

Farm Characteristics CA-SK-10

Farm Description	A cow-calf operation with 140 cows, utilizing predominantly homegrown feed.
Winter Feeding Ration (lbs/cow/day as fed)	134 days on hay (35 lb) and barley grain (5 lb)
Retained Ownership/Replacement Ration (lb/head/day as fed)	Replacement heifers: 134 days on hay (20 lb) and barley grain (3 lb)

Disclaimer:

This benchmark is based on 4 farms of data; outliers were excluded as required. Canfax Research Services (CRS) tries to provide quality information, but we make no claims, promises, or guarantees about the accuracy, completeness, or adequacy of the information. CRS does not guarantee and accepts no legal liability arising from or connected to, the accuracy, reliability, or completeness of any material contained in our publications. Reproduction and/or electronic transmission of this publication, in whole or in part, is strictly forbidden without written consent from CRS.

Environment	
Average Annual Temperature	3.5° C
Average Annual Precipitation (mm)	150-200 mm
Ecoregion	Mixed Grassland
Stocking Rate (Animal Unit days per acre)	17
Fertilize Hay (yes/no)	No
Fertilize Pasture (yes/no)	No
Typical Hay Yield (tonnes/acre)	0.9
Grassland Acres (owned+rented)	3,022
Crop Acres (includes hay) (owned+rented)	460
Bush and other acres	0

Physical Performance Indicators	
Breed	Angus
Cow:Bull Ratio	23:1
Bull Culling Rate (%)	17%
Mature Cow Weight (lb)	1,300
Heifer Retention for a steady herd (%)	11%
Cow Death Loss (%)	1.6%
Cow Culling Rate (%)	9.3%
Calves alive after 24hr/100 Cows exposed	87
Calf Death Loss (%) 24 hr to weaning	3%
Calves weaned per 100 cows exposed	84
Total Liveweight Sold per Cow (lb)	533
Weaning Weight (lb)	533
205 day adjusted Weaning Weight (lb)	561
Average Daily Gain pre-weaning (lb)	2.32
Weaning Weight as % of Cow Weight	41%

Production System	
Herd size	140
Days on field feeding (e.g. swath grazing)	0
Days supplemented on pasture	0
Days on full winter feed	134
Calving Start date	April 06
Weaning date	November 01
Sale date	November 01
Retained ownership	Replacements
% of feed purchased	13.7%
% of land in crops	13%
Annual sales Retained Cattle (head)	N/A
Placement weight (lbs)	N/A
Sale Weight (lbs)	N/A
Days on feed	0
Days on grass	0

Footnotes:

Cost of Production: Cash Cost + Depreciation + Opportunity Costs

Cash Costs = Cash cost for purchased feed, fertiliser, seeds, fuel, maintenance, land rents, animal purchases, interest on liabilities, wages paid, veterinary costs plus medicine, water, insurance, accounting, etc (excl. Tax)

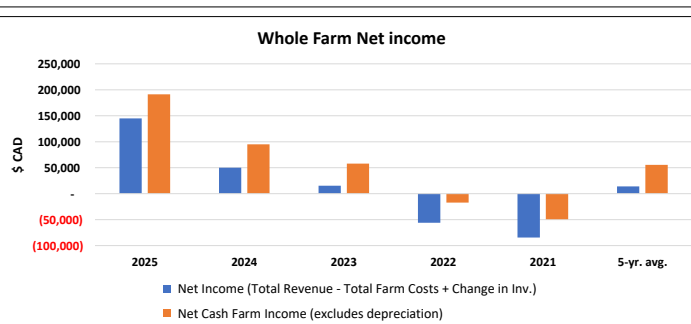
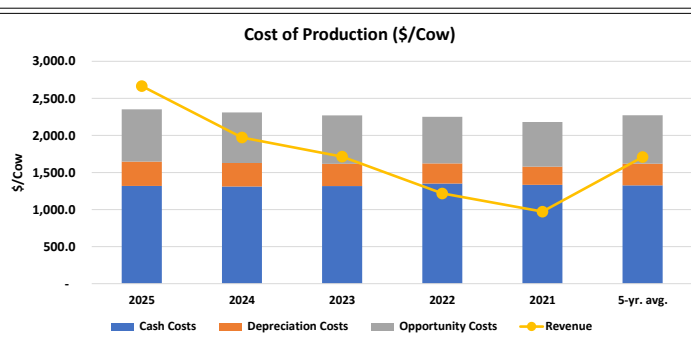
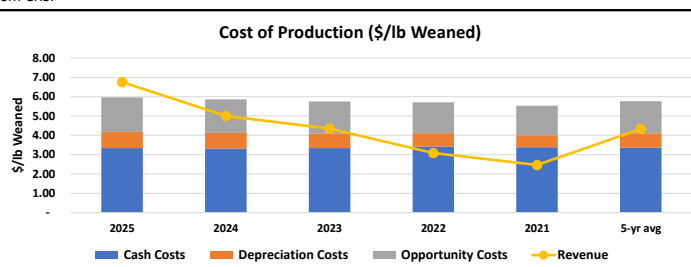
Depreciation = Linear depreciation on machinery and buildings, calculated on replacement values

