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

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Cost and return estimates for cattle production (cow/calf) in the Southwest 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.

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 small, medium, and large sizes, depending on their breeding cow sizes. The numbers of breeding cows raised are:

Small: 76
Medium: 180
Large: 315

Primary Information Tables
Table 1 lists the Southwest 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.

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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