# Enterprise Budget 100 Cow/ Calf, High Desert Area 

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This livestock enterprise budget estimates the typical costs and returns of producing calves in the high desert area of southeast Oregon. It should be used as a guide to estimate actual costs and is not representative of any particular ranch. The major assumptions used in constructing this budget are discussed below. Assistance provided by area producers is greatly appreciated. For costs and returns associated with alternate herd sizes in the high desert area, see EM 8653, EM 8470, and EM 8656. For native hay production, refer to EM 8652, and see EM 8335 for cow/yearling costs and returns.

## Livestock

The enterprise consists of 100 cows, 5 bulls, and 2 horses. A 90 percent conception rate is used, and 95 percent of the pregnant cows give birth. Cow death loss is 2 percent, while a 1 percent death loss is assumed for the bulls and 4 percent for calves. Mature cows are culled at the rate of 13 percent annually, and all replacement heifers are raised (see figure on page 3).

Calves are worked in April, including branding, vaccination, and implanting. Cows are vaccinated in April and treated for external parasites. Cows and replacement heifers are vaccinated and pregnancy tested in the fall as the cattle are gathered. Cull cows and calves are sold November 1. Culled replacement heifers are sold October 1.

Current market values and years of useful life for all livestock are shown in the bottom portion of Table 1. The calculations for livestock noncash fixed costs are shown in Table 2. No depreciation costs are included for cows or replacement heifers since they are raised on the ranch. For bulls and horses, which are purchased in this budget, the cost of depreciation has been included implicitly by reporting replacement purchases as costs and cull sales as revenues. The difference between these two values is the annual cost of capital replacement.

Livestock selling prices are a 3-year average (19931995) of farmgate prices for the Southeast region including Crook, Deschutes, Harney, Klamath, Lake, and Malheur counties. Livestock weights are assumed typical for the high desert area.

## Feed

Feed is supplied in the form of native and alfalfa hay, pasture, and public range. Cattle are fed hay for 120 days. Replacement heifers are assumed to require 0.75 AUM per head and are grazed on 50 acres of flood-irrigated pasture at $\$ 7$ per AUM. This charge covers fertilizer and irrigation expenses. Other cattle are grazed on 600 acres of unirrigated pasture for 4 months and public range for 4 months.

Salt and minerals are fed at the rate of 48 pounds per cow annually, and approximately one-third is assumed to be consumed by wildlife.

Labor<br>Labor provided by the family is included as a variable cost of $\$ 4,000$ per year.

## Capital

Opportunity costs of operating capital are charged at a rate of 10 percent for the duration of the grazing season, and 2.5 percent per year for the current market value of the ranch unit including land and livestock.

## Budget

In the enterprise budget, implants, pour-on, vaccine, pregnancy testing, fly tags, wormer, etc. are included under the line item "Vet \& Medicine." Brand inspection is $\$ 1.75$ per animal sold plus a $\$ 10$ per trip charge (three trips assumed). Materials for annual fence repairs cost $\$ 670$. "Supplies" include saddle, tack, and branding equipment. "Marketing Fees" are a flat 3 percent charge of the gross value of the livestock that are sold to cover the costs to sell via satellite or through the auction yard, etc. "Utilities" include electricity, telephone, etc. "Legal and relative expenses" include costs associated with litigation regarding policy issues. All items not included in the other budget line items, such as association dues, are accounted for under "Miscellaneous."

## Machinery and Equipment

A loader tractor and feed wagon are used to feed hay. A 3/4-ton pickup is used to pull a stock trailer, for general travel and for general ranch work. Corrals are used in the spring and fall to work cattle.

Machinery and equipment values are based on spring 1996 replacement costs, assuming the assets are half depreciated. The upper portion of Table 1 summarizes the values assumed for machinery, equipment, and buildings as well as the hours, miles, or years associated with their use. In Table 1, "Tractor Implements" include a 3-point blade, post-hole auger, pasture harrow, ditcher, etc. "Working Facilities" include a squeeze chute, corrals, and scales.

Machinery and equipment costs are calculated in Table 3 for variable and fixed cost components.

## Other

The commercial value of land and improvements of a whole ranch unit ranges from $\$ 1,000$ to $\$ 2,500$ per cow unit (animal unit) depending upon productivities and extent of federal land dependency. This budget assumes that the ranch as a whole is valued at $\$ 1,750$ per cow unit. Six hundred acres of private unirrigated pasture are owned and provide 536 AUMs over 4 months. Fifty acres of flood-irrigated pasture provide 236 AUMs over 8 months ( 186 yearling and 50 horse AUMs). Native hay is produced on additional acreage. The cost of land ownership and hay production costs are all included in the $\$ 60$ per ton hay charge. Property taxes total $\$ 730$ for the 650 acres of pasture. Actual property taxes will vary with assessed value.