Opportunity Costs = Calculated cost for using own production factors like labour (family working hours * wage for qualified local labour, land (own land * regional land rents) and capital (non-land equity * long-term government bonds interest rate)

Whole Farm Profitability = Market returns (+ coupled payments) (+ decoupled payments) - whole-farm costs +/- changes in inventory +/- capital gains/losses.

Whole Farm Net Income = Whole farm profitability + depreciation + changes in inventory + capital gains/losses. Known as: 'Net farm income' (Agri Profits, 2018)

Revenue = sales of calves, cull cows, breeding stock, government payments and other revenue applicable to the specific enterprise



Whole Farm Overview Page

Overview							
Operation Maturity	Medium						
Herd Size	140						
Paid Labour (livestock only) (hours)	665			Beef Animals Sold from Retained Ownership	N/A		
Unpaid Labour (livestock only) (hours)	1,881						
Average wages - paid and unpaid (\$/hr)	22.25						
Revenue		2025	2024	2023	2022	2021	5-yr. avg.
Market Revenue	5-yr avg	373,241	276,197	226,029	156,427	122,175	230,814
Cow-Calf	95%	373,241	276,197	226,029	156,427	122,175	230,814
Cash Crops	0%	-	-	-	-	-	-
Retained Ownership	0%	-	-	-	-	-	-
Government Payments	3%	-	-	14,000	14,000	14,000	8,400
Other Farm Revenue †	1%	3,189	3,141	3,100	3,050	3,056	3,107
Total Revenue	100%	376,429	279,338	243,129	173,477	139,231	242,321
Change in Inventory		-	-	-	-	-	-
Expenses		2025	2024	2023	2022	2021	5-yr. avg.
Depreciation		46,317	45,090	42,609	38,773	35,338	41,626
Machinery		30,819	30,051	28,376	25,299	22,739	27,457
Buildings		15,498	15,038	14,233	13,474	12,600	14,169
Quota econ. Accounting		-	-	-	-	-	-
Overhead costs		55,483	55,615	56,694	55,891	47,968	54,330
Land improvement		7,174	7,099	6,608	6,073	5,786	6,548
Machinery Maintenance		12,877	12,777	11,307	10,006	9,893	11,372
Buildings Maintenance		3,460	3,412	3,365	3,216	2,948	3,280
Contract labour		-	-	-	-	-	-
Diesel, Gasoline, Natural Gas		10,547	10,522	11,054	13,932	9,502	11,111
Electricity		4,004	4,417	7,006	4,846	2,939	4,642
Water		-	-	-	-	-	-
Farm insurance		6,753	6,753	6,753	6,975	6,622	6,771
Disability and accident insurance		3,195	3,195	3,195	3,300	3,133	3,204
Farm taxes and duties		4,077	4,077	4,077	4,211	3,998	4,088
Advisor costs		-	-	-	-	-	-
Accountant & legal fees		1,839	1,839	1,839	1,900	1,804	1,844
Phone & utilities		1,484	1,454	1,420	1,367	1,280	1,401
Other overhead costs		72	71	69	67	62	68
Wages, rent and interest payments		70,874	71,770	73,433	79,839	70,029	73,189
Paid Labour		11,607	11,607	11,607	11,989	11,382	11,638
Total land rents		42,951	41,381	38,726	36,100	35,146	38,861
Total interest on debt		16,316	18,782	23,100	31,751	23,501	22,690
Cow-Calf		48,807	46,945	45,065	43,150	61,496	49,093
Animal purchases		7,984	6,633	5,036	4,125	4,125	5,581
Purchased feed		26,334	25,975	25,846	24,806	44,337	29,460
Other fixed and var. costs *		14,489	14,337	14,184	14,219	13,033	14,052
Retained Ownership		-	-	-	-	-	-
Animal purchases		-	-	-	-	-	-
Purchased feed		-	-	-	-	-	-
Other fixed and var. costs *		-	-	-	-	-	-
Crop and forage		10,008	9,908	10,163	11,821	8,866	10,153
Seed		-	-	-	-	-	-
Fertilizer		-	-	-	-	-	-
Herbicide		-	-	-	-	-	-
Fungicide & Insecticide		-	-	-	-	-	-
Irrigation		-	-	-	-	-	-
Contract labour		-	-	-	-	-	-
Fuel costs (crop & forage)		6,434	6,407	6,744	8,530	5,784	6,780
Other crop and forage		3,574	3,501	3,419	3,291	3,082	3,373
Total Farm Costs (excludes unpaid labour)		231,489	229,327	227,965	229,475	223,696	228,390
Cash Costs (Total Farm Costs - Depreciation)		185,172	184,238	185,356	190,701	188,358	186,765
Depreciation & Opportunity Costs (including unpaid labour)		88,178	86,950	84,470	80,634	77,199	83,486
Total Economic Costs (cash, depr, opportunity)		273,350	271,188	269,825	271,335	265,557	270,251
Profits		2025	2024	2023	2022	2021	5-yr. avg.
Net Income (Total Revenue - Total Farm Costs + Change in Inv.)		144,940	50,011	15,164	(55,997)	(84,465)	13,931
Net Cash Farm Income (excludes depreciation)		191,119	95,010	57,723	(17,224)	(49,133)	55,499

† Other Farm Revenue includes: Other enterprises, capital gains and losses as well as calculated interest on savings based on the models previous year profits.

* Other fixed and var. costs includes: veterinary, medicine, maintenance and spare parts, and other/miscellaneous



