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## Feed Cost Calculator

My colleague Rick Funston from the University of Nebraska sent an email this morning suggesting that ranchers who read Prime Cuts might enjoy evaluating the computer program "**Feed Cost Calculator**" written by Matt Stockton and Roger Wilson from the University of Nebraska. This program runs on Excel and is easily downloaded. To go to the web site, type or copy <http://westcentral.unl.edu/agecon/>.

I wanted to compare the costs of purchasing, freight, storage and feeding for four different feedstuffs. The following (page 2) is an example of one of the summary sheets. The feedstuffs I wanted to compare were two types of grass hay, an alfalfa hay and a commercial supplement. The beauty of this type of program is that you can quickly compare the costs of providing feedstuffs to the cowherd in terms of protein, energy (TDN) and feed losses. Page three shows the costs of feeding a 200cow herd. I made up the amounts of hay and supplement to feed each day for a 90 day period. I think you will like this program, especially facing the high costs of cereal grains this year.

Thanks Rick for sharing. As usual, I owe you. JP

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"Natural and Conventional  
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Feed Number		Feed			
		1	2	3	4
		Grass Hay (Premium)	Grass Hay	Alfalfa Hay (Good)	Suppl. A
	Price per Unit	\$ 100.00	\$ 85.00	\$ 110.00	\$ 220.00
	Pounds per unit	2,000.00	2,000.00	2,000.00	2,000.00
Nutrient values	%DM	90.0%	90.0%	90.0%	90.0%
	%CP	13.0%	11.0%	18.4%	32.0%
	%TDN	63.0%	55.0%	59.0%	83.0%
Cost per Pound of Nutrient Purchased	CP \$ per lb	\$ 0.427	\$ 0.429	\$ 0.332	\$ 0.382
	TDN \$ per lb	\$ 0.088	\$ 0.086	\$ 0.104	\$ 0.147
	DM \$ per lb	\$ 0.056	\$ 0.047	\$ 0.061	\$ 0.122
Freight	Rate per mile	\$ 4.50	\$ 4.50	\$ 4.50	\$ 4.50
	Miles	5.00	5.00	5.00	5.00
	Units per load	2.00	2.00	2.00	1.00
	Cost per unit	\$ 11.25	\$ 11.25	\$ 11.25	\$ 22.50
	Waste (per cent) Per cent delivered	1.0% 99.0%	1.0% 99.0%	0.5% 99.5%	0.5% 99.5%
Cost per Pound of Nutrient Delivered	CP \$ per lb	\$ 0.480	\$ 0.491	\$ 0.368	\$ 0.423
	TDN \$ per lb	\$ 0.099	\$ 0.098	\$ 0.115	\$ 0.163
	DM \$ per lb	\$ 0.062	\$ 0.054	\$ 0.068	\$ 0.135
Storage	Cost per unit	\$ 1.00	\$ 1.00	\$ 1.00	\$ -
	Waste (per cent)	2.0%	2.0%	1.0%	0.0%
	Per cent fed	97.0%	97.0%	98.5%	99.5%
Cost per Pound of Nutrient Fed	CP \$ per lb	\$ 0.499	\$ 0.511	\$ 0.377	\$ 0.425
	TDN \$ per lb	\$ 0.103	\$ 0.102	\$ 0.117	\$ 0.164
	DM \$ per lb	\$ 0.065	\$ 0.056	\$ 0.069	\$ 0.136
Feeding	Cost per unit	\$ 5.00	\$ 5.00	\$ 7.00	\$ 2.00
	Waste (per cent) Per cent consumed	2.0% 95.1%	2.0% 95.1%	2.0% 96.5%	1.0% 98.5%
	Costs per Pound of Nutrient Consumed	CP \$ per lb	\$ 0.542	\$ 0.559	\$ 0.410
TDN \$ per lb		\$ 0.112	\$ 0.112	\$ 0.128	\$ 0.167
DM \$ per lb		\$ 0.071	\$ 0.061	\$ 0.075	\$ 0.139

## Feed Needed

Feed Number	1	
Lbs / Hd / Day (As Fed)	0	
Number of Days Fed	0	
Number of Cows Fed	0	
Feed Needed	-	ton

Feed Number	2	
Lbs / Hd / Day (As Fed)	25.96	
Number of Days Fed	90	
Number of Cows Fed	200	
Feed Needed	233.60	ton

Feed Number	3	
Lbs / Hd / Day (As Fed)	5	
Number of Days Fed	90	
Number of Cows Fed	200	
Feed Needed	45.00	ton

Feed Number	4	
Lbs / Hd / Day (As Fed)	2	
Number of Days Fed	90	
Number of Cows Fed	200	
Feed Needed	18.00	ton

## Feed Costs

	1	2	3	4		
	Grass Hay (Premium)	Grass Hay	Alfalfa Hay (Good)	Suppl. A	Total Costs	
Purchase	Unit Price	100.00	85.00	110.00	220.00	
	% Dry Matter	90.0%	90.0%	90.0%	90.0%	
	lbs per Unit	2,000	2,000	2,000	2,000	
	Units Purchased	-	245.69	46.62	18.27	
	Cost	-	20,883.58	5,127.68	4,020.10	30,031.36
Hauling	Units per Load	2.00	2.00	2.00	1.00	
	Cost per Mile	4.50	4.50	4.50	4.50	
	Miles	5.00	5.00	5.00	5.00	
	Cost per Unit	11.25	11.25	11.25	22.50	
	Waste %	1.0%	1.0%	0.5%	0.5%	
	Hauling Cost	-	2,764.00	524.42	411.15	
Cost	-	23,647.58	5,652.10	4,431.25	33,730.93	
Storage	Cost per Unit	1.00	1.00	1.00	-	
	Waste %	2.0%	2.0%	1.0%	0.0%	
	Units Stored	-	243.23	46.38	18.18	
	Storage Cost	-	243.23	46.38	-	
Subtotal Cost	-	23,890.81	5,698.48	4,431.25	34,020.54	
Feeding	Cost per Unit	5.00	5.00	7.00	2.00	
	Waste %	2.0%	2.0%	2.0%	1.0%	
	Units Fed	-	238.37	45.92	18.18	
	Feeding Cost	-	1,191.84	321.43	36.36	
	Total Cost	-	25,082.65	6,019.91	4,467.61	35,570.17

