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Current Report

Division of Agricultural Sciences and Natural Resources • Oklahoma State University

Cow-Calf Production Record Software

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Producers who have home computers frequently ask about the availability of software programs to handle cow-calf production records. Before purchasing a software program, it is important to analyze the value of such a system to making better management decisions. Producers should evaluate their existing records to determine the types of information desired from a software program. Are inventory records important? Are summary reports of primary interest? By considering specific record needs, the producer is better equipped to choose an appropriate software package. The hardest steps to valuable recordkeeping are (1) making time for recordkeeping, (2) determining the herd information that is economically feasible to collect, and (3) summarizing the herd data for use in the decision-making process.

If the cow-calf operator is not currently keeping any records on herd performance, a good starting point may be some basic calf crop records, cow information (if individual identification is used), calving and weaning percentages, inventory figures, number of females exposed to the bull(s), etc. Monthly calendars, journals, and IRM Redbooks are a few examples of handwritten record systems. Seedstock and commercial cow-calf producers have different needs. Also, herd size can influence the degree of detail that a producer is willing or able to assemble on the cattle.

Meaningful cow-calf records may be handwritten or computerized. The choice of programs, features, and cost of software are the "fine-tuning" portion of recordkeeping. In the following summary of 15 commercially available cow-calf software packages, the features are described under six headings:
- Cow Information
- Sire Information
- Calf Information
- Herd Information
- Computer Requirements
- Additional Considerations

The program purchase costs range from $150 to $695. Many software companies offer program demonstration cop-

ies for free or a nominal charge ranging from $15 to $75. Programs have various computer requirements such as minimum RAM, DOS or Windows, hard disk space, monitor needs, etc. Most programs provide comprehensive cow, calf, and sire data entry fields, as well as herd production summaries.

Many of the programs accommodate both commercial and seedstock cattle needs. Seedstock producers should check with their breed association for software package availability and recommendations prior to purchasing software for registered cattle records.

Before purchasing any software, determine the level and cost of software support that will be provided by the company. In addition, some programs have specific cattle information that is required before the program will work. Sorting applications and the type of reports generated may vary, but in many cases producers have the opportunity to customize reports to meet specific needs. Every cow-calf operator must determine the amount of time available to devote to practical recordkeeping and weigh this commitment against software costs, data entry features, and desired summary reports.

Information provided about the following programs was taken from a questionnaire completed by a software company representative. The summary does not cover all available packages or individual program features. Programs may have other capabilities which are not described. Producers should contact the respective companies for purchase information, details on features, and specific hardware requirements.

Herd Soft
Allflex USA
2805 E. 12th Street
Dallas/Ft. Worth Airport, TX 75761
Ph-972-946-3686
Fax-972-946-3969
Contact-Lori Seedig

PC-COWCARD
University of Nebraska
P. O. Box 830918
Lincoln, NE 68583-0918
Ph-402-472-5571
Fax-402-472-0025
Contact-Ron Roeber

Cow Calf Starter
Red Wing Business Systems
491 Hwy 19, (P.O. Box 19)
Red Wing, MN 55066
Ph-1 800-732-9464
Fax-612-388-7950
E-Mail-dianeh@redwingsoftware.com
Contact-Diane Hendrickson

Cow Calf Production
Red Wing Business Systems
491 Hwy 19, (P.O. Box 19)
Red Wing, MN 55066
Ph-1 800-732-9464
Fax-612-388-7950
E-Mail-dianeh@redwingsoftware.com.
Contact-Diane Hendrickson

Brisco Beef Herd Management
Brisco Software
Box 44
Brisco, BC VOA 1BO Canada
Ph-250-346-3227
Fax-250-346-3227
Contact-Hedi Trescher

Cow Calf 4
University of Nebraska
Great Plains Veterinary Educational Center
Box 187
Clay Center, NE 68933
Ph-402-762-4500
Fax-402-762-4509
E-Mail-GVEC001@UNLVM.UNL.EDU
Contact-Gary Rupp, Steve Johnson, Eddie Hamilton

Cattle Pro 2000-Prime+Choice+Select
Bowman Farm Systems, Inc.
Rt. 5, Box 25
Cynthiana, KY 41031
Ph-1-800-665-8431 ext 3439
Fax-415-892-0523
E-Mail-bowman@cattlepro.com or hbowman@kih.net
   or support@cattlepro.com
Contact-Harold Bowman
Prime-Purebred; Choice-Large Commercial; Select-Small Commercial

Farmstock
Farm Works Software
CTN Data Service Software, Inc.
P. O. Box 250
Hamilton, IN 46742-0250
Ph-219-488-3388
Fax-219-488-3737
E-Mail-farmwork@farmworks.com
Contact-Tony Bowers

Cowtrax
Ranchware Design
HC 88, Box 3636
Big Timber, MT 59011
Ph-406-932-6613
Fax-406-932-6613
E-Mail-cowtrax@ranchware.com
Contact-Mike Hasbrook

Pendelton Livestock Records
Attn: Duane Griffith
Montana State University
210 Linfield Hall
Bozeman, MT 59717
Ph-406-994-2580