Cow-Calf Enterprise (\$/Cow)	2025	2024	2023	2022	2021	5 yr. avg.
No. of Cows*	140	140	140	140	140	140
Average male and female calf price (\$/head)	3,152	2,313	1,906	1,315	1,019	1,941
REVENUE						
Cow Calf	2,666	1,973	1,714	1,217	973	1,709
Cull animals and slaughter receipts	310	246	188	132	109	197
Breeding livestock receipts	-	-	-	-	-	-
Calf Sales and transfer to retained ownership enterprise	2,356	1,727	1,427	985	763	1,452
Government payments	-	-	100.0	100.0	100.0	60.0
Other returns	-	-	-	-	-	-
Total Cow-Calf Revenue	2,666	1,973	1,714	1,217	973	1,709
VARIABLE COSTS						
Animal purchases	57.0	47.4	36.0	29.5	29.5	40
Feed (purchase feed, fertiliser, seed, pesticides)	264.9	261.2	256.2	244.1	380.0	281
Machinery (maintenance, depreciation, contractor)	309.6	302.6	279.7	247.4	227.4	273
Fuel, energy, lubricants, water	149.1	151.3	175.5	192.5	128.0	159
Vet & medicine	32.8	32.7	32.3	32.0	29.7	32
Other inputs cow calf enterprise	82.2	81.0	79.9	80.0	73.1	79
Labour						
Paid Labour	82.2	82.0	81.8	84.0	79.3	82
Unpaid Labour	367.9	366.8	365.9	375.7	354.8	366
Total Variable Costs	1,345.7	1,325.0	1,307.3	1,285.1	1,301.8	1,313
CAPITAL COSTS						
Insurance, taxes	112.1	111.9	111.7	115.0	108.8	112
Buildings (maintenance, depreciation)	134.3	130.3	124.0	116.9	108.4	123
Land Cost	-	-	-	-	-	-
Rented Land	306.8	295.6	276.6	257.9	251.0	278
Own Land	310.9	296.0	273.6	251.1	239.5	274
Capital Costs	-	-	-	-	-	-
Liabilities	115.6	132.6	162.9	222.8	164.2	160
Own capital	26.5	19.7	13.5	2.1	8.2	14
Total Capital Costs	1,006.2	986.1	962.3	965.7	880.1	960
COSTS						
Cash Costs	1,318.4	1,310.1	1,316.4	1,350.3	1,333.1	1,326
Depreciation Costs	328.2	318.6	300.3	271.7	246.3	293
Opportunity Costs	705.3	682.5	653.0	628.9	602.5	654
Total Production Costs	2,351.9	2,311.1	2,269.7	2,250.8	2,181.9	2,273
Profits	2025	2024	2023	2022	2021	5-yr. avg.
Short-term profit (cash costs)	1,347.6	662.7	398.1	(133.0)	(360.4)	383
Medium-term profit (cash + depreciation)	1,019.4	344.2	97.8	(404.6)	(606.7)	90
Long-term profit (cash + depreciation + opportunity)	314.2	(338.3)	(555.2)	(1,033.5)	(1,209.2)	(564)

*Model maintains a stable herd size

Costs and revenue are reported for a calendar (e.g. January to December). It reflects revenue and expenses that a producer experiences over that period. Producers who want a cash flow analysis typically use a calendar or agricultural year. This method is often preferred by lenders when getting evaluated for a line of credit or a loan. The model maintains a stable herd, retention rates were adjusted to ensure that.

Cash Costs

Cash costs are the outlays over the course of the year, including machine repairs, paid labour, costs of feed production, and purchased feed. CDN COP Network bases cash costs on actual costs of production. Agri Profit\$ uses the market value for some cash costs, including feed.

