

HANDRAISING EXOTIC ANIMALS

WESTERN PLAINS ZOO

GENERAL DIRECTIVES:

* All neonates (newborn) to be given colostrum for the first 24 - 36 hours where possible.

Bovids, cervids, camelids, hippos etc. (order: Artiodactyla) to receive bovine colostrum.

Equids, tapir, rhinos etc. (order: Perissodactyla) to receive equine colostrum.

* All milk formulas to be gradually increased to 100% strength concentrations as recommended. i.e. Commence at 25% - 50% concentrations supplemented with vytrate, staged up by 25% at 24 hour intervals until 100% is reached. Use pre-boilded water to make up formulas.

* Young to be fed 12 - 20% of their bodyweight in milk formula each day, divided equally between feeds. If innadequate volumes of formula are suckled then the neonate is to be tube fed until intake is adequate from the bottle.

* Number of feeds per day is determined by species.

* Weigh initially and weight gain/loss to be monitored at least weekly.

* Routine is extremely important. Feeding times must be set and adhered to. It is usually better for one person to initiate feeding and to introduce other feeders as soon as possible to avoid neonates imprinting on one person.

* All young need to be stimulated to urinate and defaecate after each feed by gentle patting - never rub. Ensure they are left clean afterwards.

* Hygiene is of great importance. Bottles and teats need to be washed thoroughly and soaked in sterilising solution (Halasept). Utensils are to be rinsed with pre-boiled water before use. Face wipes are not shared with anus wipes etc. Cloths to be washed daily. All young to be left with a clean mouth after the feed (includes chin, lips etc.)

* Milk temperature is to be fed at body temperature.

* Young are to be kept warm and away from draughts.

* Offer shallow water and a variety of foodstuffs as soon as appropriate.

* Provide excercise daily.

* Record all data on milk feed charts, include weights, teats used, formula consumed and anything notable etc.

CANIDAE

CAPE HUNTING DOG, MANED WOLF & DINGO

MILK FORMULA

Divitelact at normal concentrations. (offer 20-25% body weight)

Can add Biolac canola oil concentrate at 8-10 gms per 100 gms and/or Biolac whey protein concentrate at 5 gms per 100 mls.

BIRTH WEIGHT AVERAGE

Maned Wolf = 300 - 400 gms, Cape Hunting Dog = 300 gms , Dingo =

TEAT

Wombat or puppy teats.

TIMES FED

Initially 2 - 4 hourly. 4 hourly if amounts consumed are adequate.

WEAN

Start from 4 - 6 weeks, Maned Wolves wean off milk themselves around 9 weeks.

PROBLEMS ENCOUNTERED

Problems may occur with introducing hand-raised young at too old an age to be accepted by the Cape Hunting Dog pack.

Strong sucking responses.

Inadequate exercise can cause constipation.

Varying degrees of alopecia.

REFERENCES

VQC Handraising Canids, Handraising Maned Wolf and Handraising Dingo file.

'Salta' and 'Jatai' 1993, 'Lujan' and 'Matanza' 1995, 'Montezuma' 1996, Post Mortem file.

'Ytambey' & 'Chaco' 1996, VQC Maned Wolf Treatment file.

(SEPTEMBER 1996)

BOVIDAE

BISON, DOMESTIC (SCOTTISH HIGHLAND) CALVES

MILK FORMULA

Full Cream Milk Powder @ 150 gms/Lt, add 1 cap full of Enervol/Lt.

BIRTH WEIGHT AVERAGE

Bison 20 - 25 kgs (P.M.s and AAZK Zoo Infant Development Notebook, ZIDN)
Domestic calves depend on the breed.

TEAT

Beige calf teats, stage up to Black calf teats later.
Buckets can be used for Scottish Highland calves.

TIMES FED

3 times a day. (8.30 am, 1 pm & 5 pm.)

WEAN

Bison - X 2 @ 6 weeks, Wean @ 17 weeks.(ZIDN)
S. H. calves - X 2 @ 10 weeks, X 1 @ 12 weeks, Wean @ 17 weeks.

PROBLEMS ENCOUNTERED

Week old young Bison are very aggressive to people, needed three people to hold down initially.

