



Early Weaning Decision Aid

Texas Agrilife Extension and Oklahoma State University



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Sale weight, early weaning	400
Projected sale weight, late weaning	500
Sale price for 400 pound calves (\$/cwt)	\$ 180
Projected sale price for 500 pound calves (\$/cwt)	\$ 160
Marketing cost	3%
Early wean sale proceeds, net marketing cost	\$ 698
Late wean sale proceeds, net marketing cost	\$ 776
Early weaning date	8/15/2019
Late weaning date	10/15/2019
Days calves would remain on cows	61
Nursing cow feed cost (\$/head per day)	\$ 3.00
Dry cow feed cost (\$/head per day)	\$ 2.00
Savings in feed cost (\$ per cow)	\$ 61
Advantage to early weaning (\$ per head)	\$ 66

Cost differential for feed costs between nursing and dry cows

Increment (\$/hd/day) used in sensitivity table	\$1.00	
Cost differential (\$/hd/day)	Sale price (\$/cwt) for 400 pound calves needed to breakeven	Sale price (\$/cwt) for 500 pound calves needed to breakeven
\$4.00	\$116	\$211
\$3.00	\$131	\$198
\$2.00	\$147	\$186
\$1.00	\$163	\$173
\$0.00	\$179	\$161
(\$1.00)	\$194	\$148
(\$2.00)	\$210	\$136
Expected change in % next calf crop	-10%	
Projected sale price for 500 pound calves for the next calf crop (\$/cwt)	\$	165

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