

Upcoming Events:

Dec 9

Soil, Water & NM Update
10:00 AM Cecil

Jan 5, 12, 19

Cow College 1:00 PM Clintonville
(see details inside)

Jan 6

UWEX Agronomy Update
7:30 AM Kimberly

Feb 11

Forage Council Annual Mtg
10 AM Bear Lake, Manawa

Feb 23

UWEX Cattle Feeder Seminar
10:30 AM Bear Creek Area

March 1 & 3

Pesticide Applicator Training
8:30 AM Manawa & Waupaca

Greg Blonde, UW-Extension Agriculture Agent...715-258-6230 (ext 2) or greg.blonde@ces.uwex.edu

UW-Extension 2015 Crop Variety Field Trials & YouTube Video Clips Now On-Line



Every year, UW-Extension and UW-Madison College of Ag and Life Sciences conduct crop variety trials in cooperation with the Wisconsin Crop Improvement Association. The purpose is to provide unbiased local field research between seed varieties available to Wisconsin farmers. Results for 2015 are now available on-line for each of the following WI crops:

2015 Wisconsin Hybrid Corn Performance Trials - Grain and Silage (A3653)
<http://ipcm.wisc.edu/blog/2015/11/2015-wisconsin-corn-hybrid-performance-trials/>

2015 Wisconsin Soybean Variety Trials (A3654)
http://www.coolbean.info/soybean_research/variety_trial_results_soybean.php

2015 Wisconsin Perennial Forage Crop Variety Update (A1525)
<http://learningstore.uwex.edu/assets/pdfs/A1525.pdf>

The **UW-Extension YouTube** channel (website) has over fifty video clips on corn, soybean, small grains, and other crop/farm management related topics. Check out our UW-Extension YouTube channel at:

<https://www.youtube.com/playlist?list=PL44D622149CDDD748>

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AGRICULTURE RESOURCE NEWSLETTER

Greg Blonde, UW-Extension Agriculture Agent...715-258-6230 (ext 2) or greg.blonde@ces.uwex.edu

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Merry Christmas
& Happy Holidays
from Waupaca
County UW-
Extension staff!
Best wishes to
you and your
family in 2016 !!

Mark Your Calendar...

Several great local and regional Extension programs this winter for Waupaca County farmers and Ag professionals. So mark your calendar and plan to attend one or more of the following (see inside for more details):

December 9

UW Soil Water & Nutrient Management

10 AM—3 PM Main Event, Cecil

December 9

UW Dairy Cattle Hoof Clinic

10 AM—3PM Liberty Hall, Kimberly

January 5, 12 & 19

Cow College

1 PM FVTC Clintonville (Jan 5 & 12)

10 AM Farm Tour (Jan 19)

January 6

UW Agronomy Update Meeting

8 AM—Noon, Liberty Hall, Kimberly

February 11

Waupaca Co. Forage Council Annual Winter Meeting

10 AM—3PM Bear Lake Resort, Manawa

February 23

Cattle Feeder Update

Noon—3 PM, Equity Livestock, Marion

March 1 & 3

Private Pesticide Applicator Training

8:30 AM—3 PM

March 1, Manawa City Hall

March 3, Courthouse, Waupaca



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Upcoming UW-Extension Crop Production Programs...

UW Soil, Water & Nutrient Management Meetings

Dec 9 - Main Event, Cecil

- WI Soil Test Level Trends, 2010-2014
- Starter Fertilizer for High Yield Corn
- Nutrient Stratification
- Wheat Nitrogen Management
- Potassium (K) Fertilization Update
- Cover Crops After Corn & Beans

Cost is \$40/person (including lunch). CEU credits also available. Register at least one week in advance by contacting either Adams Co UWEX for the Marshfield site (608-339-4237) or Shawano Co UWEX (715-526-6136).

UW Agronomy Update Meetings

Jan 5 - 1:00 PM Fond du Lac Co UWEX
Jan 6 - 8:00 AM Liberty Hall, Kimberly

- UW Forage / Grain Variety Trials
- Low-Lignin Alfalfa
- What We Learned Growing Corn in 2015
- Does WI corn need tillage?
- Prioritizing Soybean Inputs in 2016
- Cover crop or fall forage: spring grain after winter wheat?