REFERENCES

‘Shamus’ D190, North American Bison Treatment files..

(SEPTEMBER 1996)

BOVIDAE

BANTENG

MILK FORMULA

Divitelact @ 150 gms/Lt.
+ 1 tablespoon Yoghurt/Lt.

BIRTH WEIGHT AVERAGE

12 - 20 kgs.(ZIDN)

TEAT

Beige Calf teat, can be staged up to Black calf teats.

TIMES FED

3 times a day. (8.30 am, 12 pm & 4 pm.)

WEAN

x 2 @ 15 weeks.

PROBLEMS ENCOUNTERED

Will scour in Full Cream Milk.

REFERENCES

VQC Handraising Bovidae File.

(SEPTEMBER 1996)

BOVIDAE

WATER BUFFALO

MILK FORMULA

Full Cream Milk Powder @ 150 gms/Lt. add 1 cap full Enervol per Lt.

‘Calf Pab’ was tried but resulted in scouring.

BIRTH WEIGHT AVERAGE

32 kgs.

TEAT

Beige calf teat on bottle.

Specialised Water Buffalo teat from Biolac.

TIMES FED

3 times a day. (8.30 am, 12 pm & 4 pm.)

WEAN

X 3 @ 8 weeks, Wean @ 17 weeks.

PROBLEMS ENCOUNTERED

Problems in accepting beige calf teats and holding down of animal to be fed.
(probably due to age when pulled.)

REFERENCES

Albino calves ‘Eugenie’ and ‘Jane’ 1990 in VQC Water Buffalo Departure file.
‘Kym-Lee’ 1992, ‘Nellie’ 1993 etc. in Bovidae raising file.
Nursery Feeding Charts.

(SEPTEMBER 1996)

BOVIDAE

ELAND

MILK FORMULA

Fawn Formula: 150 gms Full Cream Milk Powder made up to 1 Lt.

Add 150 gms Thickened Cream,
2 egg yolks,
1 tbsp. natural yoghurt,
10 mls Enervol.

BIRTH WEIGHT AVERAGE

30 - 40 kgs.

TEAT

Beige Calf teats or Biolac Antelope teats.
Can stage to Black calf teats later on.

TIMES FED

4 times a day.(8.30 am, 12 pm, 4 pm & 9 pm.) for the first 7 - 10 days, then 3 times.

WEAN

X 2 @ approx. 6 weeks.
X 1 @ approx. 10 weeks.
Total wean @ 13 weeks.

PROBLEMS ENCOUNTERED

Finicky, inconsistent drinkers. Humanising and leaving re-introduction to the herd too late can cause problems. ('Tasha' was 16 mths old, ostrasized by the herd and died from chronic debilitation and bronchopneumonia)
Introduce to herd while still bottle feeding.

REFERENCES

'Tasha' D287 VQC Eland Post Mortem file.
'Hand-feeding an orphaned Scimitar-Horned Oryx calf after its integration with the herd.' pp. 243-247, International Zoo Yearbook 23.
VQC Handraising Bovidae file.

(SEPTEMBER 1996.)

BOVIDAE

SITATUNGA

MILK FORMULA

Denkovit was used at Taronga. Suggest WPZ could try Fawn Formula or Full Cream Milk Powder @ 150 gms?Lt. + 10 mls Enervol.

BIRTH WEIGHT AVERAGE

4 kgs (ZIDN).

TEAT

Suggest Beige Calf teat or Biolac Antelope teat.

TIMES FED

Taronga started on 5 times a day, (6, 10 am, 2, 6 & 10 pm.) but the animal was pulled at two weeks old when its mother died.

Suggest 4 times a day and decrease as amounts increase, to 3 times at 7 - 14 days.

WEAN

PROBLEMS ENCOUNTERED

None mentioned.

REFERENCES

VQC Handraising Sitatunga file.

(SEPTEMBER 1996.)

BOVIDAE

SCIMITAR-HORNED ORYX

MILK FORMULA

Natural milk composition is very similar to Eland milk.

Suggest Fawn Formula: 150 gms Full Cream Milk Powder made up to 1 Lt.

