



Dryland Hybrid Forage Sorghum/Sudan Grass

Farm Enterprise Budget Series - North East NSW

Summer 2012-2013

Steers purchase weight and price

\$2.00 per kg live @ 260 kg = \$520.00 per head

Steers finished weight and price

\$2.10 per kg live @ 330 kg = \$693.00 per head

Dry matter t/ha 5.2
Steers/ha 5.0

GROSS MARGIN BUDGET:

INCOME - GRAZING

Grazing (will vary substantially depending on stock type, seasonal conditions, crop growth & grazing period)

5.0 hd/ha @ 0.90 kg/day x \$2.10/kg liveweight

i.e. 330 kg/hd @ \$693/hd

Sample Budget	Your Budget
\$/ha	\$/ha

\$3,465.00	
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A. TOTAL INCOME \$/ha:

\$3,465.00	
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VARIABLE COSTS: see following page for details

Establishment cost (seed, fertiliser, herbicides).....

Cattle Variable costs - Purchase store steers, 260 kg @ \$2.00/kg = \$520/hd.....

Drench, 5-in-1 vaccine, sulphur blocks.....

Supplement.....

Commission.....

Industry Levies.....

Yard Dues.....

Freight.....

Interest on up-front costs.....

\$298.41	
\$2,600.00	
\$23.18	
\$-	
\$173.25	
\$27.50	
\$15.00	
\$100.00	
\$62.26	

B. TOTAL VARIABLE COSTS \$/ha:

\$3,299.60	
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C. GROSS MARGIN (A-B) \$/ha:

\$165.40	
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D. GROSS MARGIN (A-B) \$/head:

\$33.08	
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SENSITIVITY TABLE: Effect of livestock prices on gross margin per hectare

Purchase Price \$/kg	Selling Price				
	\$2.00 /kg	\$2.05 /kg	\$2.10 /kg	\$2.15 /kg	\$2.20 /kg
1.85	\$195	\$278	\$360	\$443	\$525
1.90	\$130	\$213	\$295	\$378	\$460
1.95	\$65	\$148	\$230	\$313	\$395
2.00	\$0	\$83	\$165	\$248	\$330
2.05	-\$65	\$18	\$100	\$183	\$265
2.10	-\$130	-\$47	\$35	\$118	\$200
2.15	-\$195	-\$112	-\$30	\$53	\$135

SENSITIVITY TABLE: Effect of weight gain and selling price on gross margin per hectare

Weight gain kg/day	Selling Price				
	\$2.00 /kg	\$2.05 /kg	\$2.10 /kg	\$2.15 /kg	\$2.20 /kg
0.75	-\$116	-\$37	\$43	\$122	\$202
0.80	-\$77	\$3	\$84	\$164	\$245
0.85	-\$38	\$43	\$125	\$206	\$288
0.90	\$0	\$83	\$165	\$248	\$330
0.95	\$39	\$123	\$206	\$290	\$373
1.00	\$78	\$163	\$247	\$332	\$416
1.05	\$117	\$202	\$288	\$373	\$459

Assumptions

* 5.2 t/ha of dry matter is enough for 5 steers/ha

* 0.9 kg/day weight gain assumed, with benefit from sulphur blocks

Reference: K. A. Archer and J. L. Wheder (1978) "Response by cattle grazing sorghum to salt-sulphur supplements", *Australian Journal of Experimental Agriculture and Animal Husbandry*, Volume 18.

An experiment is reported in which cattle grazed fertilized sorghum x sudangrass. Liveweight gain was increased by approximately 200 g/head/day by the provision of salt blocks containing 18 per cent sulphur (P = 0.01) and to a lesser extent by salt alone.

* Costs per head: 5-in-1 vaccine \$0.33, drench \$2.75, \$1.56/head for sulphur block (25g/day for 90 days → 2.25 kg/hd @ \$0.80/kg)

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No till

Summer 2012-2013

Operation	Month	Machinery			Inputs			Total Cost \$/ha
		hrs /ha	Cost	Total	Rate/ha	Cost	Total	
			\$/hour	\$/ha		\$	\$/ha	
Herbicide - ground spray, 450 g/L glyphosate	Jan	0.05	51.87	2.59	1.6 L	4.50	7.20	9.79
Wetter - non-ionic surfactant	Jan	with above			0.2 L	6.72	1.34	1.34
Herbicide - paraquat + diquat	Jan	0.05	51.87	2.59	2.0 L	9.93	19.86	22.45
Herbicide - ground spray, 450 g/L glyphosate	Apr	0.05	51.87	2.59	1.2 L	4.50	5.40	7.99
Herbicide - 2,4-D i.p.a. 300 g/L	Apr	with above			0.8 L	4.20	3.36	3.36
Wetter - non-ionic surfactant	Apr	with above			0.2 L	6.72	1.34	1.34
Herbicide - ground spray, 450 g/L glyphosate	Jun	0.05	51.87	2.59	1.0 L	4.50	4.50	7.09
Wetter - non-ionic surfactant	Jun	with above			0.2 L	6.72	1.34	1.34
Herbicide - ground spray, 450 g/L glyphosate	Sep	0.05	51.87	2.59	1.2 L	4.50	5.40	7.99
Wetter - non-ionic surfactant	Sep	with above			0.2 L	6.72	1.34	1.34
Fertiliser - Urea (bulk)	Oct	with above			180 kg	0.68	122.70	122.70
Seed - thiamethoxam	Nov	0.20	67.87	13.57	2.6 kg	12.38	32.19	45.76
Fertiliser - Granulock SuPreme Z	Nov	with above			40.0 kg	1.08	43.20	43.20
Herbicide - ground spray	Nov	0.05	51.87	2.59				2.59
Herbicide - atrazine 600 g/L	Nov	with above (PSPE)			3.0 L	6.70	20.10	20.10
25g/day over 78 days"								Total \$/ha \$298.41

Steers on forage sorghum (with \$3,300/ha variable costs)

Purchase Price \$/kg	Selling Price		
	\$2.00 /kg	\$2.10 /kg	\$2.20 /kg
\$1.85 /kg	\$195	\$360	\$525
\$2.00 /kg	\$0	\$165	\$330
\$2.15 /kg	-\$195	-\$30	\$135

