



The Best Way to Prepare Your Cow for High Milk Yield!

Description

For any dairy farmer, **low milk yield** is the most dreaded reality. Yet, it's widespread across Kenya, where the average daily milk yield for top breeds like Friesians and Ayrshires is only **7.8 litres per cow**. The big culprit? **High feed costs**.

But what if your cow could produce **20+ litres a day**? Let's show you how to make that possible.

Phase 1: It All Starts at Conception

A cow's milk yield journey begins **long before calving** at conception. The **heifer's body weight** at this point matters a lot.

- She should be **2/3 of her mature weight** (e.g., 350 kg if the mother was 500 kg at calving).
- Body condition affects fertility and future performance.

Phase 2: Drying Off (8 Weeks Before Calving)

Drying off is the **rest period** for the cow to recharge before milk production begins again.

- **Stop milking.** Use dry cow therapy to prevent mastitis.
- **Switch up the diet:**
 - Use more hay and straw
 - Reduce silage by 40%
 - Cut dairy meal to max 3 kg/day
 - Use **low calcium minerals** (dry lick with ~5% calcium)

Phase 3: Steaming Up (Last 18 Days Before Calving)

This is **not** the whole 2 months—just the last 18 days before calving.

- Provide **high protein** feeds
 - Increase dairy meal to **5 kg/day**
 - Continue using **dry mineral lick**
 - Add **Tranzpro®** 2 tablespoons daily
 - This boosts udder development and transfers vital nutrients to the calf
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Phase 4: Transition Cow Management (After Calving)

This is when milk production kicks in—but the cow eats less while needing more.

- Adjust nutrition **immediately after calving**:
 - Increase silage (up to 20 kg/day) or fresh fodder (70 kg/day)
 - Increase dairy meal based on yield
 - Reintroduce **high calcium mineral lick**
 - Continue **Tranzpro®** for **36 more days**

When done right, expect:

- No retained placenta
 - No milk fever
 - No ketosis
 - Early return to heat (around day 45)
 - Peak milk by **day 90**
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The Takeaway

The secret to high milk yield isn't one trick—it's a **series of well-managed phases**:

1. Get the body weight right at conception
2. Dry off properly
3. Steam up effectively
4. Transition with care

Nail these, and your cow will reward you with **top-tier production**.

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