
AGRICULTURAL ALTERNATIVES

Instructions for using the interactive budgets

You will need Adobe Acrobat Reader to use these forms. If you do not have this program installed on your computer, you can download a free version [here](#).

You can make changes to the interactive PDF budget files for this publication by inputting your own prices and quantities in the green-outlined cells for any item. You will need to click on and add your own estimated price and quantity information to all of the green-outlined cells to complete your customized budget.

The cells outlined in red automatically calculate your revised totals based on the changes you made to the cells outlined in green.

When you are finished, you can print the budget using the green **Print Form** button at the bottom of the form.

You can use the red **Clear Form** button to clear all the information from your budget when you are finished.

extension.psu.edu/ag-alternatives

This publication is available in alternative media on request.

Penn State is committed to affirmative action, equal opportunity, and the diversity of its workforce.

© The Pennsylvania State University 2014

PENNSTATE



Cooperative Extension
College of Agricultural Sciences

Sample Established Elk Cow-Calf Herd Budget

(based on a herd of 44 cows and 3 bulls)

Selling all yearling bulls and heifer calves (except heifer replacements)

Item	Quantity	Your Quantity	Unit	Price	Your Price	Total	Your Estimate
Receipts							
Yearling heifers sold for breeding stock	18.81	_____	head	\$ 1,000.00	_____	\$ 18,810.00	_____
Yearling bulls sold for breeding or velvet	19.8	_____	head	\$ 1,500.00	_____	\$ 29,700.00	_____
Velvet antler	35.2	_____	pound	\$ 7.50	_____	\$ 264.00	_____
<i>Total receipts</i>						\$ 48,774.00	_____
Variable costs							
Feed							
Pasture (hay equivalent)	66.88	_____	ton	\$ 45.60	_____	\$ 3,049.73	_____
Hay (mixed grass and legumes)	59.84	_____	ton	\$ 120.00	_____	\$ 7,180.80	_____
Grain	33	_____	ton	\$ 280.00	_____	\$ 9,240.00	_____
Salt and minerals	1719.52	_____	pound	\$ 2.00	_____	\$ 3,439.04	_____
<i>Total feed costs</i>						\$ 22,909.57	_____
Health program	85.36	_____	head	\$ 30.00	_____	\$ 2,560.80	_____
Transportation	85.36	_____	head	\$ 15.00	_____	\$ 1,280.40	_____
Advertising	85.36	_____	head	\$ 25.00	_____	\$ 2,134.00	_____
Hired labor	128.04	_____	hour	\$ 6.00	_____	\$ 768.24	_____
Supplies and miscellaneous	85.36	_____	head	\$ 5.00	_____	\$ 426.80	_____
Interest on operating capital						\$ 1,203.19	_____
<i>Total variable costs</i>						\$ 31,283.00	_____
Fixed costs							
Hired labor	450	_____	hour	\$0.00	_____	\$0.00	_____
Bull replacement	0.88	_____	bull	\$ 10,000.00	_____	\$8,800.00	_____
Fencing						\$ 4,752.00	_____
Building and facilities						\$ 5,280.00	_____
<i>Total fixed costs</i>						\$18,832.00	_____
Total costs						\$ 50,115.00	_____
Returns							
Returns over variable costs						\$ 17,491.00	_____
Net returns						\$ (1,341.00)	_____