

## ON-2 Future Farm Summary

	Calving Distribution 1	Calving Distribution 2	Shorten Winter Feeding Period	Guard Dog
<b>Description</b>	Increase weaning weight by shortening calving season to 3 cycles	Increase weaning weight by adjusting calving distribution to 70-20-10 in five years	Improve pasture productivity through rotational grazing	Reduce calf death loss by adding a guard animal (dog)
<b>Assumptions</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Change calving distribution of Mob 1 from 56-20-15-9 to 62-22-16; mob 2 from 57-24-15-5 to 59-25-16 over five years</li> <li>Increase heifer weaning weight of mob 1 from 537 to 548 lbs; and mob 2 from 537 to 542 lbs</li> <li>Increase steer weaning weight of mob 1 by 2% from 577 to 589 lbs and mob 2 by 1% from 577 to 583 lbs</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Change Mob 1 calving distribution from 56-20-15-9 to 70-20-10; mob 2 from 57-24-15-5 to 70-20-10 over five years</li> <li>Increase heifer weaning weight of mob 1 from 537 to 555 lbs; mob 2 from 537 to 550 lbs</li> <li>Increase steer weaning weight of mob 1 by 3% from 577 to 596 lbs; mob 2 by 3% from 577 to 591 lbs</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Invest \$8,900 in a portable electric fencing system in the first year</li> <li>Fencing system depreciate by 5% per year</li> <li>Improve stocking rate by 10% from 144 AU/ac to 158 AU/ac</li> <li>Shorten full winter feed days by 10% from 180 days to 162 days</li> <li>Add 50 total unpaid family labour hours (assumes additional 3 hours/week required for grazing management, partially offset by reduced labour hours (1.5 hour per day) from a shorter winter feeding period)</li> <li>Calf weaning weights are unaffected by grazing method</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Add guard dog cost as a fixed cost \$2350 in the first year, \$600/yr for 2022-2025</li> <li>Initial purchase price of a guard dog at \$1750 in the first year</li> <li>Food and vet cost at \$50/month, \$600/yr</li> <li>Decrease calf death loss from 9% to 5%</li> <li>Percentage of female calves sold as weaner up from 60% to 62%</li> </ul>

## ON-2 Future Farm Summary

	Calving Distribution 1	Calving Distribution 2	Shorten Winter Feeding Period	Guard Dog
<b>Trade-Off Considerations</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Cattle price per lb may decrease due to price slide on heavier sale weight</li> <li>Calving seasons can be shortened by pulling the bulls five days earlier each year, this slow change avoids a drop in conception rates.</li> <li>Front loading the calving season can be done by breeding heifers 2-4 weeks ahead of the cow herd.</li> <li>Other options that require a cash investment include: heat synchronizing, artificial insemination and adjusting the cow:bull ratio.</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Cattle price per lb may decrease due to price slide on heavier sale weight.</li> <li>Calving seasons can be shortened by pulling the bulls five days earlier each year, this slow change avoids a drop in conception rates.</li> <li>Front loading the calving season can be done by breeding heifers 2-4 weeks ahead of the cow herd.</li> <li>Other options that require a cash investment include: heat synchronizing, artificial insemination and adjusting the cow:bull ratio.</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Additional labour for rotational grazing</li> <li>Upfront capital or equity position required to invest in new fencing system</li> <li>Additional fencing and labour costs on a per head basis are affected by herd size</li> <li>Stocking rate improvements vary by location, weather and previous grazing management</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Different guard animals are available. Some like donkeys and Lamas eat the same thing as the cows so don't need special feed provided. There are also considerations of how bonded to the herd a guard animal is, particular a dog if they have a territory the cover versus staying with the herd. Producers may have a preference or notice a difference in effectiveness.</li> </ul>
<b>5-year average vs. baseline year*</b>				
<b>Estimated Change at Whole Farm Level (\$/year)</b>				
Net Income	+\$6,185	+\$7,227	+\$11,050	+\$8,638
Net Cash Farm Income	+\$5,288	+\$6,331	+\$10,597	+\$7,740
<b>Estimated Change at Cow-calf Enterprise (\$/cow)</b>				
Short-term Profits	+\$3	+\$10	+\$39	+\$21
Medium-term Profits	+\$3	+\$9	+\$36	+\$21
Long-term Profits	-\$6	No change	+\$20	+\$12

\* Changes in profitability come from the practice change as well as debt servicing

Detailed reports available upon request. Email: [info@canfax.ca](mailto:info@canfax.ca)