Ranchmaster for Windows
6100 Bandera Road, Suite 800
San Antonio, TX 78238
Ph-800-299-COWS
Fax-210-647-1575
Contact: Ty Sananikone

CowSense
Midwest MicroSystems, Inc.
208 East 6th St.
Ainsworth, NE 69210
Ph-800-584-0040 / 402-387-0508
Fax-402-387-0636
E-Mail-sales@midwestmicro.com
      support@midwestmicro.com
Web Site-http://www.midwestmicro.com
Contact-Sherri Bennett

CHAPS III
North Dakota State University
1089 State Avenue
Dickinson, ND 58601
Ph-701-227-2348
Fax-701-227-2005
E-Mail-kringwal@ndsuext.nodak.edu
Contact-Kris Ringwall/Keith Helmuth

DATALINE
North Dakota State University
1089 State Ave.
Dickinson, ND 58601
PH-701-227-2348
Fax-701-227-2005
E-mail- kringwal@ndsuext.nodak.edu
Contact-Kris Ringwall/Keith Helmuth

Herd Handler
American Simmental Association
Developed by Bridger Systems
1 Simmental Way
Bozeman, MT 59715
Ph-406-587-4531
Fax-406-587-9301
E-mail-simmental@simmgene.com
Contact-Linda Kesler / Steve McGuire

COW INFORMATION

	Herd Soft	PC COWCARD	CowCalf Starter	CowCalf Production	Beef Herd Management	Cow Calf 4	Cattle Pro 2000	Farmstock	Cowtrax	Pendelton	Ranch-master	Cow Sense	CHAPS III	DATALINE	Herd Handler
Individual ID, Name	yes	yes	yes	yes	yes	yes	yes	yes	yes	yes	yes	yes	yes	yes	yes
Breed Composition	yes	yes	yes	yes	yes	yes	yes	yes	yes	yes	yes	yes	yes	yes	yes
Breed Registration #	yes	yes	no	yes	yes	yes	yes	no	yes	no	yes	yes	no	yes	yes
Tattoo/Brand Number/Eartag	yes	yes	no	yes	yes	yes	yes	no	yes	yes	yes	yes	no	yes	yes
Purchased/Raised, Cost and Date	yes	yes	yes	yes	yes	yes	yes	no	yes	no	yes	yes	yes	yes	yes
Birth Date	yes	yes	yes	yes	yes	yes	yes	yes	yes	yes	yes	yes	yes	yes	yes
Birth Weight	yes	yes	yes	yes	yes	yes	yes	yes	yes	no	yes	yes	yes	yes	yes
Pedigree	yes	yes	no	yes	yes	yes	yes	no	yes	no	yes	yes	no	yes	yes
Weaning Weight/205-day Weight and Ratios	yes	yes	yes	yes	yes	yes	yes	yes	yes	no	yes	yes	yes	yes	yes
Yearling Weight/365-day/Weight and Ratios	yes	yes	yes	yes	yes	yes	yes	yes	yes	no	yes	yes	yes	yes	yes
Additional Weights	yes	yes	yes	yes	yes	yes	yes	yes	yes	yes	yes	no	no	yes	yes
Cow Weight/Weigh Dates	yes	yes	yes	yes	yes	yes	yes	yes	yes	yes	yes	yes	yes	yes	yes
Condition Score	no	yes	yes	yes	no	yes	yes	no	yes	yes	yes	yes	yes	yes	yes
Hip Height	no	no	yes	yes	yes	yes	yes	no	yes	no	yes	no	yes	yes	yes
Age	yes	yes	yes	yes	yes	yes	yes	no	yes	no	yes	yes	yes	yes	yes