ADD 2 egg yolks
150 mls Thickened Cream
1 tbsp Natural yoghurt
10 mls Enervol

BIRTH WEIGHT AVERAGE

2.5 - 12 kgs (ZIDN).

TEAT

Suggest Beige Calf teat or Biolac Antelope teat.

TIMES FED

Suggest 4 times a day and decrease to 3 times a day as volume increases. (7 - 14 days.)

WEAN

PROBLEMS ENCOUNTERED

None raised at WPZ but problems occur with re-introduction, as with Eland. It is suggested as with larger antelope that as soon as they are running up to people to be fed that they be integrated to the herd.

REFERENCES

‘Handfeeding an orphaned scimitar-Horned Oryx calf after its integration with the herd.’ pp. 244-247, International Zoo Yearbook 23, 1983.
VQC Handraising Scimitar-Horned Oryx file.

(SEPTEMBER 1996.)

BOVIDAE

NILGAI

MILK FORMULA

Fawn formula - 150 gms Full Cream Milk Powder made up to 1 Lt.

ADD 2 Egg yolks,
150 mls Thickened Cream,
1 tbsp Natural yoghurt,
10 mls Enervol.

BIRTH WEIGHT AVERAGE

3.5 - 5 kgs (ZIDN).

TEAT

Beige calf teat or Biolac Antelope teat.

TIMES FED

Start 4 X, if going well have reduced to 3 X at 3 days.

WEAN

X 2 @ 12 weeks,
X 1 @ 18 weeks,
Wean @ 26 weeks.

PROBLEMS ENCOUNTERED

It is suggested that as with eland and oryx, orphans are integrated into the herd at an early age (e.g. 2 weeks) whilst continuing hand feeding, to prevent rejectin from the herd at an older age.

REFERENCES

'Tahnee' 1988, 'Tabatha' 1992, 'Kadiri' 1993, in VQC Nilgai Post Mortem File.
'Nana' 1993/94, Nilgai treatment file.
VQC Handraising Nilgai file.

Note; San Diego Zoo handrear all their Nilgai calves.

(SEPTEMBER 1996.)

BOVIDAE

INDIAN ANTELOPE

MILK FORMULA

Divetelact @ 150 gms/Lt.

Fawn Formula was used but cataracts developed in one calf so was discontinued for this species.

BIRTH WEIGHT AVERAGE

2.7 - 4.1 kgs (ZIDN).

TEAT

Beige calf teat. Can start on wombat teats.

TIMES FED

X 4 for the first 7 - 10 days, then X 3 (8.30 am, 12 & 4 pm.).

WEAN

X 2 @ 4 weeks,
X 1 @ 12 weeks,
Wean @ 17 weeks.

PROBLEMS ENCOUNTERED

Take a little longer to settle down, especially if pulled more than even 1 hour old.

REFERENCES

'Louise' 1985, 'Jeremy' 1991, 'Cleo' 1992, VQC Indian Antelope Treatment file.
VQC Handraising Indian Antelope file.
Nursery Feeding Charts file.

(SEPTEMBER 1996.)

BOVIDAE

BARBARY SHEEP

MILK FORMULA

Full Cream Milk Powder @ 100 or 150 gms/Lt. add 1 cap full Enervol per Lt.

BIRTH WEIGHT AVERAGE

2 - 3 kgs (less for some twins)

TEAT

Can start on Wombat teats then Beige Lamb or Calf teats.

TIMES FED

X 4 for the first 7 days then X 3.

WEAN

Wean @ 14 weeks.

PROBLEMS ENCOUNTERED

They like to climb and in a walk-thru situation there have been problems with them jumping into strollers with children etc.

Reported to be flighty and hard to settle down but we have not had that trouble here (quite the opposite). They act very much like climbing domestic lambs and could be integrated into the herd at an early age whilst still bottle feeding.

REFERENCES

'Jeb' 1994 and 'Conan' 1995 VQC Barbary Sheep Treatment file.

Nursery Milk feed Charts.

VQC Handraising Barbary Sheep file.

(SEPTEMBER 1996.)