CEU credits are available for this program. Contact Tina Kohlman for the Fond du Lac site (920-929-3170 or tina.kohlman@ces.uwex.edu) and Kevin Jarek for the Kimberly location (920-832-5119 or kevin.jarek@ces.uwex.edu) Pre-register required to avoid late fees (\$18, plus meal).

Private Pesticide Certification Training

March 1 (Tues) 8:30 AM Manawa City Hall
March 3 (Thurs) 8:30 AM Courthouse, Waupaca

Those who need to re-certify or want to become certified private pesticide applicators for field or vegetable crops can register for the training program scheduled in Waupaca County this winter. The training fee is \$30 per person (certification good 5 yrs). Register by purchasing the training manual at the UWEX office in Waupaca (\$35 by mail). Call (715-258-6230) or Email (greg.blonde@ces.uwex.edu) for more information.

Market Update / Outlook

By Dr. Bob Cropp, Extension Dairy Market Specialist
Brenda Boetel, Extension Grain Market Specialist

Cropp sees milk prices in the months ahead heading lower. Butter prices are likely to soon decline. Nonfat dry milk prices have already fallen to \$0.7675 per pound. On the CME 40-pound cheddar blocks have fallen to \$1.56 per pound and barrels to \$1.415 per pound. There is nothing in the near future to rally these prices much. But, with October milk production virtually unchanged from a year ago and likely to show little or no growth at least for the next month or two cheese prices may recover some from the current lows. The Class III price will likely be below \$15 for December and in the low \$14's by January. In fact, if cheese prices don't strengthen some from the current lows on the CME and dry whey prices remain in the low 20 cents per pound, the Class III price could even drop below \$14. The Class III price may stay in the low \$14's first quarter of next year and not reaching the \$15's until second quarter, but improve to the \$16's by summer and possibly even reaching the low \$17's by late fall.

For cattle feeders, Boetel thinks this year may be one of the worst ever in terms of profits, a sharp contrast to 2014 when return estimates approached an all-time high. Beginning in the summer of 2014, cattle feeders placed very expensive animals into feedlots that required high sale prices this year to breakeven, which of course never happened. However, that could change for cattle sold as early and January 2016. Based on what has already happened to the price relationship between feeder and fed cattle, 2016 will not be a repeat for cattle feeders in terms of red ink. Still, it will likely take several years for cattle feeders to recover from the financial debacle of 2015.

For corn, she sees no real bullish news for corn at the moment. Seasonal trend is for price to continue lower throughout November then increase into 2016. Net long positions by speculators are decreasing, meaning the market may soon be oversold. The current weak carry for December-March contracts provide long-term bullish outlook. If basis is strong, store on paper; if basis is weak, buy back March futures options. Or, consider selling calls, which will limit upside potential, but will provide revenue to add to cash sales later.

For soybeans, she says export sales are at a marketing year low, and below expectations. Seasonal trend is for price increases into May 2016, but very limited long-term upside potential. Consider pricing 100% of 2015/16 soybeans, if not look for short-term opportunities.

Waterer (Frost Free)	Cost per Unit	Water Tanks	Cost per Unit
24" long	\$500 each	50 gallon	\$100 each
36" long	\$700 each	100 gallon	\$125 each
48" long	\$800 each	300 gallon	\$200 each
72" long	\$900 each	600 gallon	\$300 each
84" long	\$1,100 each		

Excavation	Cost per Unit
Excavation for site preparation	\$4.00 per square foot or \$3.00 per cubic yard
Top soil stripping	\$2.20 per cubic yard
Earth fill, on site	\$3.00 per cubic yard
Lane with screenings, 16' wide	\$6.00 per linear foot
4" crushed stone (from off site)	\$12.50 per cubic yard
Grass waterway	\$3.75 per linear foot

Manure Storage	Cost per Unit
Concrete stacking pad with buck wall	\$3.50 per square foot
Slatted floor tank under shelter	\$1.50 per cubic foot
Concrete vertical wall tank	\$0.90 per cubic foot
Clay lined lagoon	\$0.25 per cubic foot
Concrete lined lagoon	\$0.50 per cubic foot
18" double wall corrugated HDPE (installed)	\$19.00 per linear foot
24" double wall corrugated HDPE (installed)	\$30.00 per linear foot
1" diameter water line, installed below ground	\$2.00 per linear foot
4' deep huffcut channel	\$93 per linear foot
4' deep huffcut channel with lid	\$150 per linear foot
8' x 8' x 8' concrete transfer tank with lid	\$5,000 each

Manure Handling Equipment	Cost per Unit
Chopper pump	\$11,000 each
Piston pump	\$18,000 each
Vertical piston pump	\$27,000 each
Agitator	\$6,000 each

Runoff Control	Cost per Unit
Vegetative treatment area	\$1,000 per acre

For additional extension resources regarding dairy modernization, please visit <http://fyi.uwex.edu/dairy>



UW-Extension Dairy Team strengthens the competitiveness of the Wisconsin Dairy Industry through statewide leadership in education and research.