Color	no	yes	yes	yes	yes	yes	yes	yes	yes	no	yes	no	no	yes	yes
Horned/Polled/Scurred	no	yes	yes	yes	yes	yes	yes	no	yes	no	yes	yes	no	yes	yes
Temperament Score	no	yes	yes	yes	yes	yes	yes	no	no	no	yes	no	no	yes	yes
MPPA Score	no	yes	yes	yes	yes	yes	yes	yes	yes	no	no	yes	yes	yes	yes
Management Code	no	no	yes	yes	yes	yes	yes	yes	yes	no	yes	yes	yes	yes	yes
No. Calves Born, Weaned	yes	yes	yes	yes	yes	yes	yes	yes	yes	no	yes	yes	yes	yes	yes
No. Calves Held as Yearlings	yes	NA	yes	yes	yes	yes	yes	no	yes	NA	no	no	no	no	yes
Calves Born	yes	yes	yes	yes	yes	yes	yes	yes	yes	no	yes	yes	yes	yes	yes
Calves Held As Yearlings	yes	no	yes	yes	yes	yes	yes	no	yes	yes	no	no	no	no	yes
Calving Interval	yes	yes	yes	yes	yes	yes	yes	no	yes	NA	yes	yes	yes	yes	yes
Date of Last Calf	yes	no	yes	yes	yes	yes	yes	yes	yes	NA	no	yes	yes	yes	yes
Projected Calving Date	yes	yes	yes	yes	yes	yes	yes	yes	yes	no	yes	yes	no	yes	yes
Days Open	no	no	yes	yes	yes	yes	yes	no	yes	yes	no	no	no	no	yes
Avg. Calf Performance Weights (Birth, Weaning, Yearling)	yes	yes	yes	yes	yes	yes	yes	yes	yes	NA	no	yes	yes	yes	yes
Avg. Adj. Calf Performance Wts.	yes	yes	yes	yes	yes	yes	yes	yes	yes	NA	no	yes	yes	yes	yes
Avg. Calf Performance Ratios	yes	yes	yes	yes	yes	yes	yes	no	yes	NA	no	yes	yes	yes	yes
Avg. Daily Gain of Calves	no	yes	yes	yes	yes	no	yes	no	yes	NA	no	yes	yes	yes	yes
Heat Detection Information	yes	no	no	no	yes	no	yes	no	no	NA	yes	no	no	yes	yes
Breeding Information	yes	yes	yes	yes	yes	yes	yes	yes	yes	NA	yes	yes	no	yes	yes
Pregnancy Status	yes	yes	yes	yes	yes	yes	yes	no	yes	NA	yes	no	no	no	yes
Pregnancy Check Date	yes	yes	yes	yes	no	yes	yes	no	yes	yes	yes	no	no	no	yes
Pelvic Measurements	no	yes	yes	yes	yes	yes	yes	no	yes	no	yes	yes	yes	yes	yes
Health/Vaccination Records	yes	yes	yes	yes	yes	yes	yes	yes	yes	NA	yes	yes	no	no	yes
Death/Disposal Cause/Date	no	yes	yes	yes	yes	yes	yes	yes	yes	yes	yes	yes	yes	yes	yes
Sold To/Price	yes	no	yes	yes	yes	yes	yes	no	yes	no	yes	no	no	no	yes
Pasture/Location	yes	yes	yes	yes	yes	yes	yes	yes	yes	no	yes	yes	no	yes	yes
Embryo Transfers	yes	no	yes	yes	yes	no	yes	no	yes	NA	no	no	yes	no	yes
Average Calving Ease Score	no	yes	no	no	yes	yes	yes	yes	yes	no	no	yes	yes	yes	yes
Number of User Defined Entries	NA	yes	6	10	14	2	12	unlimited	10	no	unlimited	unlimited	no	5	unlimited

