# Guidelines for Estimating Elk Velvet Bull Costs Based on a herd of 30 bulls 

September, 2003

This guide is designed to provide planning information and a format for calculating costs of production on a 30 elk velvet bull enterprise. The production costs included in this enterprise budget are not intended as a cost study of the elk industry in Manitoba. Adjustments will be necessary when applying these figures to your own enterprise.

The budget estimates are based on a number of assumptions which are clearly defined in the supporting pages. Productivity and performance assumptions are based on data supplied by specialists as well as data collected from certain producers. Input costs are based on recommended practices and/or information obtained from producers. Good management is assumed in that a balanced ration is being fed, livestock are on a herd health program and handling facilities are included.

The guideline can be useful for comparison purposes. Comparison of costs at different levels of production can be made with other farms; the farm over time to track profits or losses; or comparing the plan with the actual production at the end of the planning period.

Disclaimer: This budget is only a guide and is not intended as an in depth study of the cost of production of the Manitoba Elk industry. Interpretation and utilization of this information is the responsibility of the user. If you require assistance with developing your individual budget, please contact your local MAF Farm Management Specialist or Livestock Specialist.

## ELK VELVET BULL PROFILE

Number of Velvet Bulls ..... 30
Average value of Velvet Bull ..... \$1,200
Value Cull Bulls sold for meat ..... \$400
Percentage of culls sold for meat ..... 0.70
Value Cull Bulls sold for hunting ..... \$2,250
Percentage of culls sold for hunting ..... 0.30
Average value of cull sold ..... $\$ 955.00$
Velvet Market Price ..... $\$ 30.00$
Average Velvet Production (lbs/head) ..... 17
Mortality Rate (\%) ..... 1.0
Replacement Rate (\%) ..... 10.00
Pasture Acres ..... 60
Value of pasture per acre ..... \$300
Fence Cost - per mile ..... \$12,000
Total fence distance - miles ..... 2

## Feed Requirements and Costs

|  | Kg/Day | Days <br> on Feed | Feed Prices <br> \$/tonne |
| :--- | ---: | ---: | ---: | ---: |
| Hay |  |  |  |
| Oats | 7.0 | 185.0 | $\$ 60$ |
| Supplement | 3.0 | 185.0 | $\$ 90$ |
|  | 0.5 | 365.0 | $\$ 270$ |

## Vet, Medicine and Supplies

Parasite control \$/head \$20.00
Other \$/head \$0.00

## FUEL, OIL, REPAIRS \& MAINTENANCE

a) Machinery - total fuel costs $\$ 300.00$

- total repairs \$200.00
b) Total buildings,fences etc. $\$ 400.00$

Marketing \& Transportation
Antlers \& culls total cost
$\$ 450.00$

Land Taxes
$\$ 5.00$
Utilities
Hydro ..... $\$ 100.00$
Water ..... $\$ 0.00$
Telephone ..... \$150.00
Insurance:
Cost per \$100 Capital Invested in
a). Livestock ..... $\$ 0.00$
b). Building \& Equipment ..... \$0.60
Add'I Coverage for liability (\$/year) ..... \$30.00
Miscellaneous
License fee per year ..... $\$ 100.00$
Other costs total per year ..... \$0.00
Operating Interest:
Bank Rate on Deposits (\%) ..... 4.0
Bank Rate on Borrowing (\%) ..... 6.5

## CAPITAL COSTS

|  | Original Value | Salvage Value (\%) |  |
| :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: |
| Buildings \& Improvements |  |  |  |
| Building | \$10,000 |  |  |
| Handling Facilities | \$12,000 | 10 | 20 |
| Waterers | \$2,000 | 10 | 20 |
| Round Bale Feeders | \$0 | 10 | 20 |
| Well \& Pressure System | \$3,500 | 10 | 20 |
| Hydro (1 pole @ \$400) | \$400 | 10 | $\underline{20}$ |
| Total Building Cost | \$27,900 | 10 | 20 |
| Machinery |  |  |  |
| Tractor \& Loader | \$2,000 | 30 | 10 |
| Quad | \$4,000 |  |  |
| Miscellaneous Machinery | \$400 | 20 | 12 |
| Freezer | \$1,000 | 30 | 15 |
| Total Machinery Cost | \$7,400 |  |  |

