

BEEF CATTLE GROSS MARGIN BUDGET

July 2025

Enterprise: Inland store weaners sold from self replacing herd on semi improved pasture

Enterprise Unit: 100 cows

Pasture: Semi improved pasture

INCOME:			Standard Budget	Your Budget
	42	steer weaners @	\$1,118 /hd	\$46,956
	21	heifer weaners @	\$748 /hd	\$15,698
	1	CFA Bull @	\$2,620 /hd	\$2,620
	6	CFA cows @	\$1,538 /hd	\$9,228
	0	Dry cows @	\$1,538 /hd	\$0
	13	Other culls @	\$1,538 /hd	\$19,993
Total	83			

A. Total Income:

\$94,494

VARIABLE COSTS:

Replacements	1	Bull @	\$6,000 /hd	\$6,000
Livestock and vet costs: see section titled beef health costs for details.				\$2,189
Hay & Grain or silage. Low level supplementary feeding for 3 months				\$4,950
Drought feeding costs.				\$0
Pasture maintenance (372 Ha of semi improved native pasture)				\$9,998
Livestock selling cost (see assumptions on next page)				\$8,759

B. Total Variable Costs:

\$31,895

GROSS MARGIN (A-B)

\$62,599

GROSS MARGIN/COW

\$625.99

GROSS MARGIN/DSE*

\$42.07

GROSS MARGIN/HA

\$168.28

Change in gross margin (\$/cow) for change in price &/or the weight of sale stock

(Note: Table assumes that the price and weight of other stock changes in the same proportion as steers. As an example if steer sale price falls to 410c/kg and steer weight to 240 kg, gross margin would fall to \$514 per cow. This assumes that price and weight of all other sale stock falls by the same percentage.

Liveweight (kg) of steer weaners sold	Steer sale price cents/kg live					GM \$ per Cow
	390	410	430	450	470	
Steer wt.						
-40 kgs 220	406	445	485	524	564	
-20 kgs 240	473	514	555	597	638	
0 260	541	583	626	669	711	
+20 kgs 280	608	652	697	741	785	
+40 kgs 300	675	721	767	813	859	

An increase of 5% in weaning percentage increases gross margin per cow by \$41.86

Assumptions Inland store weaners sold from self replacing herd on semi improved pasture

Enterprise unit is 100 cows weighing on average 540 kg

Weaning rate: 84% - conception rate 90%

Sales

Steers sold at 9 months	260 kg	@430c/kg	live weight
Heifers sold at 9 months	230 kg	@325c/kg	live weight
21 heifers retained for replacement.			
Cull cows cast for age at 10 years	250 kg	@615c/kg	dressed weight
100% of preg tested empty cows culled	"	"	"
3% cows culled for other reasons	"	"	"
Bulls run at 3% & sold after 4 years use	420 kg	@624c/kg	dressed weight

Selling costs include: Commission 5%; yard dues \$10.00/hd; MLA levy \$5/hd; average freight cost to saleyards \$25/hd; NLIS tags \$3.60

Cows: age at first calf : 24 months

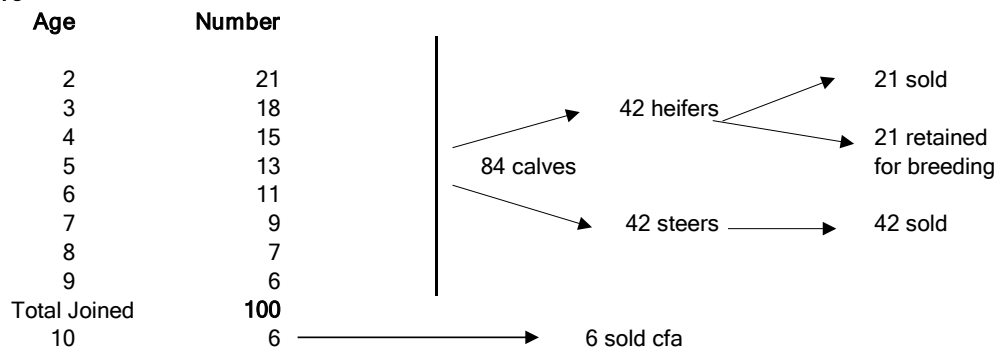
Mortality rate of adult stock: 2%

The average feed requirement of a cow + followers is rated at 2.21 LSU or 15.25 dse's. This is an average figure and will vary during the year.

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Age structure



Marketing Information:

Mainly sold to grass back-grounders for growing out.

Steers likely to end up in feedlots after further weight gain on grass.

Following sale, heifers either grown out to become breeders or fattened for the local trade market.

Production Information:

Mixed sex weaners sold from March to June from lighter country or at heavier stocking rates than for vealers. Common on unimproved areas with some supplementary feed in normal years.

This enterprise is the most drought susceptible.

NSW Department of Primary Industries Farm Enterprise Budget Series