

**COW-CALF: Production Costs and Returns, Heartland Region, 2002-2003 1/**

Item	2002	2003
	<u>Dollars per Bred Cow</u>	
<b>Gross value of production</b>		
Steer calves	171.63	187.53
Heifer calves	115.41	126.15
Yearling steers	34.99	40.79
Yearling heifers	10.80	12.55
Other cattle	64.53	75.11
Total gross value of production	401.63	446.51
<b>Operating costs</b>		
Purchased cattle for backgrounding	23.32	26.60
Feed		
Concentrates and other feed	26.80	26.86
Supplemental feed	39.80	41.96
Harvested forages	200.89	189.51
Cropland pasture	13.21	13.36
Private pasture	74.48	76.01
Public land	0.36	0.35
Total feed costs	355.54	348.05
Other		
Veterinary and medicine	38.48	39.47
Bedding and litter	1.34	1.37
Marketing	4.27	4.38
Custom operations	40.18	41.12
Fuel, lube, and electricity	16.16	16.16
Repairs	29.24	29.96
Interest on operating inputs	4.40	2.76
Total operating costs	512.93	509.87
<b>Allocated overhead</b>		
Hired labor	0.61	0.64
Opportunity cost of unpaid labor	219.85	230.47
Capital recovery cost of machinery and equipment	280.58	281.21
Opportunity cost of land	5.55	5.72
Taxes and insurance	44.22	44.94
General farm overhead	84.08	85.88
Total allocated overhead	634.89	648.86
<b>Total cost listed</b>	<b>1,147.82</b>	<b>1,158.73</b>
<b>Value of production less total costs listed</b>	<b>-746.19</b>	<b>-712.22</b>
<b>Value of production less operating costs</b>	<b>-111.30</b>	<b>-63.36</b>

1/ The Heartland Region includes portions of South Dakota, Nebraska, Iowa, Missouri, Illinois, Indiana, Ohio, and Minnesota's Ag. Statistics Districts 4, 7, 8, and 9. Minnesota is also part of the Northern Crescent and Northern Great Plains Regions. Information is available about the Northern Crescent and Northern Great Plains Regions on the ERS website listed below.

Source: Economic Research Service, United States Department of Agriculture, Washington, D.C.  
Internet Web Site ([www.ers.usda.gov/data/](http://www.ers.usda.gov/data/))