## EM 8654 Enterprise Budget

COW/CALF COSTS and RETURNS
High Desert Area 100-Cow Herd

| GROSS REVENUE by Type | Quantity/Unit | \$/Unit | Total | Per Cow | Your Cost |
| :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: |
| Cull Bulls | 0.8 hd @ 15.0 cwt | 51.00 | 612.00 | 6.12 |  |
| Cull Cows | 13 hd @ 9.5 cwt | 42.00 | 5,187.00 | 51.87 |  |
| Cull Horse | 0.25 hd @ 1.0 hd | 600.00 | 150.00 | 1.50 |  |
| Heifer Calves | 10 hd @ 4.75 cwt | 74.00 | 3,515.00 | 35.15 |  |
| Yearling Heifers | 16 hd @ 8.5 cwt | 67.00 | 9,112.00 | 91.12 |  |
| Steer Calves | 41 hd @ 5.25 cwt | 81.00 | 17,435.25 | 174.35 |  |
| Total GROSS Revenue |  |  | \$36,011.25 | \$360.11 |  |
| CASH COST by Type | Quantity Unit | \$/Unit | Total | Per Cow | Your Cost |
| Pasture Irrigation and Fertilizer | 236.00 aum | 7.00 | 1,652.00 | 16.52 |  |
| Native Hay | 183.00 tn | 60.00 | 10,980.00 | 109.80 |  |
| Alfalfa Hay | 27.00 tn | 85.00 | 2,295.00 | 22.95 |  |
| Public Land Grazing Fee | 425.00 aum | 1.83 | 777.75 | 7.78 |  |
| Salt | 2.00 tn | 160.00 | 320.00 | 3.20 |  |
| Minerals (custom mix) | 0.40 tn | 600.00 | 240.00 | 2.40 |  |
| Fuel \& Lube, Machinery \& Equipment |  |  | 1,788.33 | 17.88 |  |
| Interest - Operating Capital |  |  | 333.33 | 3.33 |  |
| Repairs, Machinery \& Equipment |  |  | 3,045.52 | 30.46 |  |
| Fence Repair Materials |  |  | 670.00 | 6.70 |  |
| Supplies |  |  | 700.00 | 7.00 |  |
| Utilities |  |  | 900.00 | 9.00 |  |
| Vet \& Medicine |  |  | 2,350.00 | 23.50 |  |
| Brand Inspection |  |  | 171.40 | 1.71 |  |
| Bull Purchase | 0.80 hd | 2,000.00 | 1,600.00 | 16.00 |  |
| Horse Purchase | 0.25 hd | 2,000.00 | 500.00 | 5.00 |  |
| Marketing Fees |  |  | 1,080.34 | 10.80 |  |
| Accounting |  |  | 400.00 | 4.00 |  |
| Legal and Related Expenses |  |  | 200.00 | 2.00 |  |
| Family Labor |  |  | 4,000.00 | 40.00 |  |
| Miscellaneous |  |  | 1,000.00 | 10.00 |  |
| Total VARIABLE Cost |  |  | \$35,003.67 | \$350.04 |  |
| GROSS REVENUE minus VARIABLE Cost |  |  | \$1,007.58 | \$10.08 |  |
| CASH FIXED Cost |  |  |  |  |  |
| Machinery \& Equipment Insurance \& Taxes (Tables 1 \& 3)Property Taxes |  |  | $\begin{array}{r} 1,296.51 \\ 730.00 \\ \hline \end{array}$ | 12.97 7.30 |  |
| Total CASH FIXED Cost |  |  | \$2,026.51 | \$20.27 |  |
| Total VARIABLE and CASH FIXED Costs |  |  | \$37,030.18 | \$370.31 |  |
| OTHER COSTS and RETURNS |  |  | Total | Per Cow | Your Cost |
| NET PROJECTED RETURNS OVER VARIABLE and CASH FIXED Costs |  |  | -\$1,018.93 | -\$10.20 |  |
| Noncash Fixed Cost of Depr. \& Interest (10\%) on Machinery \& Equip. (Tables 1 \& 3) |  |  | \$8,120.35 | \$81.20 |  |
| NET PROJECTED RETURNS TO LAND \& LIVESTOCK OWNERSHIP |  |  | -\$9,139.38 | -\$91.39 |  |
| Opportunity Cost of Land Ownership (\$1,750/cow-unit x 100 units@2.5\%) |  |  | \$4,375.00 | \$43.75 |  |
| Opportunity Cost of Livestock Ownership (Table 2) |  |  | \$1,661.80 | \$16.62 |  |
| PROJECTED RETURNS NET OF ALL ECONOMIC COSTS |  |  | -\$15,176.08 | -\$151.76 |  |
| PROJECTED RETURNS TO LAND \& LIVESTK OWNERSHP, \& FAM LAB |  |  | -\$5,139.38 | -\$51.39 |  |
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## EM 8654 Enterprise Budget

COW/CALF PRODUCTION FLOWCHART
High Desert Area
100-Cow Herd


* All 15 replacement heifers have been pregnancy tested and are pregnant. The conception rate of the remaining 85 cows in the brood cow herd is 88 percent.

