

SK-1a Future Farm Summary

Corn Graze Backgrounders	
Description	Reduce hay purchase through swath grazing backgrounding cattle
Assumptions	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 30 days of corn grazing for backgrounders from early December to early January, reduce full winter feed days on hay and grain by 30 days • Daily dry matter consumption of standing corn at 25 lbs (3% of final body weight) • Grass-alfalfa hay was added (2.5 lb) from the purchased hay to prevent the grain overload issue with corn grazing • Dry matter yield of corn for grazing at 7 tonnes/ha, or 2.8 tonnes/acre • Additional corn grazing acreage 7.4 ha or 18 acres, rented land • Animal performance similar to the baseline drylot system
Trade-Off Considerations	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Need to expand corn acreage, may be restricted by land availability
5-year average vs. baseline year*	
Estimated Change at Whole Farm Level (\$/year)	
Net Income	+\$13,361
Net Cash Farm Income	+13,357
Estimated Change at Cow-calf Enterprise (\$/cow)	
Short-term Profits**	+\$20
Medium-term Profits**	+\$20
Long-term Profits**	+\$16
Estimated Change at Backgrounding Enterprise (\$/lb sold)	
Short-term Profits	+\$0.1
Medium-term Profits	+\$0.1
Long-term Profits	+\$0.1

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

Detailed reports available upon request. Email: info@canfax.ca

