

Livestock and Natural Resources

**Cell phones, what were we thinking? I've never been too fond of talking on the phone, Anyway. Sometimes it's nice to go outside and get away from the phone, so WHY take one with you? Granted it's been nice to have cell phones to keep track of the teenagers' in my life, in the past. They can be useful to find out when the spouse will be home, but when they don't answer it's quite frustrating. I will have to admit the younger generation is addicted to them. Taking away the cell phone is now worse punishment than taking away their keys! Maybe I do like cell phones?**

**Bawling calves. Heard any lately? There's been considerable research on the best method to wean calves. Complete removal, fence line weaning and more. Whatever method you choose, it should best suit your needs and minimize weight loss, sickness and stress.**

**Weaning calves is mostly about common sense. Provide palatable grass hay, start them off slowly on grain, if you want them to gain. Provide salt and mineral and keep a watchful eye, for sickness. Pre-weaning vaccinations are preferred. If not done then, vaccinate the day of weaning. Your vet can help you with your health program, but usually they are given Blackleg, IBR, BVD and RSV. The vet might suggest de-worming, lice and grub control.**

**Don't mix cattle from different sources, if you can help it. Weaning is a big stress on calves. Too bad they don't have cell phones to call their mommas.**