying and then coming back with the calving aid when the calf came out easily, no tearing or damage to either of them and the heifer was up within 10 minutes.'*

*'I was home alone one night when I found a heifer struggling to calve. The calf's head was very swollen and it had bitten its tongue. The heifer was exhausted and contractions were weak. There was no way I could calve her on my own and visions of ropes, vet, cesarean and a dead calf raced through my mind. I gave her one dose of **Caulophyllum** and in less than a minute she had a really strong contraction and I was able to gently guide the calf out. The placenta followed immediately. I gave both 3 doses of **arnica**. Both of them were looking so well the next morning. Amazing!'*

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