BOVIDAE

GIRAFFE

MILK FORMULA

Calf formula, Full Cream Milk Powder @ 150 gms/Lt. with 10 mls Enervol.
Denkovit @ 100 gms/Lt. + 1 ml Vit.A, B, D, E, C. (infant drops) in milk once a day.

BIRTH WEIGHT AVERAGE

'Gerry' 63 kgs, 'Opala' 79 kgs.

TEAT

20 X 2.5 cm Biolac teat.
Horse teats if desperate.

TIMES FED

Initially 5 times (6, 10 am, 2, 6 & 10 pm.)

WEAN

33 weeks/9 months (ZIDN).

PROBLEMS ENCOUNTERED

Restraint of young giraffe require 3 - 4 people in the first couple of days to bottle or tube feed.

REFERENCES

'The hand-rearing of a Giraffe (*Giraffa camelo pardalis*) at Taronga Zoo.' Jane Burgess and David Blyde.
VQC Publications file.
VQC Handrearing giraffe file.

(SEPTEMBER 1996.)

CERVIDAE

CHITAL, SAMBAR, RED, FALLOW, WHITE-TAIL DEER

MILK FORMULA

Fawn formula - 150 gms Full Cream Milk Powder made up to 1 Lt.

ADD 2 Egg yolks,
150 mls Thickened Cream,
1 tbsp Natural yoghurt,
10 mls Enervol.

BIRTH WEIGHT AVERAGE

Chital - 1.6 - 1.8 kgs.

Fallow - 3.5 - 4.5 kgs.

Sambar - 5 - 9 kgs.

TEAT

Small Deer (e.g. Chital) can start on Wombat teats to Biolac Deer teats, Beige Calf teats for larger deer (e.g. Sambar), Beige Lamb teats don't seem to be accepted well. Larger deer can be taught to lap from a bowl or a bucket.

TIMES FED

X 3 for Fallow and Reds, X 4 for weak and maybe Sambar for the first 3 days.

WEAN

Fallow/Chital X 2 @ 8 weeks, X 1 @ 10 weeks, Wean @ 12 weeks.

PROBLEMS ENCOUNTERED

Chital deer can be difficult to get started (if pulled hours old) and may get attached to one person.

It is a good idea to get one person to start fawns off and introduce other people as soon as possible.

REFERENCES

Sambar deer 'Millie' 1984, 'Connie' 1990, 'Maude' 1991, VQC Sambar Deer Treatment files/Nursery Feeding Charts file.

Chital Deer 'Shaun' 1987 VQC P.M. file. 'Delhi' 1989, 'Squirt' 1990 VQC Treatment file.

White-tail Deer 'Gawthorne' 1989 VQC P.M. file.

VQC Handraising Deer file.

(SEPTEMBER 1996.)

CERVIDAE

WAPITI

MILK FORMULA

Fawn formula - 150 gms Full Cream Milk Powder made up to 1 Lt.

ADD 2 Egg yolks,
150 mls Thickened Cream,
1 tbsp Natural yoghurt,
10 mls Enervol.

BIRTH WEIGHT AVERAGE

11 - 13 kgs (Altai ZIDN).

TEAT

Beige Calf teat, Biolac Antelope teat, may lap from a bowl or a bucket.

TIMES FED

X 4 reduced to X 3 as soon as accepting the bottle.

WEAN

PROBLEMS ENCOUNTERED

Can be difficult if pulled at an older age. 'Pickle' was not doing well on mum and was pulled at approx. 6 weeks old and never adjusted well to hand raising..

REFERENCES

'Pickle' 1993 VQC Treatment file.
*See VQC Handraising Deer file.

(SEPTEMBER 1996.)

CAMELIDAE

DROMEDARY CAMEL, GUANACO & ALPACA

MILK FORMULA

200 gms Full Cream Milk Powder made up to 1 Lt.

ADD 2 Egg yolks,
200 mls Thickened Cream,
1 tbsp Natural yoghurt,
20 mls Enervol.

BIRTH WEIGHT AVERAGE

Camel 35 - 40 kgs, Guanaco 9 - 10kgs, Alpaca 6 - 16 kgs.

TEAT

Beige Calf teat initially, may be put on a Black Calf teat on a bucket.