Doors			Estimated Cost per Unit
3'x 7' personal door steel/fiberglass			\$400 each
Slider			\$5.00 per square foot
Overhead			\$9.00 per square foot
Door opener, large door			\$800 each
Door opener, small door			\$400 each
Ventilation			Estimated Cost per Unit
Covered Ridge			\$10.00 per linear foot
Curtain Gathered			
4' wide rollup			\$13.50 per linear foot
6' wide rollup			\$16.50 per linear foot
8' wide rollup			\$18.00 per linear foot
Welded wire panel protection for curtain			\$0.50 per square foot
Panel Fans			
3' diameter panel fan			\$500 each
4' diameter panel fan			\$700 each
Exhaust Fans (in wall)			
12" diameter			\$350 each
18" diameter			\$600 each
24" diameter			\$700 each
36" diameter			\$800 each
48" diameter			\$1,000 each
Tunnel Ventilation Fans with Cone			
24" diameter			\$650 each
36" diameter			\$1,300 each
48" diameter			\$1,500 each
Large Diameter 20' Paddle Fan (High Volume Low Speed, HVLS)			\$6,000 each
Ceiling Fan 5' Diameter			\$200 each
Positive Pressure Tube System			Estimated Cost per Unit
			Plastic Tube Fan
12" diameter			\$3.50 per linear foot \$400 each
18" diameter			\$3.75 per linear foot \$425 each
24" diameter			\$4.00 per linear foot \$500 each
36" diameter			\$5.00 per linear foot \$600 each



UW-Extension Dairy Team strengthens the competitiveness of the Wisconsin Dairy Industry through statewide leadership in education and research.



2016
Cow College
FVTC Regional Center
Clintonville, Wisconsin



January 5 (1-3 PM) - Feeding Dairy Cows for Profit

Dr. Dave Combs, UW-Madison Dairy Nutrition Specialist
& Local Dairy Nutrition Panel Discussion

Learn how a new forage/fee test can help your dairy herd be more productive and more profitable. Dr. Combs will explain how his new total tract digestible fiber analysis can help dairy farms get the most out of their homegrown feed, especially during times like this when profit margins are tight. In addition, a panel of local dairy feed consultants will also discuss how they use the new test, as well as other strategies they've seen help improve both production and profitability on area dairy farms. Mayra Pasayes, FVTC Office of Diversity, will also share tips to improve multi-cultural awareness of Hispanic and Latino employees.

January 12 (1-3 PM) – Achieving Excellence

Dr. Gordie Jones, DVM / Dairy Consultant &
Managing Partner, Central Sands Dairy LLC

Dairy farms of all sizes have bottlenecks which keep them from achieving their potential. Dr. Jones will discuss his experiences helping dairy farms identify and manage these bottlenecks, helping achieve excellence by unleashing the herds true potential. Zen Miller, and his summer intern Bethany Marks, will also share results of their recent evaluation of dehorning practices on dairy farms in NE Wisconsin.

January 19 Farm Tour (south-central Waupaca County)

10:00 AM Breezy Hill Farms LLC, E4399 Bartel Rd, Weyauwega WI

11:00 AM Jonely Farms LLC, N1921 Co. Rd X, Weyauwega WI

12:30 PM Lunch (Waupaca VFW, 244 Industrial Drive, Waupaca, WI)

Register for the sessions you plan to attend: January 5 January 12 January 19 (Tour)

Name(s) _____ Email _____

Address _____ City _____ Zip _____ Phone _____

Cost is \$5.00/day or \$10.00 total for all three = \$ _____ (Call or send check to UW-Extension by Dec. 31)

Waupaca County UWEX
Courthouse 811 Harding St
Waupaca WI 54981
715 258-6230

Shawano County UWEX
Courthouse, Rm 101
Shawano WI 54166
715 526-6136

Outagamie County UWEX
3365 W Brewster Street
Appleton WI 54914
920 832-5119



Heifer Management Blueprints

M.S. Akins and M.A. Hagedorn
Extension Specialist, UW-Madison Dept. of Dairy Science
Agriculture Agent, UW-Extension Eau Claire County

The Cost of Raising Dairy Replacements-2015 Updates

Raising dairy replacements continues to be expensive. The cost of raising calves and heifers is often the second highest expenditure on dairy farms after milking herd feed costs. In 2013, these costs were determined using data collected by UW-Extension agriculture agents from 36 dairy farms and custom calf and heifer growers across the state. However, in the past 2 years costs have changed especially lower feed cost and higher calf value. This factsheet provides updated costs for 2015.

