

**Additional file 2.** PDF. Form for registrations in a cow-calf contact prospective cohort study.

A form used in a prospective cohort study comparing the effects of contact duration on cow and calf performance beyond separation within herds practicing both CCC and artificial calf rearing. At calving, each farmer provided the required information (individual animal data as date and time of calving, cow and calf id, cow parity, any calving difficulties, calf sex, crossbreed of cow or calf (if any), whether the cow had prior experience caring for a calf, and the reason for why the specific contact duration was chosen for each pair), and registered monthly calf heart girth measurements.

HERD NAME:

| <u>GENERAL INFORMATION</u> | Calving (date + time) | Assistance during calving?<br>(pulling, using a jack etc.) | Why did these become/did not become a CCC-pair? | <u>Date of separation</u> |
|----------------------------|-----------------------|------------------------------------------------------------|-------------------------------------------------|---------------------------|
|                            |                       |                                                            |                                                 |                           |

COW ID:

|                                                    |    |                                                                                                    |             |  |  |      |             |  |  |
|----------------------------------------------------|----|----------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|-------------|--|--|------|-------------|--|--|
| Has the cow previously been taking care of a calf? |    | Non-veterinary health events<br>(milk samplings, increased milking frequency, heat induction etc.) |             |  |  |      |             |  |  |
| Yes                                                | No | Date                                                                                               | Description |  |  | Date | Description |  |  |
| Is the cow a cross-breed?                          |    | Date                                                                                               | Description |  |  | Date | Description |  |  |
| Yes                                                | No | Date                                                                                               | Description |  |  | Date | Description |  |  |
| If yes; what kind of cross-breed:                  |    | Date                                                                                               | Description |  |  | Date | Description |  |  |

CALF ID:

|                                    |        |             |    |      |    |                                                                               |             |      |             |
|------------------------------------|--------|-------------|----|------|----|-------------------------------------------------------------------------------|-------------|------|-------------|
| Sex of calf                        |        | Chest width |    |      |    | Non-veterinary health events<br>(electrolytes, charcoal paste, vitamins etc.) |             |      |             |
| Bull<br>Sale date (if applicable): | Heifer | At birth    | kg | Date | kg | Date                                                                          | Description | Date | Description |
| Is the calf a cross-breed?         |        | Date        | kg | Date | kg | Date                                                                          | Description | Date | Description |
| Ja                                 | Nei    | Date        | kg | Date | kg | Date                                                                          | Description | Date | Description |
| If yes; what kind of cross-breed:  |        | Date        | kg | Date | kg | Date                                                                          | Description | Date | Description |