Fence (2 miles @ \$12000) \$24,000
Pasture (60ac @ \$300) \$18,000
Total Land \& Fence $\$ 42,000$
Value of Bulls \$36,000

Total Capital Investment \$113,300

## Labour Costs

Annual Hours per Bull 5
Hourly Labour Rate
\$10.00

## ELK VELVET BULL COST SUMMARY - September, 2003

(Based on 30 head)

| A. OPERATING COSTS | \$/BULL | \$/LB | TOTAL | Your Cost |
| :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: |
| 1. Feed Costs: |  |  |  |  |
| 1.01 Hay | \$77.70 | \$4.57 | \$2,331 |  |
| 1.02 Grain | 49.95 | 2.94 | 1,499 |  |
| 1.03 Salt \& Minerals/Supplements | 49.28 | $\underline{2.90}$ | 1478 |  |
| Total Feed Cost | \$176.93 | \$10.41 | \$5,308 |  |
| 2. Other Operating Costs: |  |  |  |  |
| 2.01 Vet. Medicine \& Supplies | 20.00 | 1.18 | 600 |  |
| 2.02 Fuel, Mtce. \& Repairs | 30.00 | 1.76 | 900 |  |
| 2.03 Utilities | 8.33 | 0.49 | 250 |  |
| 2.04 Marketing Costs | 15.00 | 0.88 | 450 |  |
| 2.05 Death Loss | 12.00 | 0.71 | 360 |  |
| 2.06 Insurance | 8.06 | 0.47 | 242 |  |
| 2.07 Herd Replacement | 24.50 | 1.44 | 735 |  |
| 2.08 Land Taxes | 10.00 | 0.59 | 300 |  |
| 2.09 Miscellaneous | 3.33 | 0.20 | 100 |  |
| Subtotal Operating Costs | 308.15 | 18.13 | 9,245 |  |
| 2.10 Operating Interest | 10.01 | 0.59 | 300.3 |  |
| TOTAL OPERATING COSTS | \$318.16 | \$18.72 | \$9,545 |  |

B. FIXED COSTS
3. Depreciation
3.01 Buildings
3.02 Machinery \& Equipment
41.85
16.45
3.03 Fence
36.00
4. Investment
4.01 Buildings
4.02 Machinery \& Equipment
20.46
6.39
4.03 Livestock
48.00
$\underline{41.60}$
\$210.75
2.46 $\qquad$
TOTAL FIXED COSTS
C. LABOUR COSTS

TOTAL COST OF PRODUCTION
\$17,369
$\qquad$
$\$ 578.91$
$\$ 2.94$
\$34.06
0.97
2.12
1.20
0.38
2.82
$\underline{2.45}$
$\$ 12.40$
$\qquad$

Disclaimer: This budget is only a guide and is not intended as an in depth study of the cost of production of this industry. Interpretation and utilization of this information is the responsibility of the user.

## ELK VELVET BULL PRODUCTION COST WORKSHEET - September, 2003

## Assumptions

1. This budget outlines the costs for a 30 head elk bull velveting enterprise.
2. All feed is valued at fair market value.
3. Death loss was estimated at $1 \%$.
4. Production of velvet antlers was assumed to average 17 lbs per year over the 10 years of productive life.
5. The Elk enterprise is situated on a 60 acre parcel of land with an average value of $\$ 300$ per acre.

## A. OPERATING COSTS

## Your Cost

1. Feed Costs:
1.01 Hay Costs

|  | 7.0 | kg hay/day |  |
| :--- | ---: | :--- | :--- |
| x | 185 | days/year |  |
| $\div$ | 1,000 | kg/tonne |  |
| x | $\$ 60.00$ | ltonne |  |
| $=$ | $\$ 77.70$ | lbull |  |

### 1.02 Grain Costs

|  | 3.0 | kg oats/day |  |
| :--- | ---: | :--- | :--- |
| x | 185 | days/year |  |
| $\div$ | 1,000 | kg/tonne |  |
| x | $\$ 90.00$ | ltonne |  |
| $=$ | $\$ 49.95$ | lbull |  |

## Your Cost

### 1.03 Supplement Costs

|  | 0.5 | kg supp/day |  |
| :--- | ---: | :--- | :--- |
| x | 365 | days/year |  |
| $\div$ | 1,000 | kg/tonne |  |
| x | $\mathbf{\$ 2 7 0 . 0 0}$ | ltonne |  |
| $=$ | $\$ 49.28$ | lbull |  |