A few assumptions were made to standardize certain input costs which are listed below for 2013 and 2015. Notice that only the feed costs and calf value are changed in this 2015 update. All other costs were producer-specific and represent real farm costs in 2013.

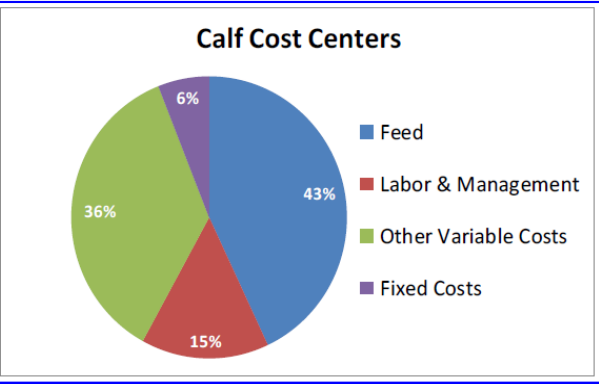
Key Assumptions		
Item	2013	2015
Calf Value	\$150	\$ 400
Labor (paid and unpaid)	\$13/hour	\$13/hour
Management (paid and unpaid)	\$22/hour	\$22/hour
Interest Rate	4.5 %	4.5 %
Housing		
Homemade Calf Hutch	\$200	\$200
Purchased Calf Hutch	\$400	\$400
Greenhouse Barn	\$10/sq. foot	\$10/sq. foot
Post Frame Calf Barn	\$15.50/sq. foot	\$15.50/sq. foot
Bedded Pack Barn	\$18.50/sq. foot	\$18.50/sq. foot
Free Stall Barn	\$20/sq. foot	\$20/sq. foot
Mound System	\$0.10/sq. foot	\$0.10/sq. foot
Concrete Lot	\$3/sq. foot	\$3/sq. foot
Dirt Lot	\$0.10/sq. foot	\$0.10/sq. foot
Feed		
Legume Silage (100% DM)	\$200/ton	\$150/ton
Corn Silage (100% DM)	\$140/ton	\$100/ton
Corn (100% DM)	\$250/ton	\$170/ton
Soybean Meal (100% DM)	\$375/ton	\$350/ton
Cow Refusals (100% DM)	\$150/ton	\$100/ton

The Calf Enterprise
Calf rearing expenditures were broken into four management areas: feed cost, labor and management, variable costs (veterinary service, bedding, death loss, and interest) and fixed costs (housing and equipment). The major change since 2013 was increased calf value (\$400 vs \$150 per calf) which caused both death loss and interest costs (other variable costs) to increase. Other variable costs increased from \$41 per calf (\$0.64 per day) to \$51 per calf (\$0.70 per day). No other areas were changed for calf costs.

In 2013, feed cost was the most expensive cost at \$165 per calf (\$2.40 per day). Feed costs included liquid feed (milk replacer or pasteurized milk), starter, and forages. Labor and management costs were the next largest expense at \$134 per calf (\$1.95 per day). Fixed costs averaged \$23 per calf (\$0.35 per day).

The average total cost to raise a calf in 2015 was \$374 per calf or \$5.51 per calf per day not including the calf value.

The cost for raising calves ranged from \$3.81 to \$5.59 per calf per day with the average being \$5.51 per day over 68 days.



