



Henderson Equine Clinic
 4941 Groveland Road
 Geneseo, NY 14454
 PHONE (585) 243-5560
 FAX (585) 243-9269
 E-MAIL hendersonequine@frontiernet.net
 WEB SITE hendersonequineclinic.com
 Dr. Bonny Henderson

Neonatal Foaling Reference Record

Stages of Parturition	Signs	Normal Duration	Actual Duration
Stage 1	<i>Restless, sweating Frequent urination Colicky</i>	<i>20 minutes-hours</i>	
Stage 2	Lying down and Actively straining	30 minutes	
Stage 3	Placenta is passed Mild colic	30 minutes/3 hours	

Normal Stage 2 Foaling Presentation and Progression

Bluish-White Membrane	
Two Feet – one 2-3 inches behind the other	
Nose Appears Over Both Fore Fetlocks	
Head and Neck Appear – after a rest followed by strong contraction	
Shoulders Appear – after a rest followed by strong contractions	
Rib Cage Appears -foal can begin breathing once rib cage is free -forceful contractions or angled pulling can fracture ribs	
Pelvis and Hips Appear – widest portion requiring strong contractions	
Hind Legs Appear – may remain inside vulva for a time	

Initial Foal Check

- The foal is breathing
- The arterial pulses are strong and can be felt in the pasterns
- The foal's gums are pink (not gray or yellow)
- The umbilical cord breaks and stops bleeding
- A small amount of clear liquid (not creamy or brown) flows from nose and stops
- An equal amount of air is flowing through both nostrils
- Eyes are clear, not teary, cloudy, irritated, red or yellow
- There are no obvious deformities

Newborn Foal Bench Marks

Benchmark	Actual Rate
RR 20-40 bpm within one minute of birth	
HR 70-96 bpm, rising to 130-150 while standing	
Lying sternal within 5-10 minutes	
Fighting to stand within 15-30 minutes	
Standing unassisted within 1-2 hrs	
Suckle reflex within 5-20 minutes	
Nursing from the udder within 1-3 hours	
Capillary refill time of 1-2 seconds	
Temperature between 99-100 degrees	
Urinate within 8 hours	
Colts – shaft should drop during urination	
Passes meconium (or first feces) within 24 hours	