

Forage Feed Costs for Range Cows During Early Lactation

NDSU Dickinson Research Extension Center

	Native Range	Crested Wheatgrass Hay cut late	Crested Wheatgrass Hay cut early	Forage Lentil Hay cut late	Forage Barley Hay cut early
% Crude protein content	9.2	6.4	14.5	14.7	13
Production cost/acre	\$ 8.76	\$ 28.11	\$ 26.50	\$ 71.48	\$ 68.21
Forage dry matter cost/ton	\$ 140.16	\$ 34.80	\$ 40.80	\$ 37.00	\$ 28.80
Crude protein cost/lb	\$ 0.76	\$ 0.28	\$ 0.14	\$ 0.13	\$ 0.11
Cost Per Cow					
Acres/month	6.48	.80	.43	.14	.13
	\$ 1.89/day	\$ 0.75/day	\$ 0.38/day	\$ 0.34/day	\$ 0.30/day
Supplemented crude protein	0.25 lbs/day \$ 0.08/day	1.00 lbs/day \$ 0.30/day			
Supplemented roughage			8.2 lbs/day \$ 0.14/day	8.4 lbs/day \$ 0.15/day	6.0 lbs/day \$ 0.11/day
Total cost per day	\$ 1.97	\$ 1.05	\$ 0.52	\$ 0.49	\$ 0.41
Cost for early lactation	\$ 88.43	\$ 47.25	\$ 23.40	\$ 21.92	\$ 18.23