## 2. Other Operating Costs:

### 2.01 Veterinary Medicine \& Supplies

|  | $\$ 20.00$ | parasite control |
| ---: | ---: | :--- |
| $\pm$ | $\$ 0.00$ | other vet \& med |
| $=$ | $\$ 20.00$ | lbull |

### 2.02 Fuel, Oil, Repairs \& Maintenance

| Machinery | \$300.00 | annual fuel cost |
| :---: | :---: | :---: |
| + | \$200.00 | oil, repairs \& maintenance |
| = | \$500.00 | total cost |
| $\div$ | 30 | bulls |
| $=$ | \$16.67 | /bull |
| Buildings,Fences etc. | \$400.00 | annual repair \& mtc. |
| $\div$ | 30 | bulls |
| $=$ | \$13.33 | /bull |
| Total | \$30.00 | Ibull |

### 2.03 Utilities

$$
\begin{array}{rrl} 
& \$ 250.00 & \text { annual utilities costs } \\
\div & \$ 8.30 & \frac{\text { bulls }}{l b u l l}
\end{array}
$$

### 2.04 Marketing Costs

$$
\begin{array}{rrl} 
& \$ 450.00 & \text { marketing antlers \& culls } \\
\div & \$ 15.00 & \frac{30}{\text { bulls }} \\
= & \$ \text { bull }
\end{array}
$$

## Your Cost

### 2.05 Death Loss

| x | $\$ 1,200$ | /bull investment |
| :--- | ---: | :--- |
| x | $\underline{1.0}$ | (\%) Mortality Rate |
| x | $\$ \mathbf{1 2 . 0 0}$ | lbull |



### 2.06 Insurance

|  | \$35,300 | bldg \& equip investment |
| :---: | :---: | :---: |
| x | \$0.60 | cost/\$100 capital |
| $\div$ | 100 |  |
| $\stackrel{\text { ¢ }}{ \pm}$ | 30 | bulls |
| $=$ | \$7.06 | /bull |
|  | \$36,000 | herd investment |
| x | \$0.00 | cost/\$100 capital |
| $\div$ | 100 |  |
| $\div$ | 30 | bulls |
| $=$ | \$0.00 | /bull |
|  | \$30 | add'l coverage for liability |
| $\div$ | 30 | bulls |
| = | \$1.00 | /bull |

Total Insurance = \$8.06 lbull

### 2.07 Herd Replacement

|  | $\$ 1,200$ |
| :--- | ---: |
| - | $\$ 955$ |
| $=$ | $\$ 245$ |
| x | $\underline{10.0}$ |
| $=$ | $\$ 24.50$ |

/replacement bull
/cull (meat \& trophy sales)
net cost
\% replacement rate
Ibull


### 2.08 Land Taxes

$$
\begin{array}{rrl} 
& \$ 300 & \text { land taxes } \\
\div & \mathbf{3 0} & \underline{\text { bulls }} \\
= & \$ 10.00 & \frac{\text { lbull }}{}
\end{array}
$$



## Your Cost

### 2.09 Miscellaneous

|  | $\$ 0.00$ | other costs |  |
| :--- | ---: | :--- | :--- |
| + | $\$ 100.00$ | license |  |
|  | $\mathbf{3 0}$ | bulls |  |
| $=$ | $\$ 3.33$ | lbull |  |

### 2.10 Operating Interest

\$308.15 subtotal operating costs

| $\div$ | 2 | average |  |
| :--- | ---: | :--- | :--- |
| $x$ | $\frac{6.5}{}$ | \% operating interest rate | $\square$ |
| $=$ | $\$ 10.01$ | lbull |  |

## Your Cost

## Capital Costs

| Buildings \& Improvements |  |
| :---: | :---: |
| Building | \$10,000 |
| Handling Facilities | \$12,000 |
| Waterers | \$2,000 |
| Round Bale Feeders | \$0 |
| Well \& Pressure System | \$3,500 |
| Hydro (1 pole @ \$400) | \$400 |
| Total Building Cost | \$27,900 |
| Machinery |  |
| Tractor \& Loader | \$2,000 |
| Quad | \$4,000 |
| Miscellaneous Machinery | \$400 |
| Freezer | \$1,000 |
| Total Machinery Cost | \$7,400 |
| Land \& Fence |  |
| Fence (2 miles @ \$12000) | \$24,000 |
| Pasture (60ac @ \$300) | \$18,000 |
| Total Land \& Fence | \$42,000 |
| Value of Bulls (30@\$1200) | \$36,000 |
| Total Capital Investment | \$113,300 |