Calf Pens	Estimated Cost per Unit
Calf pen 4' x 7', plastic	\$500 each
Calf hutch, individual	\$250 each
Calf transition group hutch (4 calves)	\$650 each
Double pail holder	\$20 each
Pail	\$10 each

Pens and Stall Work	Estimated Cost per Unit
Freestall partition/neck rail	\$100 each
Rubber flooring, 1/2" thick	\$2.50 per square foot
Fiberglass post and rod gates or fence	\$12.50 per linear foot
Steel tube gates or fence	\$7.50 per linear foot
4" x 7' galvanized steel post	\$100 each
6" x 8" x 8' treated wood post	\$54 each
Mattress	\$300-\$500 each

Feeding System	Estimated Cost per Unit
Flat floor, 3' wide with 21" high curb, posts 10' on center, and feed rail barrier	\$30 per linear foot
Precast concrete J-bunk	\$25 per linear foot
Precast concrete H-bunk	\$25 per linear foot
Headlocks	\$40-\$45 per linear foot
Diagonal bar feeder barrier	\$36 per linear foot
Mechanical bunk feeder	\$100 per linear foot
Mechanical conveyor	\$75 per linear foot
Round bale feeder	\$400 each
Feeder wagon on running gear, feed on both sides	\$140 per linear foot
Portable steel feed bunk, feed on both sides	\$50 per linear foot

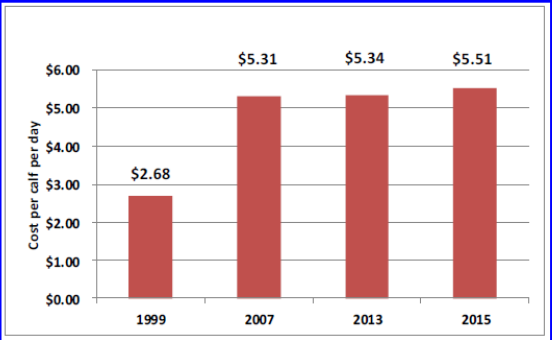
Feed Storage	Estimated Cost per Unit
Vertical silo	\$1.40 per cubic foot
Horizontal silo concrete walls	\$0.52 per cubic foot
5" concrete feed storage pad with #4 rebar (1/2"), 18" on center	\$4.00 per square foot
Asphalt feed storage pad	\$2.30 per square foot
Bulk feed bin	
3 ton	\$1,200 each
6 ton	\$1,500 each
9 ton	\$2,200 each
12 ton	\$3,000 each

Shade/Shelter	Estimated Cost per Unit
Shade shelter pipe frame	
< 400 square foot	\$3.00 per square foot
< 1,600 square foot	\$2.00 per square foot
< 3,600 square foot	\$1.80 per square foot
< 10,000 square foot	\$1.40 per square foot
< 40,000 square foot	\$1.25 per square foot
Shade cloth, 16' roll	\$0.22 per square foot
Shade cloth panels, hemmed grommetted	\$0.40 per square foot
Windbreak shelter pipe frame, 10' high	\$20.00 per linear foot
Wall Sheathing	Estimated Cost per Unit
Painted steel corrugated	\$1.00 per square foot
Plastic corrugated flat panel (8mm thick)	\$1.50 per square foot
Plastic, 1/16" corrugated	\$1.00 per square foot
Plastic, 1/8" corrugated	\$1.75 per square foot
Plastic, 1/4" corrugated	\$3.25 per square foot
Polycarbonate	\$1.75 per square foot
OSB, 1/2" thick	\$0.60 per square foot
Roof Insulation	Estimated Cost per Unit
Bubble	\$0.50 per square foot
2" vinyl covered fiberglass, material only	\$0.60 per square foot
2" vinyl covered fiberglass, labor and material	\$1.25 per square foot
1" foil covered rigid board	\$0.75 per square foot
Dripex covering	\$1.00 per square foot
Concrete Walls and Floors	Estimated Cost per Unit
6" high curb with footing	\$24.00 per linear foot
12" high curb with footing	\$30.00 per linear foot
24" high curb with footing	\$33.00 per linear foot
8" x 4' wall with footing	\$56.00 per linear foot
8" x 5' wall with footing	\$72.00 per linear foot
8" x 6' wall with footing	\$87.00 per linear foot
8" x 8' wall with footing	\$123.00 per linear foot
8" x 6" curb on top of flat work	\$2.50 per linear foot
8" x 1' curb on top of flat work	\$5.00 per linear foot
8" x 2' curb on top of flat work	\$10.00 per linear foot
5" flatwork #3 rebar (3/8" diameter), 18" on center	\$3.60 per square foot
5" flatwork #4 rebar (1/2" diameter), 18" on center	\$4.00 per square foot
4" concrete with welded wire mesh	\$2.75 per square foot
Concrete, material only	\$100 per cubic yard
Concrete, labor and material	\$200 per cubic yard
Saw concrete	\$7.60 per linear foot
Concrete flat work removal	\$1.80 per square foot



