



## Do Your Homework

**Learn some tips for performing basic research for your next farm project.**

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Courtesy Sue Weaver

Fezzik is one of Sue Weaver's water buffalo calves. Watch the November Hobby Farms newsletter for an article about water buffalo and yaks. Subscribe to the newsletter in the lower right corner of the home page. Owning a farm, buying livestock or starting a farm-based business--these are all smart ventures to consider, especially when the tight economy has you thinking about self sufficiency.

But don't forget to spend a little time doing some research on your farm venture first.

Read Sue Weaver's checklist, "Do The Homework," for some great tips on researching your farm projects.

Her first tip: Don't assume you know what's best.

She says, "I've just come in from feeding our water buffalo calves. Before we bought them, several water buffalo breeders warned us, 'It's hard to get them started on a bottle' ... I wish I'd have listened more closely."

The babies are fine! Still, Sue was inspired to offer some basic tips that could help you prepare better for farm projects you plan to do in the future.

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About the Author: Sue Weaver is a Hobby Farms contributing editor who has been caring for numerous animals and hobby farming for more than 20 years.

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