



Current Report

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Cow-Calf Production Record Software

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Producers who have 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 with regards to making better management decisions. Producers should evaluate their existing records to determine the types of information sought 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 numbers, number of females exposed to the bull(s), etc. 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. Monthly calendars, journals, and Integrated Resource Management Redbooks are a few examples of handwritten record systems. The choice of programs, features, and cost of software are the "fine-tuning" portion of recordkeeping. In the following summary of nine 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 \$149 to \$600. Many software companies offer program demonstration cop-

ies for free. Programs have various computer requirements such as minimum processor type and speed, minimum RAM, operating system, hard disk space, and monitor needs. 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. Another important feature may include the ability to query or search the data for specific animal information. 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. Oklahoma State University does not endorse the software programs listed in this publication, but the information is believed to be true. The summary does not cover all available packages or individual program features. Programs may have other capabilities that are not described in the summary. Producers should contact the respective companies for purchase information, details on features, and specific hardware requirements.

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Farm Works™ Stock

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Phone: 800-225-2848
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Livestock Manager Software

Cow Calf 007
1436 W. 4020 S.
Salt Lake City, UT 84123
E-mail: livestockmanagers@gmail.com
Website: http://www.livestockmanagers.com
Contact: Teri Vaughn
Phone: 1-800-570-9155

Cow Sense®

Midwest MicroSystems, L.L.C.
3100 O. Street, Suite 7
Lincoln, NE 58150-1532
Phone: 800-584-0040 / 402-323-6969
Fax: 402-323-6968
E-mail: info@cowsense.com
support@cowsense.com
Web Site: http://cowsense.com
Contact: Tim Davis, Vice President

CattleMax Online

Cattlesoft, Inc.
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Phone: 800-641-2343
E-mail: howdy@cattlemax.com
Web Site: http://www.cattlemax.com
Contact: Penny Miller

THE Beef Cattle firm

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Web Site: http://economics.ag.utk.edu/firm.html
Contact: Kevin Ferguson

CattlePro

Global Livestock Management Systems, LLC
1725 Dryden Road
Sadieville, KY 40370
Phone: 800-204-2002/859-234-2002
Email: support@cattlepro.com
Website: www.cattlepro.com
Contact: Kathie Williams
Prime Plus: Registered with interface
Prime: Registered
Choice Plus: Commercial with interface
Choice: Commercial
Standard: Small Registered
Select: Small Commercial

**Wolf Creek Cow/Calf (Commercial,
Commercial with Report Writer, and Production)**

Wolf Creek Software
203 West 7th Street
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Phone: 605-553-0136
Email: cowcalf.assist@gmail.com
Contact: David Van Heuvelen

Benyshek and Hough Consulting Services, Inc.

GEM Data Management Capability
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Email: Larry_Benyshek@benyshek-hough.com
John_Hough@benyshek-hough.com
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Bridging Intelligence

294 E. Mill St. # 209
Elora, ON N0B
Phone: 1-855-246-2333
Fax: 519-767-2502
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Web Site: http://www.bridgingintelligence.com
Contact: Betty-Jo Almond