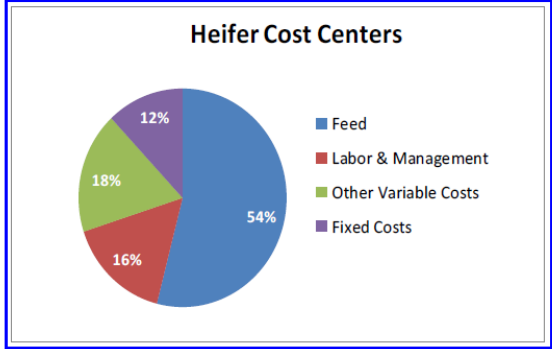
UW-Extension Dairy Team strengthens the competitiveness of the Wisconsin Dairy Industry through statewide leadership in education and research.

Costs associated with raising wet calves based on the UW-Extension trials conducted in 1999, 2007, 2013, and the 2015 updates are shown in the graph below.



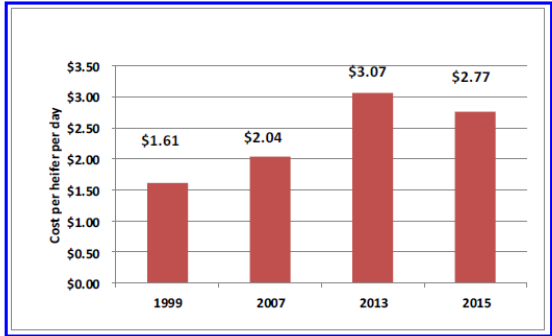
The Heifer Enterprise

Since 2013, feed costs have decreased significantly leading to feed costs decreasing from \$1,046 per heifer (\$1.71 per day) to \$910 per heifer (\$1.37 per day) in 2015. Labor and management were the next largest expense at \$342 per heifer (\$0.53 per day). Other variable costs were approximately \$278 per heifer (\$0.44 per day) and were similar to 2013 costs with slightly lower interest costs due to lower feed costs, but higher death loss costs due to higher calf value in 2015. Fixed costs averaged \$217 per heifer (\$0.32 per day). The average cost for raising a dairy heifer from weaning to freshening (or returned to the dairy by custom grower) in 2015 was \$1,736 per heifer or \$2.77 per day (range



was \$2.04 to \$4.32 per heifer per day) which is 10% lower compared to 2013 (\$1914 per heifer).

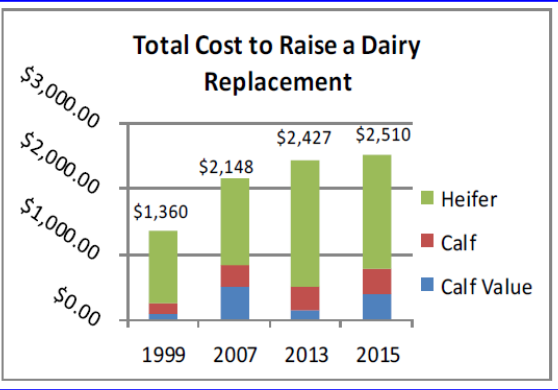
Costs associated with raising heifers from weaning until freshening (or when returned from grower) based on the UW-Extension trials conducted in 1999, 2007, 2013, and the 2015 updates are shown in the graph below.



Total Costs – from Birth to Freshening

Since the cost of many farm inputs have increased in the past few years, it is to be expected that dairy replacement rearing costs have increased as well. As mentioned earlier, most data collected was producer-specific. Only a few key assumptions were made to help standardize inputs. This was the same approach utilized when the study was performed in 1999 and 2007. **

Based on the 2015 cost updates, the total cost to raise a heifer, from birth to freshening, averaged \$2,510 (including the \$400 value for the calf). This is actually higher than total heifer costs in 2013 which were \$2427 per heifer due to a \$250 higher calf value in 2015.



Calf and heifer raising is an expensive part of a dairy operation, but it is often overlooked since no direct income is derived from the replacement herd. The data collected in this study provides an excellent benchmark on dairy replacement rearing costs for dairy producers and agri-business professionals. However, to truly understand your own costs of production, you need to analyze your actual farm inputs. This information should be used to compare the performance and cost of your own dairy replacement management program. Identifying areas to improve producer efficiency may lead to enhanced profitability.