## B. FIXED COSTS

3. Depreciation:

## Original Value - Salvage Value Useful Life

### 3.01 Buildings \& Improvements

|  | $\$ 27,900$ | original value |
| :--- | ---: | :--- |
| - | $\$ 2,790$ | salvage value |
| $\div$ | 20 | years useful life |
| $\div$ | $\underline{30}$ | bulls |
| $=$ | $\$ 41.85$ | lbull |

$\qquad$

## Your Cost

### 3.02 Machinery \& Equipment

| Tractor, Loader \& Quaı | \$6,000 | original value |  |
| :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: |
| - | \$1,800 | salvage value |  |
| $\div$ | 10 | years useful life |  |
| $\div$ | 30 | bulls |  |
| = | \$14.00 | /bull |  |
| Miscellaneous | \$400 | original value |  |
| - | \$80 | salvage value |  |
| $\div$ | 12 | years useful life |  |
| $\div$ | 30 | bulls |  |
| = | \$0.89 | /bull |  |
| Freezer | \$1,000 | original value |  |
| - | \$300 | salvage value |  |
| $\div$ | 15 | years useful life |  |
| $\div$ | 30 | bulls |  |
| $=$ | \$1.56 | /bull |  |
| Total | \$16.45 | Ibull |  |

### 3.03 Fence

$$
\begin{array}{lrl} 
& \$ 24,000 & \text { original value } \\
- & \$ 2,400 & \text { salvage value } \\
\div & 20 & \text { years useful life } \\
\div & \underline{30} & \text { bulls } \\
= & \$ 36.00 & \text { lbull }
\end{array}
$$

Your Cost
4. Investment: Original Value + Salvage Value x Investment Rate

2

### 4.01 Buildings \& Improvements

|  | $\$ 27,900$ | original building value |  |
| :--- | ---: | :--- | :--- |
| + | $\$ 2,790$ | salvage value | - |
| $\div$ | 2 | average |  |
| $\times$ | 4.0 | $\%$ investment rate | - |
| $\div$ | $\mathbf{3 0}$ | $\frac{\text { bulls }}{l b l}$ |  |
| $=$ | $\$ 20.46$ | lbull |  |

4.02 Machinery \& Equipment

| Tractor, Loader \& Quad | \$6,000 | original Value |  |
| :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: |
| + | \$1,800 | salvage value |  |
| $\div$ | 2 | average |  |
| X | 4.0 | \% investment rate |  |
| $\div$ | 30 | bulls |  |
| = | \$5.20 | /bull |  |
| Miscellaneous | \$400 | original value |  |
| + | \$80 | salvage value |  |
| $\div$ | 2 | average |  |
| x | 4.0 | \% investment rate |  |
| $\div$ | 30 | bulls |  |
| $=$ | \$0.32 | /bull |  |
| Freezer | \$1,000 | original value |  |
| + | \$300 | salvage value |  |
| $\div$ | 2 | average |  |
| x | 4.0 | \% investment rate |  |
| $\div$ | 30 | bulls |  |
| = | \$0.87 | /bull |  |
| Total | \$6.39 | Ibull |  |

## Your Cost

### 4.03 Livestock

|  | $\$ 1,200$ | /bull |
| :--- | ---: | :--- |
| $x$ | $\underline{4.0}$ | \% investment rate |
| $=$ | $\$ 48.00$ | lbull |


4.04 Pasture Land \& Fencing

\$24,000 \$2,400
$\div \quad 2$
4.0 \% investment rate
$\div \quad \underline{30}$
$=\quad \$ 17.60$ bulls /bull

Land Investment
\$18,000
4.0
$\div \quad \underline{30}$
$=\$ 24.00$

Total =
$\$ 41.60$
/bull

## C. LABOUR COSTS

|  | 5 | hours/bull |
| ---: | ---: | :--- |
| $\underline{x}$ | $\underline{\$ 10.00}$ | hourly rate |

$\qquad$
original value
\% investment rate $\square$
bulls
/bull
$\qquad$
$\qquad$

For more information contact your local Manitoba Agriculture and Food office. Prepared by:

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