

Utah State University  
 Extension Economics  
 Dairy Bull Budget  
 Estimated Costs & Returns of having a dairy bull for natural service,  
 Utah, 1997

Item	Unit	Weight	Price	Value	Your Dairy
				.....Dollars.....	
<b>Receipts:</b>					
Bull	lbs	1863	0.45	838.35	
<b>Costs:</b>					
Young Bull	each	1	800.00	800.00	
<b>Feed</b>					
Alfalfa Hay	tons	6.9	90.00	621.00	
Silage	tons	2.2	25.00	55.00	
Grain/concentrates	tons	2.8	200.00	560.00	
<b>Other Direct Costs</b>					
Labor (100 cows)	hours	25	10.00	250.00	
Bedding	head	1	20.00	20.00	
Maintenance/repairs	head	1	50.00	50.00	
Vet/hoof trim/ medicine	head	1	35.00	35.00	
Miscellaneous	head	1	35.00	35.00	
Interest on Bull	dollars	800.00	@ 10% for 550 days	120.55	
Total Cost				2,546.55	
Net Cost (sales value less total cost)					(1,708.20)

Number of cows		Cost/cow		Total
Bred	Settled	Bred	Settled	Cost
100	75	(17.08)	(22.78)	(1,708.20)
133	100	(13.46)	(17.95)	(1,790.70)
167	125	(11.23)	(14.98)	(1,875.70)
200	150	(9.79)	(13.05)	(1,958.20)
233	175	(8.76)	(11.68)	(2,040.70)
267	200	(7.96)	(10.62)	(2,125.70)

**Assumptions:**

- Number of days bull kept – 550
- Weight of young bull (lbs) – 900
- Weight gain per day (lbs) – 1.75
- Hours of labor per cow bred – 0.25

Feed	Average lbs/day	Total tons
Hay	25	6.9
Grain	8	2.2
Silage	10	2.8

No cost of personal risks are included. This budget only allows one to determine the cost of natural service. It does not include any estimate of the genetic potential of this bull (positive or negative).

Budget prepared by E. Bruce Godfrey, Clark Israelsen, and Allen Young.