(NA indicates that no response was provided)

3279.3

SIRE INFORMATION

	Herd Soft	PC COWCARD	CowCalf Starter	CowCalf Production	Beef Herd Management	Cow Calf 4	Cattle Pro 2000	Farmstock	Cowtrax	Pendelton	Ranch-master	Cow Sense	CHAPS III	DATALINE	Herd Handler
Individual ID, Name	yes	yes	yes	yes	yes	yes	yes	yes	yes	yes	yes	yes	yes	yes	yes
Breed Composition	yes	yes	yes	yes	yes	yes	yes	yes	yes	yes	yes	yes	yes	yes	yes
Breed Registration #	yes	yes	no	yes	yes	yes	yes	no	yes	no	yes	yes	no	yes	yes
Purchased/Raised, Cost and Date	yes	yes	yes	yes	yes	yes	yes	no	yes	no	yes	yes	no	yes	yes
Birth Date	yes	yes	yes	yes	yes	yes	yes	yes	yes	yes	yes	yes	no	yes	yes
Birth Weight	yes	yes	yes	yes	yes	yes	yes	yes	yes	no	yes	yes	no	yes	yes
Pedigree	yes	yes	no	yes	yes	yes	yes	no	yes	no	yes	yes	no	yes	yes
Weaning Weight/205-day Weight and Ratios	yes	yes	yes	yes	yes	yes	yes	yes	yes	no	yes	yes	no	yes	yes
Yearling Weight/365-day Weight and Ratios	yes	yes	yes	yes	yes	yes	yes	yes	yes	no	yes	yes	no	yes	yes
Central Bull Testing Information	no	yes	no	no	NA	yes	yes	no	yes	no	NA	no	no	no	yes
On-Farm Bull Testing Information	no	yes	no	no	yes	yes	yes	no	yes	no	NA	no	no	no	yes
Health/Vaccination Records	yes	yes	NA	yes	yes	yes	yes	yes	yes	no	yes	yes	no	no	yes
Percent Pregnancy Rate	no	no	NA	no	yes	yes	yes	no	yes	no	no	yes	no	no	no
Condition Score	no	no	NA	yes	no	yes	yes	no	yes	no	yes	yes	no	no	yes
Hip Height	no	yes	yes	yes	yes	yes	yes	no	yes	no	yes	no	no	yes	yes
Color	no	yes	yes	yes	yes	yes	yes	yes	yes	no	yes	no	no	yes	yes
Horned/Polled/Scurred	no	yes	yes	yes	yes	yes	yes	no	yes	no	yes	yes	no	yes	yes
Group	no	yes	yes	yes	yes	yes	yes	yes	yes	no	yes	yes	no	yes	yes
Breeder of Bull	yes	yes	yes	no	no	yes	yes	no	yes	no	yes	yes	no	yes	yes
Pelvic Measurements	no	yes	no	yes	yes	yes	yes	no	yes	no	no	yes	no	no	yes
Management Code	no	yes	yes	yes	yes	yes	yes	yes	yes	no	yes	no	no	no	yes
Calves Sired	yes	yes	yes	yes	yes	yes	yes	yes	yes	no	yes	yes	yes	yes	yes
Calves Sired Weaned	yes	yes	no	yes	yes	yes	yes	yes	yes	no	no	yes	no	yes	yes
Calves Sired Yearlings	no	no	no	yes	yes	yes	yes	no	yes	no	no	yes	no	yes	yes
Avg. Calf Performance Weights (Birth, Weaning, Yearling)	yes	yes	yes	yes	yes	yes	yes	yes	yes	no	no	yes	yes	yes	yes
Avg. Adj. Calf Performance Wts./Ratios	NA	yes	yes	yes	yes	yes	yes	yes	yes	no	no	yes	yes	yes	yes
Avg. Wt./Days Age of Calves	yes	yes	no	yes	yes	yes	yes	yes	yes	no	no	no	yes	yes	yes
Avg. Daily Gain of Calves	yes	yes	no	yes	yes	yes	yes	no	yes	no	no	yes	yes	yes	yes
Avg. WDA of Calves	yes	yes	no	yes	yes	yes	yes	no	yes	no	no	no	yes	yes	yes
Semen Inventory	yes	no	no	yes	no	yes	yes	no	NA	no	no	no	no	no	no
Progeny Record	yes	no	yes	yes	yes	no	yes	yes	yes	no	yes	yes	no	no	yes
List of Sires	no	yes	yes	yes	no	yes	yes	yes	yes	no	yes	yes	no	yes	yes
Sire Summary	no	yes	yes	yes	yes	yes	yes	yes	yes	no	yes	yes	yes	yes	yes
No. of User Defined Entries	NA	yes	6	10	14	2	12	unlimited	10	yes	unlimited	unlimited	no	5	unlimited
Death/Disposal Cause	no	yes	yes	yes	yes	yes	yes	yes	yes	no	yes	no	no	yes	yes
A.I. Bull	yes	yes	yes	yes	yes	yes	yes	no	yes	no	yes	yes	no	yes	yes
Purchase/Sale Price	yes	yes	yes	yes	yes	yes	yes	no	yes	no	yes	yes	no	no	yes
Percentage Fullblood/Purebred	yes	yes	yes	yes	yes	yes	yes	no	yes	no	yes	yes	no	yes	yes

(NA indicates that no response was provided)