TIMES FED

X 4 first 10 - 14 days then to X 3.

WEAN

Camel and Guanaco X 2 @ 5 - 6 weeks, X 1 @ 16 weeks, Wean @ 28 weeks.

PROBLEMS ENCOUNTERED

Scouring due to a tendency to eat anything and everything offered by the public.

REFERENCES

'Tenaj' 1988, 'Sahara 1990 & 'Chad' 1990 VQC Camel Departure file.
VQC Handraising Camels file.

(SEPTEMBER 1996.)

HIPPOPOTAMIDAE

HIPPOPOTAMUS

MILK FORMULA

Divitelact at 150 gms/Lt.

397 gms of Denkavit with 12 eggs and 2.1 Litres of water has been used successfully.

BIRTH WEIGHT AVERAGE

30 - 35 kgs (27 kgs at Melb.)

TEAT

A number of teats have been tried unsuccessfully.

The best method has been to put your hand in a bucket with the calf sucking on you fingers. This could also be tried using a sponge instead of the fingers.

TIMES FED

WEAN

?7 - 8 months.

PROBLEMS ENCOUNTERED

Hippo milk is similar to Cows milk but lactose intolerance has been noted.

Young will only defaecate when they are standing in water.

REFERENCES

VQC Handraising Hippopotamus file.

'First year of a handreared hippopotamus at Portland Zoo' International Zoo Yearbook, Vol. 18 (1978) p.p. 211 - 213.

Weber, E. International Zoo Yearbook, Vol. 10. p.p. 153 - 154.

(OCTOBER 1996)_

EQUIDAE

ZEBRA, PERSIAN ONAGER & PRZEWALSKI HORSE.

MILK FORMULA

Divitelact at 150 gms/Lt.

AVERAGE BIRTH WEIGHT

Persian Onager 28 kgs, Grants Zebra 11 - 14 kgs, Przewalski Horse 20 - 22 kgs (ZIDN).

TIMES FED

?

TEAT

Horse teat.

WEAN

Chapmans @ 9 months (ZIDN).

PROBLEMS ENCOUNTERED

None known definitely but normal compositions may be need to be found to determine if additives are needed.e.g. Farex. Horse milk contains a relatively high percentage of carbohydrates.

REFERENCES

None at WPZ.

(OCTOBER 1996.)

RHINOCEROTIDAE

WHITE & BLACK RHINOCEROS

MILK FORMULA

Lactogen (human milk replacer) is very close in composition and was used for the first two weeks at London Zoo.

Suggest we use Divetelact at normal concentrations. (150 gms/Lt.)

AVERAGE BIRTH WEIGHT

Black Rhinoceros 20 - 40 kgs, Southern White Rhinoceros 44 kgs.(65 kgs ZIDN)
East African Black Rhino 28 kgs (ZIDN).

TIMES FED

5 x 600 mls (Detroit)

TEAT

Beige Calf teats or Horse teats.

1 x 3 inch teat (Detroit)

WEAN

15 months.

Southern White Rhino @ 18 months.(ZIDN)

PROBLEMS ENCOUNTERED

Low weight gains in handraised young compared to mother raised calves. London Zoo added extra lactose, casein and lactalbumen.

Detroit Zoo recomend a companionship animal.

REFERENCES

VQC library 'The nutrition and growth of a hand-reared low birthweight Black Rhinoceros *Diceros bicornis* during her first six months', American Assoc. Zoo Vets. Proceedings Oct. 14 - 19 th 1989.

VQC handraising Rhinos file.

'Handrearing a Black Rhino at Detroit Zoo', Int. Zoo Yearbook, Vol. 6, p.p. 87 - 90.

'Handrearing a White Rhino', Int. Zoo Yearbook, Vol. 9, p.p. 103 - 104.

and MORE!

(OCTOBER 1996.)

TAPIRIDAE

TAPIR

MILK FORMULA

Evaporated milk diluted by half with pre-boiled water.
Suggest try Divetelact.

BIRTH WEIGHT AVERAGE

11 kgs (ZIDN).

TEAT

Beige calf teat.

