

AB-14 Future Farm Summary

Calving Distribution	
Description	Increase weaning weight by adjusting calving distribution to 70%-20%-10% over five years.
Assumptions	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Change calving distribution from 54-36-7-3 to 70-20-10 over five years Heifer weaning weight increase from 567 lb to 575 lb over five years Steer weaning weight increase from 583 lb to 591 lb over five years Assume price slide is -\$6.25/cwt for heifers, and -\$11/cwt for steers going from 5-600 lb to 6-700 lb (AB feeder cattle prices, Oct 2022) Heifer prices change from \$1285/head to \$1301/head, steer prices change from \$1555/head to \$1575/head over five years with lower price per lb but more lbs per head Backgrounded heifer end weight increases from 725 lb to 733 lb over five years Backgrounded steers end weights up from 761 lb to 769 lb Backgrounded heifer price steady with baseline, while price slide for steers is -\$6/cwt going from 7-800 lb to 8-900 lb categories) Backgrounded steer prices change from \$194.31/cwt to \$193.83/cwt over five years
Trade-Off Considerations	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Cattle price per lb may decrease due to price slide on heavier sale weight. Calving seasons can be shortened by pulling the bulls five days earlier each year, this slow change avoids a drop in conception rates. Options also include front loading the calving season can be done by breeding heifers 2-4 weeks ahead of the cow herd, which will require additional labour. Other options that require a cash investment include heat synchronizing, artificial insemination and adjusting the cow:bull ratio.
5-year average vs. baseline year*	
Estimated Change at Whole Farm Level (\$/year)	
Net Income	+\$4,569
Net Cash Farm Income	+\$4,510
Estimated Change at Cow-calf Enterprise (\$/cow)	
Short-term Profits	+\$43
Medium-term Profits	+\$43
Long-term Profits	+\$50



* Changes in profitability come from the practice change as well as debt servicing
Detailed reports available upon request. Email: info@canfax.ca

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