3279.4

CALF INFORMATION

	Herd Soft	PC COWCARD	CowCalf Starter	CowCalf Production	Beef Herd Management	Cow Calf 4	Cattle Pro 2000	Farmstock	Cowtrax	Pendelton	Ranch-master	Cow Sense	CHAPS III	DATALINE	Herd Handler
Individual ID, Name	yes	yes	yes	yes	yes	yes	yes	yes	yes	yes	yes	yes	yes	yes	yes
Breed Composition	yes	yes	yes	yes	yes	no	yes	yes	yes	yes	yes	yes	no	yes	yes
Breed Registration #	yes	yes	no	yes	yes	yes	yes	no	yes	no	yes	yes	no	yes	yes
Tattoo/Brand Number/Ear Tag	yes	yes	no	yes	yes	yes	yes	no	yes	yes	yes	yes	no	yes	yes
Pedigree	yes	no	no	yes	yes	yes	yes	no	yes	no	yes	yes	no	yes	yes
Sex	yes	yes	yes	yes	yes	yes	yes	yes	yes	yes	yes	yes	yes	yes	yes
Dam ID	yes	yes	yes	yes	yes	yes	yes	yes	yes	no	yes	yes	yes	yes	yes
Sire ID	yes	yes	yes	yes	yes	yes	yes	yes	yes	yes	yes	yes	yes	yes	yes
Birth Date	yes	yes	yes	yes	yes	yes	yes	yes	yes	yes	yes	yes	yes	yes	yes
Birth Weight	yes	yes	yes	yes	yes	yes	yes	yes	yes	yes	yes	yes	yes	yes	yes
Avg. Calving Ease Score	yes	yes	yes	yes	yes	yes	yes	yes	yes	no	NA	yes	yes	yes	yes
Calving Period	yes	no	no	no	no	yes	yes	no	yes	no	yes	yes	yes	yes	yes
Age of Dam at Birth	yes	yes	yes	yes	yes	yes	yes	no	yes	no	yes	yes	yes	yes	yes
Management Code (e.g. creep)	no	no	yes	yes	yes	yes	yes	yes	yes	no	yes	yes	yes	yes	yes
Weaning Date	yes	yes	yes	yes	yes	yes	yes	yes	yes	yes	yes	yes	yes	yes	yes
Weaning Weight	yes	yes	yes	yes	yes	yes	yes	yes	yes	yes	yes	yes	yes	yes	yes
Horned/Polled/Scurred	no	yes	yes	yes	yes	yes	yes	no	yes	no	yes	yes	no	yes	yes
Color	no	yes	yes	yes	yes	yes	yes	yes	yes	no	yes	no	no	yes	yes
Hip Height	no	yes	yes	yes	yes	yes	yes	no	yes	no	yes	yes	yes	yes	yes
Frame Score	no	yes	yes	yes	yes	yes	yes	no	yes	no	yes	yes	yes	yes	yes
Muscling Score	no	no	yes	yes	yes	no	yes	no	yes	no	no	no	yes	yes	yes
Grade/Carcass (yield, quality)	no	no	yes	yes	yes	yes	yes	yes	yes	no	yes	no	no	yes	yes
Health/Vaccination Records	yes	yes	yes	yes	yes	yes	yes	yes	yes	yes	yes	yes	no	no	yes
Death/Disposal Cause/Date	no	yes	yes	yes	yes	yes	yes	yes	yes	yes	yes	yes	no	no	yes
Sold To/Price	yes	yes	yes	yes	yes	yes	yes	no	yes	yes	yes	no	no	no	yes
Pasture/Location	yes	yes	yes	yes	yes	yes	yes	yes	yes	no	yes	yes	no	no	yes
Adjusted Birth Weight	yes	yes	no	no	yes	yes	yes	yes	yes	no	yes	yes	no	no	yes
Age in Days	yes	yes	yes	yes	yes	yes	yes	yes	yes	no	no	yes	yes	yes	yes
Average Daily Gain	yes	yes	yes	yes	yes	no	yes	yes	yes	no	no	yes	yes	yes	yes
Weight per Day of Age	yes	no	no	yes	yes	yes	yes	no	yes	no	no	no	yes	yes	yes
Adjusted 205-day Weaning Wt.	yes	yes	yes	yes	yes	yes	yes	yes	yes	no	yes	yes	yes	yes	yes
Adjusted Hip Height	no	no	no	yes	yes	no	yes	no	yes	no	no	no	no	no	yes
205-day Weight Ratio	yes	yes	yes	yes	yes	yes	yes	no	yes	no	yes	yes	yes	yes	yes
Index By Sex/Group	no	yes	yes	yes	yes	yes	yes	no	yes	NA	yes	yes	yes	yes	yes
Adjusted 365-day Weight/Ratio	yes	yes	yes	yes	yes	yes	yes	yes	yes	NA	yes	yes	yes	yes	yes
Average Daily Gain/Ratio	no	no	no	yes	yes	yes	yes	yes	yes	NA	no	yes	yes	yes	yes
Yearling Weight and Date	no	yes	yes	yes	yes	yes	yes	yes	yes	NA	yes	yes	yes	yes	yes
No. of User Defined Entries	no	yes	6	10	14	2	12	unlimited	10	NA	unlimited	unlimited	1	5	unlimited

(NA indicates that no response was provided)

