

Identification & records

Vertical (dam to calf) transmission is a real risk with BVD, IBR and indeed Johne's disease. It is crucial that each calf has its dam accurately recorded when it is born. It makes tracing back much, much easier.

Record the date of entry of all animals to your herd.

Record all deaths – even stillborn calves and calves which die soon after birth. Nobody can remember every detail for every cow for every year. Some diseases, especially BVD, can cause infected cows to be serial offenders, losing several successive calves.

If a calf gets colostrum from another source than its birth dam, record it.

For embryo transfer calves, it is the birth dam and not the genetic dam who is important. Record it.

Keep all copies of laboratory reports