COW INFORMATION

• = yes X = no ✓ = user defined field

	Cow Calf 007		Farm Works		Cow Sense		CattleMax Online		THE IFRM		Wolf Creek Cow/Calf		GEM Data		Bridging Intelligence
	Commercial	Small Herd	Stock	Online	NxGen	NxGen Pro	Basic ID	Commercial	Registered	CattlePro	Commercial	Production	Management		
Individual ID, Name	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•
Breed Composition	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•
Breed Registration #	•	•	•	X	X	•	✓	•	•	•	X	•	•	•	•
Tattoo/Brand Number/Eartag	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	X	•	•	•	•
Purchased/Raised, Cost and Date	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•
Birth Date	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•
Birth Weight	•	•	•	•	•	•	✓	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•
Pedigree	•	•	•	X	X	X	✓	•	•	•	X	•	•	•	•
Weaning Weight/205-day Weight and Ratios	•	•	•	•	•	•	✓	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•
Yearling Weight/365-day Weight and Ratios	•	•	•	•	X	•	✓	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•
Additional Weights	•	•	•	X	X	•	✓	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•
Cow Weight/Weigh Dates	•	•	•	X	•	•	✓	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•
Condition Score	•	•	•	X	•	•	✓	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•
Hip Height	•	•	•	X	•	•	✓	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•
Age	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•
Color	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•
Horned/Polled/Scurred	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•
Temperament Score	•	•	•	X	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•
MPPA Score	•	•	•	X	•	•	✓	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•
Management Code	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•
No. Calves Born, Weaned	•	•	•	X	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•
No. Calves Held as Yearlings	•	•	•	X	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•
Calving Interval	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•
Date of Last Calf	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•
Projected Calving Date	•	•	•	X	•	•	✓	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•
Days Open	•	•	•	X	•	•	✓	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•
Avg. Calf Performance Weights (Birth, Weaning, Yearling)	•	•	•	•	•	•	✓	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•
Avg. Adj. Calf Performance Wts.	•	•	•	•	•	•	✓	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•
Avg. Calf Performance Ratios	•	•	•	•	•	•	✓	•	•	•	•	X	•	•	•
Avg. Daily Gain of Calves	•	•	•	•	•	•	✓	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•
Heat Detection Information	•	•	•	X	•	•	✓	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	X
Breeding Information	•	•	•	X	•	•	✓	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•
Pregnancy Status	•	•	•	X	•	•	✓	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•
Pregnancy Check Date	•	•	•	X	•	•	✓	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•
Pelvic Area Measurements	•	•	•	•	•	•	✓	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	X
Health/Vaccination Records	•	•	•	X	•	•	✓	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•
Death/Disposal Cause/Date	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•
Sold To/Price	•	•	•	X	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•
Pasture/Location	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•
Embryo Transfers	•	•	•	•	•	•	✓	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•
Average Calving Ease Score	•	•	•	•	•	•	✓	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•
Number of User Defined Entries	10	10	unlimited	none	none	unlimited	unlimited	unlimited	unlimited	0	41	12	12	41	3

SIRE INFORMATION

• = Yes X = no ✓ = user defined field

	Cow Calf 007		Farm Works		Cow Sense		CattleMax Online		THE IIRM		Wolf Creek Cow/Calf		GEM Data	Bridging Intelligence
	Commercial	Small Herd	Stock	Online	NxGen	NxGen Pro	Basic ID	Commercial	Registered	CattlePro	Commercial	Production	Management	
Individual ID, Name	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•
Breed Composition	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•
Percentage Fullblood/Purebred	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•
Breed Registration #	•	•	X	•	X	•	✓	•	•	•	X	•	•	•
Purchased/Raised, Cost and Date	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•
Birth Date	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•
Birth Weight	•	•	•	•	•	•	✓	•	•	•	•	•	•	•
Pedigree	•	•	X	•	X	•	✓	X	•	•	X	•	•	•
Weaning Weight/205-day Weight and Ratios	•	•	•	•	•	•	✓	•	•	•	•	•	•	•
Yearling Weight/365-day Weight and Ratios	•	•	•	•	X	•	✓	•	•	•	•	•	•	•
Central Bull Testing Information	•	•	•	•	X	•	✓	•	•	•	•	•	•	•
On-Farm Bull Testing Information	•	•	•	•	X	•	✓	•	•	•	•	•	•	•
Health/Vaccination Records	•	•	•	X	•	•	✓	•	•	•	•	•	•	•
Percent Pregnancy Rate	•	•	•	X	•	•	✓	•	•	X	•	•	•	X
Condition Score	•	•	•	X	•	•	✓	•	•	X	•	•	•	•
Hip Height	•	•	X	•	•	•	✓	•	•	•	•	•	•	•
Color	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•
Horned/Polled/Scurred	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•
Contemporary Group	•	•	•	•	•	•	✓	•	•	•	•	•	•	•
Breeder of Bull	X	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	X	•	•	•
Pelvic Area Measurements	•	•	•	•	•	•	✓	•	•	•	•	•	•	•
Management Code	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•
No. of Calves Sired	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•
No. of Calves Sired Weaned	•	•	•	X	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•
No. of Calves Sired Yearlings	•	•	•	X	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•
Avg. Calf Performance Weights (Birth, Weaning, Yearling)	•	•	•	X	•	•	✓	•	•	•	•	•	•	•
Avg. Adj. Calf Performance Wts./Ratios	•	•	•	X	•	•	✓	•	•	•	•	•	•	•
Avg. ADG of Calves	•	•	•	X	•	•	✓	•	•	•	•	•	•	•
Avg. WDA of Calves	•	•	•	X	•	•	✓	•	•	•	•	•	•	•
Semen Inventory	•	•	X	X	•	•	✓	•	•	•	X	•	•	•
List of Sires	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•
Death/Disposal Cause	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•
Purchase/Sale Price	•	•	•	X	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•
No. of User Defined Entries	10	8	unlimited	none	none	unlimited	unlimited	unlimited	unlimited	0	41	12	41	3
Expected Progeny Differences	•	•	•	X	•	•	✓	•	•	•	•	•	•	•
Breeding Soundness Exams	X	•	•	X	•	•	•	•	•	X	•	•	•	X