3279.5

HERD INFORMATION

	PC Herd Soft	COWCARD	CowCalf Starter	CowCalf Production	Beef Herd Management	Cow Calf 4	Cattle Pro 2000	Farmstock	Cowtrax	Pendelton	Ranch-master	Cow Sense	CHAPS III	DATALINE	Herd Handler
Pounds Weaned Per Cow	no	no	no	yes	yes	yes	yes	no	yes	NA	no	yes	yes	yes	yes
Common Weaning Date	NA	no	no	no	no	yes	yes	no	yes	NA	no	yes	yes	yes	yes
Avg. Inseminations/Cow Bred	yes	no	no	no	yes	no	yes	no	NA	NA	no	no	no	no	no
Avg. Inseminations/Live Calf	yes	no	no	no	no	no	yes	no	yes	NA	no	no	no	no	no
Average Birth Weight	yes	yes	yes	yes	yes	yes	yes	no	yes	NA	no	yes	yes	yes	yes
Avg. Adj. Birth Weight	yes	no	no	no	yes	yes	yes	no	yes	NA	no	yes	no	no	yes
Average Weaning Weight	yes	yes	yes	yes	yes	yes	yes	no	yes	NA	no	yes	yes	yes	yes
Average Days of Age	yes	yes	no	yes	yes	yes	yes	no	yes	NA	no	yes	yes	yes	yes
Average ADG	no	yes	no	yes	yes	no	yes	no	yes	NA	no	yes	yes	yes	yes
Average WDA	no	no	no	yes	yes	yes	yes	no	yes	NA	no	no	yes	yes	yes
Average 205-day Weight	yes	yes	yes	yes	yes	yes	yes	no	yes	NA	no	yes	yes	yes	yes
Average Hip Height	no	no	no	yes	yes	yes	yes	no	yes	NA	no	yes	yes	yes	yes
Average Cow Age	no	yes	yes	yes	yes	yes	yes	no	yes	NA	no	yes	yes	yes	yes
Average Yearling Weight	no	yes	yes	yes	yes	yes	yes	no	yes	NA	no	yes	yes	yes	yes
Avg. Adj. 365-day Weight	no	yes	yes	yes	yes	yes	yes	no	yes	NA	no	yes	yes	yes	yes
Averages By Calf Sex	yes	yes	yes	yes	yes	yes	yes	no	yes	NA	no	yes	yes	yes	yes
Averages By Cow Age	yes	yes	yes	yes	yes	yes	yes	no	yes	NA	no	yes	yes	yes	yes
Averages By Calf Sire	yes	yes	yes	yes	yes	yes	yes	no	NA	NA	no	yes	yes	yes	no
Averages By Management Code	no	yes	yes	no	yes	yes	yes	no	NA	NA	no	yes	no	no	yes
Cows in Herd	yes	yes	NA	yes	yes	yes	yes	yes	yes	NA	yes	yes	yes	yes	yes
Open Cows	yes	yes	yes	yes	yes	yes	yes	no	yes	NA	yes	yes	yes	yes	yes
Bred Cows	yes	yes	yes	yes	yes	yes	yes	no	yes	NA	yes	yes	yes	yes	yes
Cows Exposed	yes	yes	yes	yes	yes	yes	yes	no	yes	NA	yes	yes	yes	yes	yes
Cows Added to Herd	yes	no	NA	yes	yes	yes	yes	no	yes	NA	yes	yes	yes	yes	yes
Cattle Purchased	yes	no	NA	yes	yes	yes	yes	no	yes	NA	yes	yes	yes	yes	yes
Calves Born	yes	yes	yes	yes	yes	yes	yes	no	yes	NA	yes	yes	yes	yes	yes
Number of Nursing Calves	no	no	yes	yes	yes	yes	yes	no	NA	NA	yes	yes	yes	yes	yes
Calves Weaned	yes	yes	yes	yes	yes	yes	yes	no	yes	NA	yes	yes	yes	yes	yes
Feed and Pasture Records	no	no	no	no	yes	no	yes	yes	yes	NA	no	no	no	no	yes
Calves to be Weaned	yes	yes	yes	yes	yes	yes	yes	no	yes	NA	yes	no	yes	yes	yes
Expected Calving	yes	yes	no	yes	yes	yes	yes	no	yes	NA	yes	no	no	yes	yes
Calf Crop Percent	no	yes	no	yes	yes	NA	yes	no	yes	NA	no	yes	yes	yes	yes
Percent of Cows Pregnant	no	yes	no	yes	yes	yes	yes	no	yes	NA	no	no	yes	yes	yes
Length of Calving Season	no	yes	no	yes	no	yes	yes	no	NA	NA	yes	yes	yes	yes	yes
Average Calving Interval	no	no	no	yes	yes	yes	yes	no	NA	NA	no	yes	yes	yes	yes
Calving Distribution Summary	no	yes	no	no	yes	yes	yes	no	NA	NA	no	yes	yes	yes	no
Health/Vaccinations Needed	yes	yes	NA	yes	yes	yes	yes	no	·NA	NA	yes	yes	no	no	no
Yearling List	yes	yes	yes	yes	yes	yes	yes	no	yes	NA	yes	yes	yes	yes	yes
Yearling Summary	yes	yes	yes	yes	yes	yes	yes	no	yes	NA	yes	yes	yes	yes	yes
Potential Replacement Heifers	yes	no	yes	yes	yes	yes	yes	no	yes	NA	yes	yes	yes	yes	yes
Potential Cull Cows	yes	no	yes	yes	yes	yes	yes	no	yes	NA	yes	yes	yes	yes	yes
User Sort Criteria	yes	yes	yes	yes	yes	yes	yes	no	yes	NA	yes	yes	no	yes	yes
Sort By Index	no	yes	yes	yes	yes	yes	yes	yes	yes	NA	yes	yes	yes	yes	yes
Sort By ID	yes	yes	yes	yes	yes	yes	yes	yes	yes	NA	yes	yes	yes	yes	yes
Sort By Other	yes	yes	yes	yes	yes	yes	yes	no	yes	NA	yes	yes	yes	yes	yes

(NA indicates that no response was provided)