TIMES FED

Suggest 6 feeds (6, 9 am, 12 , 3, 6 & 9 pm.) 7 - 10 days, or until volume is adequate.

WEAN

PROBLEMS ENCOUNTERED

Need to be bathed in warm water 3 - 4 times a day to stimulate defaecation.

REFERENCES

VQC Tapir handraising file. (Larry 1989)
Normal weight gains in Tapir Departure file, 'Bronco'(WPZ born and naturally raised.
'Milk analysis of the South American Tapir.', pp. 157 - 158, International Zoo Yearbook vii. (also in Tapir handraising file.)

(SEPTEMBER 1996.)

ELEPHANTIDAE

AFRICAN ELEPHANT

MILK FORMULA

Elephant milk has less protein and fat than cow's milk. Elephant milk is very similar to Human milk. The ones most commonly used are Enfamil and Enfalac. These contain coconut milk as their fat source, it is a good source of capric acid which accounts for 29.4% of the total fatty acid composition of elephant milk.

BIRTH WEIGHT AVERAGE

90 - 120 kgs.

TEAT

Calf teats have been used as well as hoses attached to bottles. The hose should be 2.5 - 5 cm. in diameter and long enough to pass well back into the pharynx. The formula is slowly syringed until the calf swallows.

TIMES FED

2 - 3 hourly.(Asian ref. X 7 @ 8 weeks, X 6 @ 5 months.)

WEAN

PROBLEMS ENCOUNTERED

Feeding routine should not vary and only one person should be in charge of the feeding. Socially demanding.

REFERENCES

VQC Handraising Elephants file.
San Diego Zoo and Calgary Zoo, USA.

(OCTOBER 1996.)

FELIDAE

CHEETAH, TIGER, ASIATIC LION

MILK FORMULA

Divetelact and Animalact are suggested as the best formulas to use at normal concentrations. Can add Biolac whey protein concentrate at 5 gms/100mls.

BIRTH WEIGHT AVERAGE

Cheetah 400 - 500gms, Asiatic Lion 1.2 - 1.5 kgs, Bengal Tiger 1 kg.(ZIDN)

TEAT

Wombat teat. San Diego Zoo use a human premmie nipple.

TIMES FED

2 - 4 hourly, 4 hourly if amounts consumed are adequate.

WEAN

Start from 4 - 6 weeks, some carnivores will wean themselves off milk around 9 weeks.

PROBLEMS ENCOUNTERED

'Kibo' (1986) had a number of problems mainly due to diet changes but was re-introduced with his litter mates with relatively few problems. Reintroduction to the group is advised early enough for the adults to still recognise the signs of cub helplessness (i.e. mantles in cheetah.)

REFERENCES

VQC Handraising Felids file.
'Kibo' (1986) VQC Cheetah Departure file.
Cheetah cub rearing protocol is filed in the main office.(San Diego Zoo use this method successfully.)
'Mushara' 1996 VQC Cheetah Post Mortem file.

(OCTOBER 1996.)

CAVIDAE

CAPYBARA & PATAGONIAN CAVY

MILK FORMULA

Divetelact and Animalact are suggested as the best formulas to use at normal concentrations. Can add Biolac whey protein concentrate if volumes are inadequate.

BIRTH WEIGHT AVERAGE

Capybara 1.5 - 2.5 kgs, Patagonian Cavy 400 - 500gms.

TEAT

Wombat teat or lapping.

TIMES FED

X 5 for the first 3 days then X 4.

WEAN

X 3 @ 2 weeks, X 2 @ 4 weeks, X 1 @ 5 weeks.

Wean at about 6 weeks.(Can wean as early as 4 weeks naturally.)

PROBLEMS ENCOUNTERED

Pat. cavies are usually cold from mismothering.

Capybaras at WPZ were euthenaised due to Congenital Tremors Syndrome or Periparturiant Hypoxia.

Sharp teeth when mistaking skin for teats!

REFERENCES

VQC Handraising Patagonian Cavies/Capybaras file.

'Chico', 'Tierra' and 'Fuego' (Pat. cavies 1996) VQC treatment file.

