

Objectives of The Dairy Cost Study

- * To provide dairy farmers with a cost of production report/tool for their farm to help make management decisions.
- * To provide a current and continuing account of the costs and returns of milk production in Alberta.
- * To aid in the creation of valuable economic research information.
- * To provide economic information for farm management and extension education.
- * To be a valuable source of information whenever industry looks to see if milk pricing is reflective of cost of production.



**Thank You
for
Your Commitment
to the
Continued Success
of the
Dairy Cost Study!**

Pauline Van Biert
Production Research Analyst

Alberta Agriculture and Forestry
Economics & Competitiveness Branch
Economics Section
#303, 7000 - 113 Street
Edmonton AB T6H 5T6
Phone: 780-415-2153
Fax: 780-427-5220

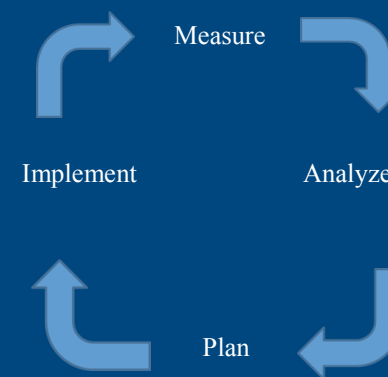
Email: pauline.vanbiert@gov.ab.ca
www.agriculture.alberta.ca/data-analysis

Alberta
Government

Provincial Dairy Cost Study

**A tool to help dairy farmers
make profitable
management decisions**

**Plan Now to Participate
in 2018**



**You Can't Manage what
you Don't Measure**

What is The Dairy Cost Study?

The Dairy Cost Study is an annual program giving an Alberta dairy farmer the opportunity to receive a free detailed cost of production report on their dairy enterprise.

The Economics Section of Alberta Agriculture and Forestry, in cooperation with Alberta Milk, conducts this study.

The aggregated information of all participating dairy farms is compiled and published annually in *The Economics of Milk Production*.

What's In It For ME?

- A detailed business analysis of your farm that will help you identify strengths and/or weaknesses to help plan for a profitable future.
- *The Economics of Milk Production* publication reporting Alberta benchmarks.
- \$500 for your participation.

What is Involved?

Participants on the Dairy Cost Study complete monthly reporting sheets about the activities at the farm related to milk production.



When I say YES?

- You agree to provide 12 months of farm information, for the period of January through December (i.e. livestock numbers, feed usage, labour, expenses).
- Reporting sheets (paper or electronic) are provided.
- If you are new to the study, a farm visit is arranged to explain details of the reporting sheets and to answer any questions specific to your farm.

Farm costs can change dramatically from year to year. The monthly on-farm approach to collecting information is the most effective method of ensuring current and accurate cost and returns.

Knowledge of production costs and actively managing them is the key to profitability.

Contribute to Industry

In order to have a meaningful benchmark report that accurately reflects trends in the cost of milk production, dairy farmers from a variety of farm sizes and management styles are needed from across the province to participate on and complete the study. Here's your chance to contribute to the dairy industry.

Sign Up NOW

Decide today and start by completing this form and do one of the following:

1. Fax it to 780-427-5220,
2. Mail it to the address on the back,
3. Contact Pauline VanBiert at 780-415-2153, or pauline.vanbiert@gov.ab.ca.

_____ YES, sign me up

_____ CALL with further details

Contact Name: (print)

Address:

Contact phone: # _____

Herd Size (# milking cows) _____

Comments:

Is my information confidential?

Definitely! The information you provide is held under the authority of section 33 of the *Freedom of Information and Protection of Privacy (FOIP) Act*. Only you receive your report and only averages of farm business data are published. Neither your business nor your personal information is at risk.