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SDSU IRM-SPA 2008 Summary Report

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INTRODUCTION

Integrated Resource Management (IRM) is a method of managing the farm as a whole, rather than as separate, unrelated enterprises. Using this method, resources can be utilized to maximize efficiency and profitability of an operation. A key component of the IRM approach to management is Standardized Performance Analysis (SPA). The SPA is a cow-calf performance analysis system that is used to integrate production and financial data using a standardized performance analysis procedure to identify production management and financial inefficiencies in the cow-calf enterprise. These performance values can be used to identify opportunities for change. Comparing results between production years as well with other producers will help managers monitor their progress and identify a more cost effective production and management system.

The SDSU-IRM-SPA program was developed with the intent of providing producers with a useful analysis of their business to improve profitability and sustainability.

The program allows South Dakota cow-calf producers to compare their data to state averages in order to identify the strengths and weaknesses of their operation. Further, data from the same operation can be compared from year-to-year in order to evaluate the effectiveness of management changes aimed at improving profitability. Because other states in the region are currently using this approach to standardizing the cow-calf enterprise analysis, the opportunity exists to generate regional summaries and to make comparisons from state-to-state.

MATERIALS AND METHODS

Data collected from cow-calf producers who participated in the SDSU-IRM-SPA program were used in this study. Additional data was collected through individual consultation and through the SDSU Range 485 Advanced Ranch Management course. Data were collected for the 2008 calendar year; data were from the cow-calf enterprise only. All production and financial data, regardless of source, were collected using the SPA system, in accordance with the SPA guidelines, developed by the IRM Coordinating Committee of the National Cattlemen's Beef Association. All participants completed the production data however, not every participant completed the financial data. Each herd represented one observation which resulted in a final data base of 51 production observations and 36 financial observations.

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RESULTS

Table 1. 2008 Reproduction and production measures summary (n=51).

Measure	Average
Reproduction and production:	
	Average
Pregnancy percentage	94.08
Weaning percentage	86.06
Calving distribution:	
Calves born during 1 st 21 Days (%)	55.63
Calves born during 1 st 42 Days (%)	28.06
Calves born during 1 st 63 Days (%)	10.14
Production performance:	
Average weaning weight (lbs)	504.49
Pounds of calf weaned per exposed female (lbs)	438.95

Table 2. 2008 Reproduction and production measures by herd size summary (n=51).

Herd size	%	%	Calving distribution			Wean wt	lb Weaned/ cow exp
			(%)	(%)	(%)		
	Pregnancy	Wean	Day 1 to 21	Day 22 to 42	Day 43 to 63		
1 - 50	92.3	87.6	77.5	5.0	7.5	400	367
51 - 100	95.2	79.7	69.1	22.8	5.36	518.66	416.33
101 - 150	98.65	90.8	24.05	37.55	20.1	574	519.5
151 - 250	93.29	82.4	47.2	41.6	9.3	520	428.7
250 +	94.94	89.82	57.33	32.03	8.80	509.80	463.20

Table 3. 2008 Cow cost, calf cost breakeven, and return on assets summary (n=36).

Measure	Average
Total cost per cow (\$)	421.39
Calf cost breakeven (\$)	0.96
Return on assets (%)	7.03

Table 4. 2008 Cow cost, calf cost breakeven, and return on assets by herd size summary (n=36).

Herd size	Total cost per cow (\$)	Calf cost breakeven (\$/lb)	ROA (%)
1 - 50	420.95	1.14	5.31
51 - 100	400.25	0.96	9.67
101 - 150	437.45	0.84	6.29
151 - 250	402.33	0.93	10.48
250 +	445.89	0.96	3.4

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