

# BOTTLE FEEDING ANIMALS

Many visitors have suggested that they would like to bottle feed our young animals. As high standards of animal welfare are our top priority we don't offer this activity for the following reason:

We don't agree with the practice of separating very young animals from their mothers so they can be artificially reared. This causes anguish to both mother and baby and leads to an increase in ill health for the babies.

We aim to let all our animals rear their young in the most natural way possible. Like all mammals, lambs and kids thrive best when nurtured by their mothers. Sometimes, when we have triplets or quads, we may have to offer the babies some supplementary bottle fed milk because their mothers may not be able to produce enough milk to feed them all. Very occasionally problems arise at birth, which result in orphans that will also need to be bottle fed by farm staff.

The only animals at Acorn Farm which you will normally see artificially reared on milk are our calves. Most calves are a by-product of the dairy industry and are usually separated from their mothers soon after birth as the dairy farmer needs the milk to sell. We buy our calves from the market and they are bottle-reared by farm staff. Unfortunately we are unable to let visitors feed the calves as they can be quite rough and we don't want anyone getting injured (they are very heavy when they stand on your toes!)

**THANK YOU  
FOR UNDERSTANDING!**