The cost of producing the feed on-farm and the purchased feed costs as used in that year to reflect the experience and situation of producers. Production inputs, land and any purchased feeds utilized that year are included. Rations for each type of animal and inventories are used to calculate total feed requirements. Any shortfall in production are assumed to be purchased at market value. Feed rations and yields are provided "as fed" to balance the model. Below are the included costs for feed production:

Feed: Calculated as feed cost (purchase feed + fertilizer, seed and pesticides for own feed production) + machinery cost (machinery maintenance + depreciation + contractor) + fuel, energy, lubricants and water + land cost (land rents paid + opportunity cost own land)

Land: separated into owned and rented land, includes both crop and pastureland. Land costs = Rents paid + calculated land rents for own land (opportunity cost).

By using the cost of land, the advantage that mature operations have is clearly shown as their cost structure is lower when land has been fully paid off.

Allocation

Generic allocation uses percent revenues from each commodity to cover overheads and utilizes accounting data for the overhead costs. This takes the approach that overheads and fixed costs will be covered by something grown on the farm and recognizes that there are commodity price cycles where grains and livestock tend to be opposite. It is not so much concerned about each enterprise paying their way as that all overheads are covered by the mix of commodities grown. It should be recognized that as commodity prices fluctuate and revenues to each enterprise fluctuate, the shifting shares will change the cost structure for each enterprise from year to year.

Depreciation

Depreciation on buildings and machinery is a non-cash cost that reveals the ability of the farm to continue operating if an asset needs replacement.

Differences in depreciation costs between AgriProfit\$ and the CDN COP Network primarily comes from the use of specific (AgriProfit\$) versus generic (CDN COP Network) allocation. Where generic allocation results in machinery depreciation used for feed production to show up in the cow-calf enterprise as that is where revenue is generated. In contrast, specific allocation removes that cost and since feed is treated at market value, machinery depreciation for feed production is treated as a cash cost. This results in the CDN COP Network typically having lower cash costs and higher depreciation costs than what is reported in AgriProfit\$.