(NA indicates that no response was provided)

CALF INFORMATION

* = yes **x** = no ✓ = user defined field

	Cow Calf 007		Farm Works		Cow Sense		Basic ID		CattleMax Online		THE IFRM		Wolf Creek Cow/Calf		GEM Data		Bridging Intelligence
	Commercial	Small Herd	Stock	Online	NxGen	NxGen Pro	Basic ID	Commercial	Registered	CattlePro	Commercial	Production	Management	Management	Intelligence		
Individual ID, Name	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•
Breed Composition	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•
Breed Registration #	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•
Tattoo/Brand Number/Ear Tag	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•
Pedigree	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•
Sex	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•
Dam ID	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•
Sire ID	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•
Birth Date	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•
Birth Weight	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•
Calving Ease Score	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•
Calving Period	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•
Age of Dam at Birth	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•
Management Code (e.g. creep)	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•
Weaning Date/Weight	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•
Horned/Polled/Scurred	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•
Color	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•
Hip Height/Frame Score	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•
Muscling Score	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•
Grade/Carcass Data	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•
Health/Vaccination Records	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•
Death/Disposal Cause/Date	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•
Sold To/Price	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•
Pasture/Location	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•
Adjusted Birth Weight	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•
Age in Days	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•
Average Daily Gain (weaning)	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•
Weight per Day of Age (weaning)	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•
Adjusted 205-day Weaning Wt./Ratio	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•
Adjusted Hip Height	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•
Yearling Weight and Date	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•
Adjusted 365-day Weight/Ratio	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•
Average Daily Gain/Ratio (yearling)	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•
Ratio/Index By Sex/Group	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•
No. of User Defined Entries	10	10	unlimited	N/A	N/A	unlimited	unlimited	unlimited	unlimited	0	41	12	12	41	41	3	

* Ratios are not calculated

HERD INFORMATION

• = yes X = no

	Cow Calf 007		Firm Works		Cow Sense			CattleMax Online		THE IFRM		Wolf Creek Cow/Calf		GEM Data		Bridging	
	Commercial - Small Herd		Stock		Online	NkGen	NxGen Pro	Basic ID	Commercial	Registered	CattlePo	Commercial	Production	Management	Intelligence		
Pounds Weaned Per Cow	•	•	•	•	X	•	•	X	•	•	X	•	•	•	•	•	•
Common Weaning Date	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	X	•	•	X	•	•	•	•	•	•
Avg. Inseminations/Cow Bred	X	X	•	•	X	•	•	•	•	•	X	•	•	•	•	•	X
Avg. Inseminations/Live Calf	X	X	•	•	X	•	•	•	•	•	X	•	•	•	•	•	X
Average Birth Weight	•	•	•	•	X	•	•	X	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•
Avg. Adj. Birth Weight	•	•	•	•	X	•	•	X	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•
Average Weaning Weight	•	•	•	•	X	•	•	X	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•
Average Days of Age (Weaning)	•	•	•	•	X	•	•	X	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•
Average ADG (Weaning)	•	•	•	•	X	•	•	X	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•
Average WDA (Weaning)	•	•	•	•	X	•	•	X	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•
Average 205-day Weight	•	•	•	•	X	•	•	X	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•
Average Hip Height	•	•	•	•	X	•	•	X	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•
Average Cow Age	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•
Average Yearling Weight	•	•	•	•	X	•	•	X	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•
Avg. Adj. 365-day Weight	•	•	•	•	X	•	•	X	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•
Averages By Calf Sex	•	•	•	•	X	•	•	X	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•
Averages By Cow Age	•	•	•	•	X	•	•	X	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•
Averages By Calf Sire	•	•	•	•	X	•	•	X	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•
Averages By Management Code	•	•	•	•	X	•	•	X	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•
No. of Cows in Herd	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•
No. of Open Cows	•	•	•	•	X	•	•	X	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•
No. of Bred Cows	•	•	•	•	X	•	•	X	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•
No. of Cows Exposed	•	•	•	•	X	•	•	X	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•
No. of Cows Added to Herd	•	•	•	•	X	•	•	X	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•
Cattle Purchase Records	X	X	•	•	X	•	•	•	•	•	X	•	•	•	•	•	•
No. of Calves Born	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•
Number of Nursing Calves	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•
No. of Calves Weaned	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•
Feed and Pasture Records	X	X	•	•	X	•	•	•	•	•	X	•	•	•	•	•	•
Expected Calving Date	•	•	•	•	X	•	•	X	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•
Calf Crop Percent	X	X	•	•	X	•	•	X	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•
Percent of Cows Pregnant	X	X	•	•	X	•	•	X	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•
Length of Calving Season	X	X	•	•	•	•	•	X	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•
Average Calving Interval	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•
Calving Distribution Summary	X	X	•	•	•	•	•	X	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•
Health/Vaccination Records	X	X	•	•	X	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•
Yearling List	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•
Yearling Summary	X	X	•	•	•	•	•	X	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•
Potential Replacement Heifers	•	•	•	•	X	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•
Potential Cull Cows	•	•	•	•	X	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•
Sort By Index	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	X	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•
Sort By ID	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•
Sort By Other	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•
Historical Cow Performance	•	•	•	•	X	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•
Pedigree Report	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	X	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•

