

Beef Finishing

Nr.	Name of variable	Explanation / definition
Beef finishing production system (in alphabetical order)		
	Age at start and end	Age in days when animals enter and leave the system.
	Backgrounder / Store / Feeder	Animals between 4 and 15 months beyond the calf / weaner stage which had an initial fattening phase.
	Cattle number	Total number of fattening cattle produced per year. Also used to indicate farm sizes of <i>agri benchmark</i> beef farms.
	Cost of the beef enterprise	All cost of the beef enterprise. The beef enterprise as a part of the whole farm includes all beef cattle and the fodder production for all these animals.
	Daily weight gain (Dairy) Calf	Weight at end minus weight at start divided by duration of fattening period expressed in g per day. Young animal of dairy origin between 7 and 120 days of age.
	Dressing percentage	Also carcass yield. Carcass weight divided by live weight when finished animals are slaughtered (weight at slaughterhouse).
	Duration of fattening period, finishing period	Number of days animals stay in the system (age at end minus age at start).
	Meat produced	Total weight of meat added to the animal during the fattening period, expressed as live weight or carcass weight.
	Meat sold	Weight of meat sold at end of fattening period = final weight of the animal, expressed as live weight or carcass weight.
	Net gain	Carcass weight divided by age at slaughter.
	Losses / mortality	Number of animals that die between start and end of the finishing period as a percentage of animals entering the system..
	Weaner (calf)	Animal between 105 and 355 days coming from cow-calf.
	Weight added	Total weight added during finishing period in kg LW.
	Weight at start and end	Live weight when animals enter and leave the system.
	Stocking rate	Livestock units (1 LU = 500 kg live weight) per ha forage area based on average number of animals.
Beef finishing economic data (in alphabetical order)		
	Factor costs	Costs for production factors labour, land, capital (with opportunity costs).
	Non-factor costs	All other costs (total costs less factor costs).
	Non-beef returns of the beef enterprise	By-products of the beef production like skin, horns and manure and direct payments, if any.
	Returns of the beef enterprise	Sales of beef cattle, direct payments minus balance in livestock inventory plus other returns of the beef enterprise.
	Total cost of the beef enterprise	All costs of the beef enterprise. The relevant part of overhead and fixed costs on whole farm level were allocated to the beef enterprise.