

QC-4 Future Farm Summary

	Calving Distribution 1	Calving Distribution 2	Shorten Winter Feeding Period
Description	Increase weaning weight by adjusting calving distribution to 70-20-10 in five years	Increase weaning weight by adjusting calving distribution to 70-20-10 in three years	Extend grazing season through rotational grazing
Assumptions	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Change calving distribution from 60-22-15-2 to 70-20-10 over five years • Increase heifer weaning weight from 565 to 574 lbs • Increase steer weaning weight from 600 to 609 lbs 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Change calving distribution from 60-22-15-2 to 70-20-10 over three years • Increase heifer weaning weight from 565 to 574 lbs • Increase steer weaning weight from 600 to 609 lbs 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Invest \$8,900 in a Razer Grazer electric fencing system in the first year • Improve stocking rate by 10% from 231AUs/ac to 255 AUs/ac • Shorten full winter feed days by 8% from 200 days to 183 days • Add 13 unpaid family labour hours (change from moving every 2 weeks to moving every week, 13 more weeks of moving, 3hr/wk. partially offset by reduced labour hours (1.5 hour per day) from a shorter winter feeding period) • Extra hay not sold



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Trade-Off Considerations	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Cattle price per lb may decrease due to price slide on heavier sale weights Calving seasons can be shortened by pulling the bulls five days earlier each year, this slow change avoids a drop in conception rates. Front loading the calving season can be done by breeding heifers 2-4 weeks ahead of the cow herd. Other options that require a cash investment include: heat synchronizing, artificial insemination and adjusting the cow:bull ratio. 	<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. Front loading the calving season can be done by breeding heifers 2-4 weeks ahead of the cow herd. Other options that require a cash investment include: heat synchronizing, artificial insemination and adjusting the cow:bull ratio. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Additional labour for rotational grazing Upfront capital or equity position required to invest in new fencing system Additional fencing and labour costs on a per head basis are affected by herd size Stocking rate improvements vary by location and weather
5-year average vs. baseline year*			
Estimated Change at Whole Farm Level (\$/year)			
Net Income	+\$1,543	+\$1,761	+\$796
Net Cash Farm Income	+\$1,542	+\$1,761	+\$1,241
Estimated Change at Cow-calf Enterprise (\$/cow)			
Short-term Profits	+\$16	+\$20	+\$19
Medium-term Profits	+\$16	+\$20	+\$11
Long-term Profits	+\$21	+\$24	+\$13

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

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