3279.6

Herd Information (continued)	Herd Soft	PC COWCARD	CowCalf Starter	CowCalf Production	Beef Herd Management	Cow Calf 4	Cattle Pro 2000	Farmstock	Cowtrax	Pendelton	Ranch-master	Cow Sense	CHAPS III	DATALINE	Herd Handler
Historical Cow Performance	yes	yes	yes	yes	yes	yes	yes	no	yes	NA	yes	yes	yes	yes	yes
Pedigree Report	yes	no	no	yes	yes	yes	yes	no	yes	NA	yes	yes	no	yes	yes
Breeding Worksheet	yes	yes	yes	yes	yes	yes	yes	no	yes	NA	no	yes	yes	yes	yes
Preg-check Worksheet	yes	yes	yes	yes	yes	yes	yes	no	yes	NA	no	yes	yes	yes	yes
Herd Composition By Age	yes	no	NA	yes	yes	yes	yes	NA	yes	NA	no	yes	yes	yes	yes
Conception Rates By Age	yes	no	no	no	yes	yes	yes	no	NA	NA	no	no	no	no	no
List of Open Cows	yes	yes	yes	yes	yes	yes	yes	no	yes	NA	yes	yes	no	no	yes
List of Cows Bred	yes	yes	yes	yes	yes	yes	yes	no	yes	NA	yes	yes	no	no	yes
Inventory By Calf Sex	yes	yes	yes	yes	yes	yes	yes	no	yes	NA	yes	yes	yes	yes	yes
Inventory By Location	yes	no	yes	yes	yes	yes	yes	yes	NA	NA	yes	no	no	no	yes
Inventory By Sire	yes	no	yes	yes	yes	yes	yes	no	yes	NA	yes	no	yes	yes	yes
Inventory By Cow Age	yes	no	yes	yes	yes	yes	yes	no	NA	NA	yes	no	yes	yes	yes
Open Cows Carried Forward	no	no	no	yes	yes	yes	yes	no	NA	NA	yes	yes	yes	yes	yes
Management Calendar	NA	no	no	no	no	yes	yes	yes	NA	NA	yes	no	no	no	yes

COMPUTER REQUIREMENTS

	Herd Soft	PC COWCARD	CowCalf Starter	CowCalf Production	Beef Herd Management	Cow Calf 4	Cattle Pro 2000	Farmstock	Cowtrax	Pendelton	Ranch-master	Cow Sense	CHAPS III	DATALINE	Herd Handler
Operating System	IBM	IBM or Comparable	DOS or Win. 3.1	DOS or Win. 3.1	DOS	DOS or Windows	IBM, Windows 3.1, Win. 95	Win. 3.1 or Win. 95	Win. 3.1 or Win. 95	DOS	Win. 3.1 or Win 95	Win. 3.1, 95 Mac	DOS	Windows '95 or '97	Win. 3.1 or Win. '95
Minimum RAM	240K	640K	640K	640K	256K	640K	8 MB	4MB	4 MB	NA	8 MB	8MB	2 MB	NA	8 MB or 16 MB
Hard Disk	standard	10 MB	10 MB avail.	10 MB avail.	10MB	10 MB	yes	10MB	5 MB	NA	10 MB	14MB	yes	yes	40 MB varies with herd size
Printer (columns req'd)	standard	NA	Dot matrix or laser	dot matrix or laser	dot matrix or laser	no require- ments	no require- ments	any graphics printer	80	NA	IBM compatible	laser, inkjet	8 1/2x11	NA	lazer printer
Monitor	standard	NA	VGA recom- mended	VGA recom- mended	B/W or color	RGB	VGA	VGA	any	NA	SVGA	color 640x480	any	color	SVGA
Last Updated	1990	1988	1995	1995	Nov. 11, 1996	constant revision	constant revision	Oct. 95	updated each yr	NA	Jan. 97	Feb. 97	1993	1997	twice a year
Cost	$250-$600	$160	$295	$695	Starts at $250	$450	Prime-$695 Choice-$395 Select-$195	$150	$250	no charge	lite-$249 full-$495	Lite $195 Commerc. $395 Purebred $495	$200	$500	$495+$95/yr subscription
Demo Avail./Cost	yes, fee	no	yes, $75	yes, $75	yes, $75	yes, free	yes, free	no	free	NA	yes, free	$15 disk free www	no, but is refundable within 30 days	no	$35 (applies to purchase cost)
Support Avail./Cost	yes, $35/yr.	yes	NA	NA	free	yes, special training avail.	yes, free on Internet. 30 day free phone. Special training avail.	yes, free	free phone-in support	NA	yes, 90 day free.	30 day free. Free e-mail & web page	yes	yes	yes, comes with subscription

ADDITIONAL CONSIDERATIONS (*NA indicates that no response was provided*)

	Input Forms Available			Summary Reports Available		
	On-Screen	Both	None	On-Screen	Printed	Both
Herd Soft			X			X
PC-COWCARD		X				X
Cow Calf Starter		X				X
Cow Calf Production		X				X
Beef Herd Management		X				X
Cattle Pro		X				X
Cow Calf 4		X				X
Farmstock	X					X
Cowtrax		X				X
Ranchmaster	X					X
Cow Sense		X				X
CHAPS III		X				X
DATALINE		X				X
Herd Handler		X			X	

Sorting options provided by the program?

Herd Soft- Allows for 6 sorts—7 restrictions

PC-COWCARD- can sort and query

Cow Calf Starter-unlimited (every field can be) production version

Cow Calf Production- unlimited (every field can be) production version

Beef Herd Management-date of birth, birth wt., weaning wt., weaning index

Cattle Pro-customized for individual needs

Cow Calf 4-sort by any variable and use subgroup for custom statistics, printout, or the functions

Farmstock-custom reports can be sorted by any data field

Cowtrax-report writing capability with user defined sort fields

Ranchmaster-place animals into classes, then load the class needed into the inventory

Cow Sense-sort any combination of input to four fields. User can define simple to complex database queries. Sorts and queries can be named and saved for later use.

