

Non-SDA and SDA suckler herds

Ranked by net margin: per cow or per lwt kg output	(£ per cow to bull)		(£ per lwt kg output)	
	Non-SDA	SDA	Non-SDA	SDA
Financial Performance	Average	Average	Average	Average
Number of herds in sample	48	16	48	16
Average herd size (cows to bull)	102	105	102	105
Calf sales before weaning	4.43	0.19	0.01	0.00
Calf sales at weaning	83.26	71.91	0.27	0.29
Market value of calves retained (£)	548.26	478.40	1.79	1.91
Other income	11.81	6.25	0.04	0.02
Gross Output	647.76	556.74	2.12	2.22
Cost of calves to put on to the suckler cows	5.63	1.82	0.02	0.01
Replacement costs	55.18	80.64	0.18	0.32
Output less replacement costs	586.95	474.28	1.92	1.89
Variable Costs				
Purchased feed including minerals	33.32	16.00	0.11	0.06
Home-grown feed	3.93	5.71	0.01	0.02
Purchased forage	11.68	31.39	0.04	0.13
Home-grown forage (excludes contract)	67.77	54.02	0.22	0.22
Total feed and forage	116.71	107.12	0.38	0.43
Vet and medicine	36.51	31.88	0.12	0.13
Bedding	26.05	18.91	0.09	0.08
Other livestock expenses	24.84	13.15	0.08	0.05
Total variable costs	204.11	171.06	0.67	0.68
Gross Margin	382.84	303.22	1.25	1.21
Fixed Costs				
Labour - paid	122.08	38.70	0.40	0.15
Machinery repairs and spares	29.12	26.85	0.10	0.11
Equipment hire	0.79	0.09	0.00	0.00
Contracting	51.24	29.35	0.17	0.12
Electricity	2.64	1.17	0.01	0.00
Fuel	25.52	19.70	0.08	0.08
Property maintenance and water	28.21	25.63	0.09	0.10
Land Rent (Actual)	72.14	55.66	0.24	0.22
Other	40.67	23.50	0.13	0.09
Finance	15.73	5.74	0.05	0.02
Cash Only fixed costs	388.13	226.40	1.27	0.90
Cash Only Cost of Production	653.05	479.92	2.13	1.91
Cash Only Net Margin	-5.29	76.82	-0.02	0.31
Labour - unpaid (Imputed)	73.85	82.34	0.24	0.33
Land Rent (Imputed)	80.10	65.94	0.26	0.26
Depreciation	52.74	38.78	0.17	0.15
Non-Cash costs	206.69	187.06	0.68	0.75
Full Economic fixed costs	594.82	413.45	1.94	1.65
Full Economic Cost of Production	859.74	666.98	2.81	2.66
Full Economic Net Margin	-211.98	-110.23	-0.69	-0.44
Physical Performance				
Cow to bull ratio	30	30	30	30
Percentage of cows/heifers scanned in-calf (%)	92	90	92	90
Calves born alive per 100 cows/heifers to bull	88	87	88	87
Calves born dead per 100 cows/heifers to bull	4	3	4	3
Calves died from birth to weaning per 100 cows/heifers to bull	3	2	3	2
Calves weaned per 100 cows/heifers to bull	86	86	86	86
Calves reared per 100 cows and heifers to bull	87	86	87	86
Calf losses from birth to weaning (% of born alive)	3	3	3	3
Calving period (first to last calf - weeks)	13	18	13	18
Cows and heifers calving in first 3 weeks (%)	41	37	41	37
Empty cows/heifers (%)	6	10	6	10
Cow mortality (%)	1	2	1	2
Herd replacement rate (%)	15	14	15	14
Average age at weaning (days)	229	234	229	234
Average weight at weaning (kg per head)	307	293	307	293
Daily liveweight gain for weaned calves (kg per day)	1.2	1.1	1.2	1.1
Weaned calf weight produced per forage hectare (kg per ha)	221	174	221	174
Return or value per calf (£ per head)	639	642	639	642
Calf price (£ per kg lwt)	2.08	2.19	2.08	2.19
Calves sold at weaning (%)	14	12	14	12
Calves retained at weaning (%)	86	88	86	88
Total FW cow concentrate use (kg per cow)	111	82	111	82
Total DM cow concentrate use (kg per cow)	80	70	80	70
Average concentrate cost (£ per tonne)	153	159	153	159
Total FW forage (kg per cow)	3268	4290	3268	4290
Total DM forage (kg per cow)	1202	1684	1202	1684
Creep feed fed (kg per calf weaned)	43	10	43	10
Number of weeks housed	16	21	16	21
Stocking rate (LU per ha)	1.4	1.1	1.4	1.1
Total forage area allocated to enterprise (ha)	94	119	94	119
Inorganic nitrogen use (kg per ha)	8	7	8	7
Labour use - paid hours per cow	8.8	5.1	8.8	5.1
Labour use - unpaid hours per cow	5.1	7.7	5.1	7.7