Table 1. Machinery and Livestock Cost Assumptions

| Item | Size | List Price | Current Market Value | Salvage Value | Useful Life | Remaining Life | Annual Use For Ranch | Annual Use For Enterprise |
| :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: |
| MACH. \& EQUIPMENT |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| Loader Tractor | 50 hp | \$13,500 | \$8,100 | \$2,700 | 10,000 | 6,000 | 580 | 385 hr |
| Tractor Implements |  | 6,000 | 3,600 | 1,200 | 15 | 9 | 1 | 1 yr |
| ATV |  | 4,000 | 2,400 | 800 | 3,750 | 2,250 | 335 | 168 hr |
| Feed Wagon |  | 3,500 | 2,100 | 700 | 12,000 | 7,200 | 400 | 170 mi |
| Stock Trailer |  | 10,000 | 6,000 | 2,000 | 10 | 6 | 1 | 1 yr |
| Pickup | 3/4 ton | 20,000 | 12,000 | 4,000 | 100,000 | 60,000 | 10,000 | 5,000 mi |
| Hay Bunks |  | 3,300 | 1,980 | 660 | 20 | 12 | 1 | 1 yr |
| Working Facilities |  | 10,000 | 6,000 | 2,000 | 30 | 18 | 1 | 1 yr |
| Buildings |  | 47,000 | 28,200 | 9,400 | 30 | 18 | 1 | 1 yr |
| LIVESTOCK |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| Bulls |  | 2,000 | 1,383 | 765 | 6 | 3 yr |  |  |
| Cows |  |  | 570 | 400 | 7 | 3.5 yr |  |  |
| Horses |  | 2,000 | 1,300 | 600 | 15 | 7.5 yr |  |  |
| Replacement Heifers |  |  | 570 | 570 | 7 | 5 yr |  |  |

Table 2. Livestock Opportunity Cost Calculations

| Livestock | Opportunity Cost <br> per Head | \# Head | Opportunity Cost by <br> Class of Livestock | Opportunity Cost <br> per Cow |
| :--- | ---: | ---: | ---: | ---: |
| Bulls | 34.56 | 5 | 172.80 | 1.73 |
| Cows | 14.24 | 85 | $1,210.14$ | 12.10 |
| Horses | 32.50 | 2 | 65.00 | 0.65 |
| Replacement Heifers | 14.24 | 15 | 213.60 | 2.14 |
| Total |  | $1,661.80$ | $\$ 16.62$ |  |

Table 3. Machinery and Equipment Cost Calculations

| Machine \& Equipment | Size | $\qquad$ Costs per Hour, Year, or Mile$\qquad$ Variable $\qquad$$\qquad$ Fixed $\qquad$ |  |  |  | Total Cost | Hours, Years, or Miles per Head | Cost per Cow |  |  |
| :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: |
|  |  | Fuel \& Lube | Repair \& Maint. | Depr. \& Interest | Insurance \& Taxes |  |  | Variable | Fixed | Total |
| Loader Tractor | 50 hp | \$3.45 | \$3.65 | \$2.01 | \$0.10 | \$9.25 | 3.850 hr | \$27.34 | \$8.28 | \$35.62 |
| Tractor Implements |  | 0.00 | 75.00 | 560.00 | 36.00 | 671.00 | 0.010 yr | 0.75 | 5.96 | 6.71 |
| ATV |  | 0.69 | 0.01 | 1.33 | 0.07 | 2.11 | 1.675 hr | 1.18 | 2.35 | 3.53 |
| Feed Wagon |  | 0.00 | 0.65 | 0.58 | 0.05 | 1.28 | 1.700 mi | 1.10 | 1.08 | 2.18 |
| Stock Trailer |  | 0.00 | 100.00 | 1,200.00 | 60.00 | 1,360.00 | 0.010 yr | 1.01 | 12.60 | 13.61 |
| Pickup | 3/4 ton | 0.07 | 0.03 | 0.24 | 0.05 | 0.39 | 50.000 mi | 4.70 | 14.58 | 19.28 |
| Hay Bunks |  | 0.00 | 93.00 | 264.00 | 47.52 | 404.52 | 0.010 yr | 0.93 | 3.12 | 4.05 |
| Working Facilities |  | 0.00 | 135.00 | 666.67 | 144.00 | 945.67 | 0.010 yr | 1.35 | 8.11 | 9.46 |
| Buildings |  | 0.00 | 1,000.00 | 3,133.33 | 676.80 | 4,810.13 | 0.010 yr | 10.00 | 38.10 | 48.10 |
| TOTAL |  |  |  |  |  |  |  | \$48.34 | \$94.17 | \$142.51 |

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