

**Stocker Budget: 200-head**

*Wintered to go to Grass*

*Bought in Winter & Sold in Fall*

Ben Eborn



**Background and Assumptions**

University of Idaho costs and returns estimates use economic costs—all resources are valued based on market price or opportunity cost. This budget presents typical costs and returns per head for a 200-head stocker operation.

**Livestock Investment**

Steers are purchased at about 500 pounds in mid-January. Average daily gain for the period January 15 through September 30 is 1.5 pounds. The steers are marketed at the end of September.

**Winter Feeding**

Steers are held in a feedlot for winter feeding from January 15 through March 30. They are fed approximately 6.5 pounds of barley and 15 pounds of alfalfa hay per day. Feed prices include the purchase price and delivery costs. Monthly feed quantities are listed in Table 3. A yardage fee is included to cover the costs associated with owning and operating a feedlot.

**Summer Feeding**

Summer forage sources are deeded spring range and high mountain pasture. On about April 1, the cattle are trucked to deeded spring range where they graze until May 15. Then they are trucked to summer pasture where they graze until the end of September.

**Other Costs**

Hauling costs are included in the budget to cover trucking to spring range and summer pasture. A miscellaneous cost covers any

additional handling, vaccinations, etc. Marketing costs are set at 2.5 percent of gross value to cover “pencil shrink.” Veterinary expenses include vaccinations, implants and parasite control.

**Budget Format**

In addition to the Background and Assumptions pages, this publication has three tables presenting a variety of costs and returns information.

Table 1 shows both expected revenue and expenses. Operating expenses are those that typically vary with the level of production and involve inputs that are used in a single production cycle. There are no ownership expenses associated with this budget.

Table 2 is a monthly summary of the cash flow of revenues and expenses based on when the operation occurs and when inputs are purchased.

Table 3 is a monthly summary of feed requirements.

Table 1: Stocker Budget, 200 Head - 2020

EBB-ST1-20

Wintered to Go to Grass, Bought in Winter, Sold in Fall

No. of Head: 200

	Weight Each	Unit	Total Number of Head or Units	Price or Cost/Unit	Total Value	Value or Cost/Head	Your Value
<b>GROSS RETURNS</b>							
Steers	900	lbs	198	1.35	240,570	1,202.85	
<b>TOTAL GROSS RETURNS</b>					<b>\$240,570</b>	<b>\$1,202.85</b>	
<b>OPERATING COSTS</b>							
Purchased Steers	500	lbs	200	1.65	165,000	825.00	
Alfalfa Hay		ton	94	150.00	14,100	70.50	
Feed Barley		cwt	825	13.00	10,725	53.63	
Yardage		day	15,000	0.35	5,250	26.25	
Private Range		head	300	16.00	4,800	24.00	
Pasture		head	900	20.00	18,000	90.00	
Hauling		head	200	15.00	3,000	15.00	
Veterinary		head	200	6.56	1,313	6.56	
Hired Labor		hour	100	17.50	1,750	8.75	
Salt/Mineral		cwt	12	13.00	156	0.78	
Marketing		head	198	30.07	5,954	29.77	
Miscellaneous		head	200	10.00	2,000	10.00	
Interest on Operating Capital		\$	116,024	7.00%	6,091	30.46	
<b>TOTAL OPERATING COSTS</b>					<b>\$238,139</b>	<b>\$1,190.69</b>	
<b>NET RETURNS ABOVE OPERATING COSTS</b>					<b>\$2,431</b>	<b>\$12.16</b>	

**Table 2: Monthly Summary of Returns and Expenses.**

EBB-ST1-20

	Jan	Feb	Mar	Apr	May	Jun	Jul	Aug	Sep	Oct	Nov	Dec	Value
<b>Production:</b>													
Steers									240,570				240,570
<b>Total Receipts</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>240,570</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>240,570</b>
<b>Operating Inputs:</b>													
Purchased Steers	165,000												165,000
Alfalfa Hay	2820	5640	5,640										14,100
Feed Barley	2,145	4,290	4,290										10,725
Yardage	1,050	2,100	2,100										5,250
Private Range				3,200	1,600								4,800
Pasture					2,000	4,000	4,000	4,000	4,000				18,000
Hauling				1,500		1,500							3,000
Veterinary	656		656										1,313
Hired Labor	875			438		438							1,750
Salt/Mineral				31	31	31	31	31					156
Marketing									5,954				5,954
Miscellaneous		250	250	250	250	250	250	250	250				2,000
Interest on Operating Capital									6,091				6,091
<b>Total Costs</b>	<b>172,546</b>	<b>12,280</b>	<b>12,936</b>	<b>5,418</b>	<b>3,881</b>	<b>6,218</b>	<b>4,281</b>	<b>4,281</b>	<b>10,204</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>238,139</b>
<b>Net Returns</b>	<b>-172,546</b>	<b>-12,280</b>	<b>-12,936</b>	<b>-5,418</b>	<b>-3,881</b>	<b>-6,218</b>	<b>-4,281</b>	<b>-4,281</b>	<b>230,366</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>2,431</b>

**Table 3: Monthly Feed Requirements.**

Feed	Units	Jan	Feb	Mar	Apr	May	Jun	Jul	Aug	Sep	Oct	Nov	Dec
Alfalfa Hay	ton	19	38	38									
Feed Barley	cwt	165	330	330									
Private Range	head				200	100							
Pasture	head					100	200	200	200	200			
Salt/Mineral	cwt				2	2	2	2	2	2			

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