**** Economic Costs and Labor Efficiencies Associated with Raising Dairy Herd Replacements on Wisconsin Dairy Farms and Custom Heifer Raising Operations Reports are now available.**

To view the **ICPA Research Reports** please visit our website at: tinyurl.com/kgd2npv or use the inserted scan code.



University of Wisconsin, States Department of Agriculture and Wisconsin Counties Cooperating.
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Updated Fall 2015



University of Wisconsin-Extension Dairy Team

Building Cost Estimates-Dairy Modernization

Dairy modernization is defined here as the investment in facilities and technology to provide animal comfort and express the genetic potential of the herd to produce milk at a profit. Many farms are evolving from the tie/stanchion barn systems to a freestall or bedded pen barn and milking center. The range of project investments is large. One farm may need to remodel a building for calves while another farm needs a new barn and parlor. In the planning process, developing a budget with an estimate of the specific investments is usually not known fully until the plans are developed. The cost estimates here are “ballpark” estimates for initial budgeting and decision purposes. It can help in the decision making process to know the approximate or “ballpark” costs for financial long range planning.



The information in this fact sheet is not a comprehensive list of facility and equipment costs. Costs have been gathered from discussions with dairy producers giving their estimated costs associated with their project. Other costs were collected by reviewing prices from suppliers. These costs may not reflect some of the out of pocket costs to complete a project nor the entire cost of the project. Some costs represent material costs only and do not include installation labor. Some costs such as plumbing and electrical installation are more difficult to quantify on a per square foot or per head basis. Costs are for 2015 and do not account for future inflation. Costs do not reflect the supply and demand cycle of the construction industry and the construction season.

Accurate costs can only be determined by obtaining competitive bids for equipment and buildings from suppliers and builders and should include materials, installation labor, and project management costs.

For more information, please contact:

David W. Kammel, PhD.
UW-Extension
and
UW-Madison
Department of
Biological Systems
Engineering
dwkammel@wisc.edu

Project	Estimated Cost per Unit
Calf barn (with warm room)	\$1,500 to \$2,000 per head
Heifer barn (bedded pack)	\$2,000 to \$3,000 per calf
Cow freestall barn, electric and plumbing not included	\$2,500 to \$3,000 per stall, or \$20 per square foot
Robotic milking system (includes buildings, robots, gates and 30 day manure storage)	\$12,000 to \$13,000 per stall
New parlors and buildings	\$24,000 to \$32,000 per milking stall
Retrofit parlors	\$3,000 to \$6,000 per milking stall
*Estimated value of existing building, milk house, electric, and plumbing for retrofit parlor	\$50,000 to \$75,000

UW-Extension provides equal opportunities in employment & programming, including Title IX

Building Frame	Estimated Cost per Unit
Post frame roof, open front/no floor	\$9.00 per square foot
Materials 2015	\$5.60 per square foot
Construction labor	\$2.70 per square foot
Post frame with truss, posts in ground, 100' long, width ranges from 30' to 120' Additional 8' to 10' bay	\$7.00-\$12.00 per square foot \$6.00-\$9.00 per square foot
Post frame with truss posts on frost foundation 100' long, width ranges from 30' to 120' Additional 8' to 10' bay	\$10.00-\$15.00 per square foot \$8.00-\$11.00 per square foot
Calf barn, 30' wide includes building frame, ² / ₃ concrete floor, curtains, and doors	\$10.00-\$12.00 per square foot
Heifer barn, open front 40' wide includes building frame, ² / ₃ concrete floor, curtains, and doors	\$16.50 per square foot
Freestall barn 70' to 120' wide includes building frame, concrete, curtains, doors, and stalls	\$15.00 per square foot
Post frame overhang	\$8.00 per square foot
Steel frame on pier foundation, 100' long	\$12.00 per square foot
Steel frame on frost foundation, 100' long	\$20.00 per square foot
Additional 20' bay	\$15.00 per square foot
Hoop structure (FarmTek®) includes materials only package, no concrete	\$4.00 per square foot
Hoop structure (FarmTek®) includes frame only with labor, no concrete	\$6.00 per square foot
2' x 6' stud frame wall (insulated)	\$25.00 per square foot
2' x 4' stud frame wall (uninsulated)	\$15.00 per square foot



Image source: UW-Madison, Department of Dairy Science



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