HERD INFORMATION (cont'd)

	Cow Calf 007		Small Herd		Farm Works		Cow Sense		CattleMax Online		THE IFRM		Wolf Creek Cow/Calf		GEM Data		Bridging		
	Commercial	Small Herd	Online	NkGen	NkGen Pro	Basic ID	Commercial	Registered	CattlePro	Commercial	Production	Management	Intelligence						
Breeding Worksheet	X					X													
Preg-check Worksheet						X													
Herd Composition By Age	X																	X	
Conception Rates By Age						X													
List of Open Cows						X													
List of Cows Bred						X													
Inventory By Calf Sex																			
Inventory By Location																		X	
Inventory By Sire																			
Open Cows Carried Forward						X													
Management Calendar	X																		
Custom Field Reports	X																		
Customer Reports	X																		
Related Animals report by																			
Ancestor, Descendent or Sibling																		X	
Livestock Show Entries																			
Milk Production																			
Cow/Calf Pair Picture List Report																			
(print to color printer for field identification)																			
Disposed Animals																			
Inventory on a Specific Date																			
Embryo Inventory and Sales																			
Pre-load Values for New Animal Records																			
Bulk Add Animals																			

COMPUTER REQUIREMENTS

	Cow Calf 007		Farm Works Stock	Cow Sense	CattleMax Online
	Commercial	Small Herd			
Operating System	Win. 98 or newer Internet not required.	Win. 98 or newer	Win XP or newer	Win. 98	Internet or newer connection required.
Minimum RAM	64 MB	64 MB	128 MB	32 MB	N/A
Hard Disk	80 MB avail.	80 MB avail.	50 MB	30 MB free space	N/A
Printer	Any Windows compatible	Ink Jet or laser	Any graphics printer	Ink Jet or laser	None, Monitor
Monitor	800 x 600 screen resolution or higher	VGA or SVGA	Color 800x600 minimum	Color 640x480 minimum	none
Last Updated	Continuing updates	04/04 or through auto update function	Constant Revision at web (through auto update function)	03/12 (constant updates)	Constant Revision
Cost	\$289 Commercial Producer (1 year of updates included)	\$149 Small Herd (1 year of updates included)	Stock \$250, Stock Mobile, \$250	EZ-100 \$150 EZ \$300 Pro-100 \$300 Pro \$600 Online subscription \$4.95/month	Starts at \$5/month or \$55/year Additional years of subscription updates \$45/year
Demo Avail./Cost	Free 30 days	Free	Free	Free working trial (No time limitation)	Free
Support Avail./Cost	Included with purchase of yearly update subscription	Available	Free email and discussion groups on the web, Phone support available, workshops offered online or classroom	Free Internet and Account Access 30 day free, several plans available, workshops offered online and on site	Free phone, e-mail, and Web site support and monthly online workshops
Cloud Based or Computer Based				Locally installed Online version, cloud based	Cloud Based
Recommended Internet Connection Speed				No requirements 200 Kbps for Cow Sense Online	Any
One-time fee or subscription	One-time purchase with one year of updates included			One-time purchase of within version	Subscription
Data Backup Service				\$60/year remote backup, free backup for Cow Sense Online	Included

COMPUTER REQUIREMENTS (Continued)