'Hand-rearing Patagonian Cavies or maras at Lincoln Park, Chicago' International Zoo Yearbook.(in VQC Handraising file.)

D5, D6 & D7 (Capybaras 1988) VQC Capybara Post Mortem file.

(OCTOBER 1996.)

SUIDAE

COLLARED PECCARY

MILK FORMULA

BIRTH WEIGHT AVERAGE

600 - 700 gms.(ZIDN)

TEAT

TIMES FED

WEAN

PROBLEMS ENCOUNTERED

REFERENCES

(OCTOBER 1996.)

HYLOBATIDAE

WHITE-HANDED GIBBON & SIAMANG

MILK FORMULA

BIRTH WEIGHT AVERAGE

Siamang - 560 gms(100 gms ZIDN)

White Handed Gibbon - @ 65 days 700 gms.(ZIDN).

TEAT

TIMES FED

WEAN

PROBLEMS ENCOUNTERED

Aggression to people. "Tea-Party Chimp" syndrome.

REFERENCES

VQC Handraising Primates file.

(OCTOBER 1996.)

CEBIDAE

SPIDER & PATAS MONKEY

MILK FORMULA

Similac at Brookfield Zoo has been used successfully. Suggest Divetelact at 150 gms/lt.

BIRTH WEIGHT AVERAGE

Spiders 440 - 600 gms.
Patras @ 60 days 900 gms.

TEAT

Premmie Human baby teat or Wombat teat.

TIMES FED

2 - 3 hrly, X 6 @ 3 weeks, X 5 @ 7 weeks, X 4 @ 11 weeks.

WEAN

X 1 @ 34 weeks (8½ months)

PROBLEMS ENCOUNTERED

Reintroductions into the group need to be carefully supervised due to aggression, possessiveness and inacceptance from the adults.

REFERENCES

VQC Handraising Primates file.
'Handrearing and reintroduction of a Black handed Spider Monkey *Ateles geoffroyi* at Brookfield Zoo, Chicago.' Vince Sodara, Int. Zoo Year Book (1993) Vol. 32, p.p. 224-228.

(OCTOBER 1996.)

LEMURIDAE

RING TAIL & BLACK AND WHITE RUFFED LEMUR

MILK FORMULA

BIRTH WEIGHT AVERAGE

Ring Tails 69 - 122 gms.(ZIDN)

TEAT

Wombat teat.

TIMES FED

WEAN

Start at 4 weeks, Wean @ 16 weeks.(ZIDN)

PROBLEMS ENCOUNTERED

REFERENCES

VQC Handraising Lemurs file.

(OCTOBER 1996.)

VIVERIDAE

MEERKAT

MILK FORMULA

Goats milk and Enfalac have been used successfully. Suggest Divetelact at 150 gms/lt.

BIRTH WEIGHT AVERAGE

25 - 40 gms.

TEAT

Flying Fox or Wombat teat.

TIMES FED

3 hrly for 2 days, X 4 @ 7 days, from 8 weeks X 2

WEAN

From 8 weeks.

PROBLEMS ENCOUNTERED

They imprint readily making reintroductions to the group difficult, especially for singletons.

REFERENCES

VQC Handraising Meerkats file.

'Slender tailed Meerkats in captivity' Adrian Fowler, RATEL.

(OCTOBER 1996.)

RATITES

OSTRICH, RHEA & EMU

FORMULA

Ostrich - Commercial ostrich starter/grower pellets and crumbles.

Rhea - add small amounts of insectivore mix and mealworms.

Emus - mix □ lettuce, □ small dice carrot and □ ostrich starter or turkey crumbles.

Add 1 tsp. (5 gms) Calcium powder to each 100 gms of feed.

BIRTH WEGHT AVERAGE

Ostrich 700 - 900gms.

Rhea 300 - 400gms.

Emu 200 - 400 gms?.

TOOLS

Feed in a shallow dish and initially scatter on ground. Peck with fingers, pens etc. to stimulate pecking.

TIMES FED

Offer food during all daylight hours with a shallow dish of water, remove water at night.

WEAN

PROBLEMS ENCOUNTERED

Impactions of grass, hay etc.

Pecking but not swallowing or selectively