When to Intervene: Ensuring Colostrum Consumption After Calving A Guide for Beef Cattle Producers **Normal Calving Dystocia** (Calving without assistance) (Calving with assistance, or twin calves) **Vigorous Calf Suckling Response** • Stands within 1-2 hours after birth (Start checking 10 minutes after birth) • Consumes colostrum within 4 hours after birth • Demonstrates good bonding with Strong < Weak dam (nuzzling, following, dam engaged) • Dam does not reject calf **Monitor** calf closely for the next 2-3 hours YES Colostrum No Intervention consumption within 4 hours Calf is seen suckling from dam within 6-8 hours from birth **Assistance Required** • Restrain dam and assist calf in suckling • If unsuccessful, milk cow and feed colostrum [5% of birthweight (typically between 65 – 90 lbs for commercial No further Consult a Angus cross breed calves), or about 2 liters/quarts] to calf via nipple bottle (or action veterinarian tube feeder if calf will not suckle from and/or repeat colostrum • If unable to milk cow, feed warmed commercial colostrum replacer or

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feeding

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frozen colostrum (thawed).