	THE FIRM	CattlePro	Wolf Creek Cow/Calf		GEM Data Management	Bridging Intelligence
			Commercial	Production		
Operating System	Win. 98 or newer	Win. XP or newer	Win. 98 or newer	Win. 98	Internet connection required.	Internet connection required.
Minimum RAM	32 MB	32 MB	64 MB	64 MB	N/A	N/A
Hard Disk	30 MB	30 MB free space	80 MB avail.	80 MB avail.	N/A	N/A
Printer	No Requirements	No Requirements	Ink Jet or laser	Ink Jet or laser	N/A	Any printer.
Monitor	SVGA 800 x 600	VGA	VGA or SVGA	VGA or SVGA	N/A	N/A
Last Updated	01/14	Constant Revision	2014	2014 Constant revision	Continuously Constant revision	Continual, no downloads, just log in.
Cost	\$150	Prime Plus \$595 Prime \$495 Choice Plus \$495 Choice \$395 Select \$295 Standard \$195	\$295 Upgrade to latest version \$225 after first year	\$500 Upgrade to latest version \$225 after first year	Variable, based on active females maintained on the system. All records on inactive females maintained indefinitely.	100 head=\$510 annually. Varies based on herd size. 500 head=\$950 annually.
Demo Avail./Cost	No	Free	Free	Free	Free	Free
Support Avail./Cost	Free phone and e-mail Support via email and/or phone Training available on request	Free lifetime CattlePro	Available	Available	Unlimited	Free e-mail, phone support, access to online workshops.
Cloud Based or Computer Based	Computer based					Cloud Based
Recommended Internet Connection Speed	N/A					High speed
One-time fee or subscription	One-time					Ongoing Subscription
Data Backup Service						All data backup and secure with no additional cost

ADDITIONAL CONSIDERATIONS

Cow Calf 007

	Commercial	Small herd	Farm Works Stock	CattleMax Online	Cow Sense Nx Gen EZ & Pro
Sorting options provided by the program?	Reports in any Column	Reports in any Column	Sort, filter, and print based on any piece of information. ID, location, group.	Sort, filter, and print based on any piece of information. ID and Animal Type.	Sort, filter, and print based on any piece of information.
Specific data entry fields that are required for program to work.	No.	No.	No.	No.	Only requires Animal Type and Status.
Does the program generate Standardized Performance Analysis (SPA) values? If yes, are they production values, financial values, or both?	Export of animal data to CSV file. Import from electronic scale indicator software programs including Tru-Test Link 3000, Gallager My Scale Pro and Digi-Start Stock Weigh Link files. EID tag list integration with herd management functions including vaccinations and procedures, breeding and weaning.	Export of animal data to CSV file. Import from electronic scale indicator software programs including Tru-Test Link 3000, Gallager My Scale Pro and Digi-Start Stock Weigh Link files. EID tag list integration with herd management functions including vaccinations and procedures, breeding and weaning.	Yes, production.	Yes, the production report is pending.	
Is the program integrated with other agricultural software?	Support for Allflex, YTex, Destron and Aleis EID reader wands.	Support for Allflex, YTex, Destron and Aleis EID reader wands.	Farm Works Mapping, Farm Works Accounting, Microsoft Excel, or other spreadsheets and Microsoft Windows mobile devices to allow data entry and scanning of animals.	Microsoft Excel, electronic ID readers, cattle weight scales, and most popular breed associations.	Included import tool allows user to import data to update existing records and/or create a Cow Sense herd from any other existing data source. Export and import to/from spreadsheet, word processor, financial programs, and multiple other formats. Interface for the Pocket PC or Windows Mobile Smart Phone allows for the collection of data in the field. Interface with Cow Sense Benchmark Wizard for online benchmarking and comparative analysis.
Does the program have the capability or do you plan to develop the capability to accept farm level inputs from electronic ID systems or interface with input from databases generated by electronic ID systems?	No.	No.	The software has the capability to import and export farm level inputs from electronic ID systems and is capable of interfacing with databases generated by electronic ID systems.	Interfaces with EID readers and records EID tag numbers. In addition, the software will be updated as additional EID systems are introduced.	Yes, real time (active) chute side interfaces with EID readers and in addition, other electronic measurement devices such as scale indicators, label printers, electronic tape measures, LED signs, electronic thermometers and other serial devices. In addition, Tag Wizard in Cow Sense will import a list of EID's from a manufacturer's file and print a tagging field form to link visual tag with EID. Cow Sense also offers a passive solution to seamlessly import data from electronic ID systems, EID readers and/or scale indicators.
Is the program NCBA SPA accredited and if yes, Production Report, Financial Report, or both?	No.	No.	No.	No.	Yes, Cow Sense was the first commercially developed program to be SPA accredited, with our Production Report.

