

Northern Missouri Beef Cow-Calf Planning Budget for 2019

This budget presents information useful to beef farmers. Table 1 provides estimates for the 2019 year for a cow-calf operation (50-cow herd size and purchased replacements) in Northern Missouri for a fall and spring calving season. Assumptions were based on price forecasts as of October 2018. Detailed assumptions and feed requirements are summarized in Tables 2, 3 and 4. The production practices used to develop these cost estimates are common for beef farms in Missouri. Farmers are encouraged to modify this budget to fit their operation.

Table 1. Northern Missouri beef cow-calf planning budget for 2019.

	Fall calving Per cow ¹	Spring calving Per cow ¹	Your estimate
Income			
Steer calf sales	417.23	409.78	
Heifer calf sales	342.94	353.41	
Cull cow sales	86.40	100.80	
Total income	846.57	863.99	
Operating costs			
Pasture (rental rate)	138.30	138.30	
Feed and stored forage	345.75	291.81	
Labor	94.01	94.01	
Veterinary, drugs and supplies	38.00	38.00	
Marketing	21.16	21.60	
Machinery and utility costs	124.28	116.57	
Livestock facility repairs	8.00	8.00	
Cow replacement	188.50	217.50	
Bull cost	50.00	50.00	
Professional fees (legal, accounting, etc.)	1.00	1.00	
Miscellaneous expense	6.00	6.00	
Operating interest	25.16	23.31	
Total operating costs	1,040.16	1,006.11	
Ownership costs			
Depreciation on facilities and equipment	8.48	8.48	
Interest on breeding stock, facilities and equipment	106.09	107.83	
Insurance/taxes on breeding stock and capital items	33.18	33.47	
Total ownership costs	147.75	149.78	
Total costs	1,187.91	1,155.89	
Income over operating costs	-193.59	-142.12	
Income over total costs	-341.34	-291.90	

¹ Totals may not sum due to rounding.

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Table 2. Income assumptions used in Northern Missouri beef cow-calf planning budget for 2019.

Category	Percent	Weight (pounds)	Price per cwt	Calf crop (percent weaned)	Dollars per cow unit
Fall calving					
Steer	50	580	163.49	88	417.23
Heifers	50	560	139.18	88	342.94
Cull cows	12	1,200	60.00		86.40
Spring calving					
Steer	50	580	166.24	85	409.78
Heifers	50	560	148.49	85	353.41
Cull cows	14	1,200	60.00		100.80

Abbreviations: cwt = hundredweight

Table 3. Other assumptions used in Northern Missouri beef cow-calf planning budget for 2019.

Selected input quantities	Per unit	Selected input prices	Dollars per unit
Labor, hours	7	Labor cost, per hour	13.43
Fall calving heifers retained, percent	13	Heifer replacement value, per head	1,450.00
Spring calving heifers retained, percent	15	Bull value, per head	4,000.00

Table 4. Feed requirements in Northern Missouri beef cow-calf planning budget for 2019, on a per cow basis.

	Cost per unit	Cow (units)	Calf (units)	Bull ² (units)	Total units	Total cost per cow ³
Fall calving						
Pasture, per animal unit equivalent	15.00	8.7 ¹		0.5	9.2	138.30
Harvested forage, per pound	0.065	3,660.0	425.0	200.0	4,285.0	278.53
Protein supplement, per pound	0.100	300.0		7.2	307.2	30.72
Salt and mineral mix, per pound	0.400	91.3			91.3	36.50
					Total	484.05
Spring calving						
Pasture, per animal unit equivalent	15.00	8.7 ¹		0.5	9.2	138.30
Harvested forage, per pound	0.065	3,445.5		200.0	3,645.5	245.95
Protein supplement, per pound	0.100	90.0		3.6	93.6	9.36
Salt and mineral mix, per pound	0.400	91.3			91.3	36.50
					Total	430.11

¹ Cow and calf requirements are combined for pasture animal unit equivalents.

² Bull feed units are based on 4 percent of its total need being allocated to cow-calf enterprise.

³ Totals may not sum due to rounding.

Farmers can develop custom enterprise budget by using the Missouri Beef Enterprise Tool (<https://extensiondata.missouri.edu/Pro/Beef/Docs/MissouriBeefEnterprise.xlsx>). This spreadsheet tool allows users to make an enterprise budget for a cow-calf (spring or fall calving), heifer or backgrounding (drylot or pasture) operation.



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