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Labour: The opportunity costs of labour are the calculated wage for family labour, either off-farm salary or farm manager salary. It is important to note that the opportunity cost of labour reflects the income you can receive for the same type of labour.

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Unit Reported

Often cow-calf COP is expressed as dollars per cow wintered (\$/cow wintered) which adjusts the calf price per head for the number of calves sold per 100 cows. When evaluating overall cost structure to identify areas for improvement, or comparing to a benchmark, this is sufficient.

However, a per unit cost provides producers with their break-even cost, allowing them to compare with posted market prices for their calves' average weight category. This break-even price will depend on the percentage of calves weaned that year from the cow herd. The higher percent weaned, the lower per pound the break-even price will be.



Cow-Calf Enterprise (\$/lb Weaned)	2025	2024	2023	2022	2021	5 yr. avg.
Pounds Weaned	55,217	55,217	55,217	55,217	55,217	55,217
Average male and female weaning weight (lbs)	533	533	533	533	533	533
Average male and female calf price at weaning (\$/lb)	5.91	4.34	3.57	2.47	1.91	3.64
REVENUE						
Cow Calf Operation	6.76	5.00	4.35	3.09	2.47	4.33
Cull animals and slaughter receipts	0.79	0.62	0.48	0.33	0.28	0.50
Breeding livestock receipts	-	-	-	-	-	-
Calf Sales and transfer to retained ownership enterprise	5.97	4.38	3.62	2.50	1.94	3.68
Government payments	-	-	0.25	0.25	0.25	0.15
Other returns	-	-	-	-	-	-
Total Cow-Calf Revenue	6.76	5.00	4.35	3.09	2.47	4.33
VARIABLE COSTS						
Animal purchases	0.14	0.12	0.09	0.07	0.07	0.10
Feed (purchase feed, fertiliser, seed, pesticides)	0.67	0.66	0.65	0.62	0.96	0.71
Machinery (maintenance, depreciation, contractor)	0.78	0.77	0.71	0.63	0.58	0.69
Fuel, energy, lubricants, water	0.38	0.38	0.44	0.49	0.32	0.40
Vet & medicine	0.08	0.08	0.08	0.08	0.08	0.08
Other inputs cow calf enterprise	0.21	0.21	0.20	0.20	0.19	0.20
Labour						
Paid Labour	0.21	0.21	0.21	0.21	0.20	0.21
Unpaid Labour	0.93	0.93	0.93	0.95	0.90	0.93
Total Variable Costs	3.4	3.4	3.3	3.3	3.3	3.3
CAPITAL COSTS						
Insurance, taxes	0.28	0.28	0.28	0.29	0.28	0.28
Buildings (maintenance, depreciation)	0.34	0.33	0.31	0.30	0.27	0.31
Land Cost						
Rented Land	0.78	0.75	0.70	0.65	0.64	0.70
Owned Land	0.79	0.75	0.69	0.64	0.61	0.70
Capital Costs						
Liabilities	0.29	0.34	0.41	0.56	0.42	0.40
Own capital	0.07	0.05	0.03	0.01	0.02	0.04
Total Capital Costs	2.6	2.5	2.4	2.4	2.2	2.4
COSTS						
Cash Costs	3.34	3.32	3.34	3.42	3.38	3.36
Depreciation Costs	0.83	0.81	0.76	0.69	0.62	0.74
Opportunity Costs	1.79	1.73	1.66	1.59	1.53	1.66
Total Production Costs	5.96	5.86	5.75	5.71	5.53	5.76
Profits	2025	2024	2023	2022	2021	5-yr. avg.
Short-term profit (cash costs)	3.42	1.68	1.01	(0.34)	(0.91)	0.97
Medium-term profit (cash + depreciation)	2.58	0.87	0.25	(1.03)	(1.54)	0.23
Long-term profit (cash + depreciation + opportunity)	0.80	(0.86)	(1.41)	(2.62)	(3.07)	(1.43)

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