

Doyle

SAMPLE COSTS OF BEEF PRODUCTION
IN THE CENTRAL COAST COUNTIES OF CALIFORNIA

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| | TDN | Range cow to weaner calf | Weaner calf to yrlg. feeder range | Yr. feeder to "good" slaughter, Ir. past. & suppl. | Good to choice in feed lot |
|--|------|-----------------------------------|---|--|--|
| Period | | Year | 11 mo. | 4 mo. | 2 mo. |
| Weight of animal at end | 15# | 450 | 750 | 960 | 1080 |
| Gain during period | | --- | 300 | 210 | 120 |
| Costs | | Per cow | Per head | Per head | Per head |
| Range @ \$3.00 per animal unit month | 500 | 39.00 | 20.00 | --- | --- |
| Stubble & misc. at \$2.00 per A.V. Mo | 500 | 5.00 | --- | --- | --- |
| Irrigated pasture at \$5.00 per A.V. Mo. | | --- | --- | 15.00 | --- |
| Hay at \$20 a ton $\frac{1}{2}$ ton | 500 | 10.00 | 3.00 | 2.00 | 6.00 |
| Concentrates at \$60 a ton | 150 | 6.00 | 6.00 | 15.00 | 24.00 |
| Total feed cost | 6750 | 60.00 | 29.00 | 32.00 | 30.00 |
| Labor at \$1.00 per hour | | 10.00 | 2.00 | 2.00 | 1.00 |
| Misc. Taxes, Ins., Auto, Horses, etc. | | 9.00 | 3.00 | 1.00 | 1.00 |
| Depreciation, buildings, equipment | | 3.00 | 1.00 | .50 | .50 |
| Interest on investment | | 12.00 | 6.00 | 3.00 | 2.00 |
| Total production cost | | 94.00 | 41.00 | 38.50 | 34.50 |
| Less income cows, etc. | | 24.00 | | | |
| Net cost of .69 weaner calf | | 70.00 | | | |
| Cost per weaner calf | | 101.45 | | | |
| Add mortality allowance | | | 1.30 | 1.60 | 1.00 |
| Total cost for period | | | 42.30 | 40.10 | 35.50 |
| Add cost to start of period | | | 101.45 | 143.75 | 183.85 |
| Total cost to close of period | | 101.45 | 143.75 | 183.85 | 219.35 |
| Cost per cwt. produced in period | | | 14.10 | 19.10 | 29.58 |
| Cost per cwt. at close of period | | 22.54 | 19.17 | 19.15 | 20.31 |

Period 1, the breeding herd is based on 90 calves raised per 100 cows, with 21 heifers saved for replacements, 17 cows sold and 69 weaner calves for transfer or sale. Some stubble or cheaper feed is used and a half ton of hay and .1 ton of concentrates per cow for fall and winter supplementing of the range. Feed required is 17.2 animal unit months per breeding cow year including bulls and replacement heifers and calves from 4 to 8 months. Calves are weaned and transferred to stage 2 about July.

The second period is the weaner calf to a yearling feeder, 11 months. Some hay and concentrates are used in fall and winter and a 1% mortality is assumed. Period is about July to following June.

The third period is about 4 months, July to October, on irrigated pasture with increasing grain supplement to bring the feeder to a slaughter grade of good. Allowance is made for 1% mortality.

The fourth and last period is 2 months in the feed lot to bring the animal to a slaughter grade of choice with a mortality of half of one per cent. Note that although the last stage has the highest production cost per hundredweight the final cost per cwt. of the choice steer is below the cost per cwt. of weaner calf.