

Estimated Annual Cow Costs for Nebraska 2023

Mature cows calve March/April, 2-yr-old heifers calve February 10				
Wean November 1, 40% of heifer calves kept as replacements				
FEED COSTS: Mature Cows (84% of herd)	Quantity	Price	Cost/Cow	Your Cost
Crop Residue/Range Nov 1 - Feb 28	4 mo	\$24/mo	\$96.00	
Protein Supplement Jan 1 - Feb 28 (alfalfa hay)	200 lb	\$180/ton	\$18.00	
Pasture Mar 1 - May 15 (calving/pairs)	2.5 mo	\$15/mo	\$37.50	
Alfalfa and grass/millet/sorghum sudan hay	1.2 ton	\$150/ton	\$180.00	
Pasture May 15 - Oct 31	5.5 mo	\$55/mo	\$302.50	
Salt and Mineral for 12 months	70 lb	\$0.45/lb	\$31.50	
Total			\$665.50	
FEED COSTS: 2-Yr-Old Heifers (16% of herd)				
Crop Residue/Range Nov 1 - Feb 1	3 mo	\$24/mo	\$72.00	
Protein Supplement Dec 15 - Feb 1 (alfalfa hay)	250 lb	\$180/ton	\$22.50	
Pasture Feb 1 - May 15 (calving/pairs)	3.5 mo	\$15/mo	\$52.50	
Alfalfa and grass/millet/sorghum sudan hay	1.7 ton	\$150/ton	\$255.00	
Pasture May 15 - Oct 31	5.5 mo	\$55/mo	\$302.50	
Salt and Mineral for 12 months	70 lb	\$0.45/lb	\$31.50	
Total			\$736.00	
FEED COSTS: Replacement Heifers (20% of cow herd kept and exposed to breed)				
Crop Residue/Aftermath Nov 1 - Feb 15	3.5 mo	\$15/mo	\$52.50	
Protein Supplement Dec 15 - Feb 15 (Dist. Grns)	300 lb	\$220/ton	\$33.00	
Growing Ration Dry Lot Feb 15 - May 15	3 mo	\$50/mo	\$150.00	
Pasture May 15 - Oct 31	5.5 mo	\$35/mo	192.50	
Salt and Mineral for 12 months	45 lb	\$.45/lb	\$20.25	
Total			\$448.25	
Estimated Annual Bull Feed Costs (1 bull to 25 females)			\$650.00	
TOTAL FEED COSTS/Cow Unit (0.84×mature cows + 0.16×2yr-olds + 0.20×replacements)			\$792.38	
Other Cash Costs (Vet/Med, Equipment/Facilities, Marketing, Interest, etc.)			\$140.00	
Labor	5.5 hr/yr	\$25.00/hr	\$137.50	
TOTAL OPERATING COSTS			\$1069.88	
Ownership Costs				
Interest on Cattle Value (average value over life)	\$1,800	7.0%	\$126.00	
Purchase of bull every 4 years for 30 cows	\$4,500/120		\$37.50	
Taxes and Insurance Buildings and Equipment			\$20.00	
Equipment and Facilities Depreciation			\$40.00	
TOTAL OWNERSHIP COSTS			\$223.50	
TOTAL COSTS EXCLUDING CULL CREDITS			\$1,293.38	
Cull Credits				
Cull cow (16% replace rate) - death loss (1.5%) =	1,250 lb	\$1.10	\$199.40	
Cull heifer (4% opens) - death loss (0.3%) =	850 lb	\$2.30	\$72.34	
Cull bull (1% replace rate) - death loss (0.05%)	1,800 lb	\$1.20	\$20.52	
TOTAL CULL CREDITS			\$292.26	
Capital Cost of Rep. Heifer Calf at Weaning	20% Rep. Rate	\$1500	\$300.00	
	Net Capital Cost		\$7.74	
	NET COST PER COW		\$1,301.12	
Cost/calf weaned/cow exposed at 80% = \$1,626; 85% =\$1,531; 90% =\$1,446				