CHAPS III-calf ID,adjusted 205-day weight, sire ID, actual weight, cow and calf age, birth weight, frame score, adjusted 365-day weight, weight per day of age, ADG, MPPA, and sire of cow

DATALINE-pre-set and user defined

Herd Handler-primary and secondary sort option. Can sort on any field in the program including user defined fields

Number of cows that can be entered into the program (maximum)

Herd Soft- 99,999

PC-COWCARD- 2,000

Cow Calf Starter-unlimited

Cow Calf Production-unlimited

Beef Herd Management-limited only by space on hard drive (305 bytes per head)

Cattle Pro-unlimited

Cow Calf 4-limited by computer; some group reports limited to 500 head

Farmstock-unlimited

Cowtrax-unlimited

Ranchmaster-unlimited

Cow Sense-unlimited

CHAPS III-unlimited

DATALINE-unlimited

Herd Handler-unlimited

Specific data entry fields that are <u>required</u> for program to work.

Herd Soft-n/a

PC-COWCARD - cow ID and cow birthdate

Cow Calf Starter - birthdate, sex

Cow Calf Production - birthdate, sex

Beef Herd Management - none - not a database program - has own functions

Cattle Pro - all fields provided

Cow Calf 4 - permanent ID, birthdate of dam/calf, calf sex

Farmstock - ID, birthdate, birth wt.

Cowtrax - ID, birthdate, birth weight (estimate), breed, type (bull, cow, steer, heifer)

Ranchmaster - none

Cow Sense - Every calf record must have an outcome entered. All other requirements are situational. Also cow ID and birth date (estimated or actual)

CHAPS III - cow and calf ID, cow age, birthdate, wean date, and management code

DATALINE - calf ID, cow ID, cow age, birthdate, wean date, management code

Herd Handler - animal ID is required

Are adjusted weights computed according to Beef Improvement Federation Guidelines(BIF)? Yes or No

Herd Soft - yes

PC-COWCARD - yes

Cow Calf Starter - yes

Cow Calf Production - yes

Beef Herd Management - yes

Cattle Pro - yes

Cow Calf 4 - yes

Farmstock - yes

Cowtrax - yes

Cow Sense - yes, or can be customized

CHAPS III - yes

DATALINE - yes

Herd Handler - yes

Are BIF age of dam adjustment factors used? Yes or No
If yes, are the adjustments breed specific or general?

Herd Soft - yes

PC-COWCARD - yes, can be customized

Cow Calf Starter - yes, user defined

Cow Calf Production - yes, user defined

Beef Herd Management - yes, set up options allow selection of adjustment formula

Cattle Pro - yes, breed specific

Cow Calf 4 - yes, either user defined/general is automatic

Farmstock - yes, general

Cowtrax - yes, breed specific

Ranchmaster - yes, breed specific

Cow Sense - yes, breed specific

CHAPS III - yes, general

DATALINE - yes, general

Herd Handler - yes, general

Is the program integrated with other agricultural software?

Herd Soft - yes, Cow/Calf Ver. 4.0 University of Nebraska

PC-COWCARD - no

Cow Calf Starter - no

Cow Calf Production - no

Beef Herd Management - n/a

Cattle Pro - no

Cow Calf 4 - SPA is built into software/export or import options available

Farmstock - yes, Farm Trac and Farm Fund

Cowtrax - yes, Quicken

Ranchmaster - no

Cow Sense - export to spreadsheet, word processing, or other formats. Import from electronic scales

CHAPS III - no

DATALINE - no

Herd Handler - no

The Oklahoma Cooperative Extension Service
Bringing the University to You!

The Cooperative Extension Service is the largest, most successful informal educational organization in the world. It is a nationwide system funded and guided by a partnership of federal, state, and local governments that delivers information to help people help themselves through the land-grant university system.

Extension carries out programs in the broad categories of agriculture, natural resources and environment; home economics; 4-H and other youth; and community resource development. Extension staff members live and work among the people they serve to help stimulate and educate Americans to plan ahead and cope with their problems.

Some characteristics of the Cooperative Extension system are:

*   The federal, state, and local governments cooperatively share in its financial support and program direction.

*   It is administered by the land-grant university as designated by the state legislature through an Extension director.

*   Extension programs are nonpolitical, objective, and based on factual information.

*   It provides practical, problem-oriented educa-

tion for people of all ages. It is designated to take the knowledge of the university to those persons who do not or cannot participate in the formal classroom instruction of the university.

*   It utilizes research from university, government, and other sources to help people make their own decisions.

*   More than a million volunteers help multiply the impact of the Extension professional staff.

*   It dispenses no funds to the public.

*   It is not a regulatory agency, but it does inform people of regulations and of their options in meeting them.

*   Local programs are developed and carried out in full recognition of national problems and goals.

*   The Extension staff educates people through personal contacts, meetings, demonstrations, and the mass media.

*   Extension has the built-in flexibility to adjust its programs and subject matter to meet new needs. Activities shift from year to year as citizen groups and Extension workers close to the problems advise changes.