

INVESTMENT IN A SISKIYOU COUNTY COW AND CALF RANCH
As of 1974

PER COW BASIS

ITEMS	Production Per Acre	AUM Furnished	Acres Required	Cost Per Acre	Total Value
Range Land	7.5 days/A	2	8	\$ 75	\$ 600
Irrigated Pasture	180 days/A	6	1	400	400
Alfalfa Hay Land	4 tons/A	4	0.5	550	275
(1) Total Land		12	9.5		\$1,275
(2) Equipment	½ of new price				105
(3) Improvements	½ of new price				150
(4) Cattle & Horses	Complete herd				560
Total Investment per Cow					\$2,090

(1) Land: There are numerous combinations of land types that will support a cow herd year around. This example uses a combination of the three usual sources of feed: range, irrigated pasture, and hay. Other combinations might be: 2 acres of irrigated land only; or 1½ acres of irrigated pasture and buy hay; etc. Keep in mind that it might require 50 acres of one range to equal 4 acres of another.

The value of land is difficult to determine and prices vary considerably. Values can be influenced by the cost and supply of water; productivity of the soil; topography, elevation; climate; accessibility; esthetic values; financial arrangements; Forest Service or BLM allotments, etc. The figures used here are arbitrary and conservative. Some investment figures have reached half again as much. In general small parcels cost more than larger land parcels.

These examples include the land necessary to support a breeding herd which includes the cow herself, bulls, replacements, calves, and horses. It usually takes about 1.5 animal units of feed for each cow in the herd.

(2) Equipment for 200 Cow Ranch

Tractor	\$ 8,000
Drill	2,000
Disc	1,200
Plow	600
Harrow	250
Cultipac	500
Auger	500
Windrower	10,000
Rake	750
Bailer	8,000
Truck	6,000
Pick-up	4,000
Loader	300
Tools	1,000
Total	\$43,000 new
Per Cow	\$ 215 new

(3) Improvements for 200 Cow Ranch

2 Barns	\$10,000
Irrigation Systems	20,000
Corrals & Scales	10,000
Fences	20,000
Total	\$60,000 new
Per Cow	\$ 300 new

(4) Cattle for 100 Cow Herd

4 Bulls @ \$1,000	\$ 4,000
20 Replacements @ \$300	6,000
100 Pairs @ \$450	45,000
2 Horses	1,000
Total	\$56,000
Per Cow	\$ 560