

2025 Central Cattle (Cow/Calf) Cost and Return Estimates

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Cost and return estimates for cattle production (cow/calf) in the Central area of New Mexico are presented in this report. These estimates were gathered from a panel of ranchers, state and federal agencies, and other input industries in cattle production. They are estimates for a representative ranch with above-average management.

The central region of New Mexico encompasses all of Taos County and portions of Rio Arriba, Colfax, Sandoval, Santa Fe, Mora, San Miguel, Bernalillo, Torrance, Lincoln, and Otero counties.

These estimates will not fit any particular ranch and should be adjusted to match individual businesses and operating conditions. We thank those individuals who provided data to make this report complete.

The representative ranches contain medium, large, extra-large, and yearling cattle, depending on their breeding cow sizes. The numbers of breeding cows raised are:

Small: 43

Medium: 170

Large: 333

Primary Information Tables

Table 1 lists the Southeast region cow/calf budget.

Table 2 lists ranch investment.

Further Explanation and Input Source Reference

Input data sources, other than ranchers and local input vendors, include:

Interest rates referred to Farm Credit of New Mexico.

Part of the energy price data referred to [Short-Term Energy Outlook](#) by the U.S. Energy Information Administration.

Contact your County Extension Agent and Extension Economist at NMSU for a complete list of available crop cost and return estimates.

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