ADDITIONAL CONSIDERATIONS

	Wolf Creek Cow/Calf		GEM Data				
	Commercial	Production	Management	Bridging Intelligence			
Sorting options provided by the program?	Cow Sense Online Sort, filter, and print based on any piece of information.	THE FIRM Sort, filter, and print based on any piece of information.	CattlePro Sort, filter, and print based on any piece of information.	Commercial Sort, filter, and print based on any piece of information.	Production Sort, filter, and print based on any piece of information.	Management Sort, filter, and print based on any piece of information.	Bridging Intelligence Ascending, descending shorts and user defined filters or use of standard filters.
Specific data entry fields that are required for program to work.	Cows and Bulls: Animal ID & type, birth date. Calves: also require sex and outcome.	Birthdate, sex, sire, and dam.	ID.	Birthdate, sex, sire, purchased/raised/AI	Birthdate, sex, sire, dam, purchased/raised/AI	ID, duplicate IDs not allowed for active records	Gender, birth date, location, form of ID.
Does the program generate Standardized Performance Analysis (SPA) values? If yes, are they production values, financial values, or both?	No.	No.	Yes, production.	Yes, production.	Yes, production.	No	Yes—both.
Is the program integrated with other agricultural software?	No.	Export to and Import from Microsoft Excel.	Breed Associations module for EPDs (will be able to download a scale module off the Internet). Exports to Microsoft™ Excel and other file formats (html, pdf, rtf, text).	Flexible imports of scale information from all ASCII files.	Flexible imports of scale information from all ASCII files.	Several breed associations for automated updates and exporting data to associations (Angus, Hereford, Red Angus, Brangus, Charolais and Limousin). Reports can be exported to Microsoft Excel, Word and PDF. Tab delimited files can also be created.	Yes
Does the program have the capability or do you plan to develop the capability to accept farm level inputs from electronic ID systems or interface with input from databases generated by electronic ID systems?	No.	Yes, EID numbers can be imported from Microsoft Excel	Yes.	No, but a feasibility study is being conducted	Can accept inputs, but cannot interface with databases at this time.	System handles EIDs	Yes. Can interface via bluetooth or by importing cvs files from other systems.
Is the program NCBA SPA accredited and if yes, Production Report, Financial Report, or both?	No.	No.	No.	No.	No.	No.	No.

ADDITIONAL CONSIDERATIONS

Cow Calf 007

	Commercial	Small herd	Farm Works Stock	CattleMax Online	Cow Sense Nx Gen EZ & Pro
Does the program currently have the capability or do you plan to develop the capability to output information (e.g., to industry databases) to an animal ID database or other animal information systems that may develop in the industry?	Yes.	Yes.	Yes, once the national database is working.	CattleMax Online currently exports data to breed associations. As industry databases and standards are developed, CattleMax Online will be updated to accommodate data exchange.	Current interface with Cow Sense Online provide for the submission of data to a secure internet site for comparative analysis and benchmarking. The Send/Retrieve Herd File as well as Remote Backup Service provides for the seamless transfer of whole herd data to Midwest MicroSystems for assistance, analysis or safe data storage. Interfaces with private databases through Cow Sense Premium Interface Component (PIC). Data exchange with multiple Breed Associations exists for submission of registration and performance data as well as receiving data updates from associations. The individual performance and health records can be uploaded to feedlots and feeding performance and carcass data can be retrieved back into Cow Sense as well. Upload of information for age and source verification through Cow Sense Verified Micro Beef PVP. Shipping report with COOL language can be printed or exported. As additional public databases are USDA approved, required information will be delivered in the same fashion.
Does the program store 15-digit identifications (such as NAIS numbers) in addition to other animal identifications?	Yes.	Yes.	Animal ID - up to 64 characters Alternate ID- up to 64 characters Electronic ID- up to 64 characters Left Ear Tag - up to 64 characters Right Ear Tag - up to 64 characters	Yes	Yes. (See previous question regarding EID systems for more detail.)
Can electronic identifications be read directly into your software? Or is the purchase of companion software necessary for this purpose?	Yes. Included within the program.	Yes. Included within the program.		All CattleMax Online editions can read EIDs directly.	Yes, our Tag Wizard offers a manual option for users. However, our Companion products of Pocket Cow Sense and Cow COMM Chute-side provide users realtime automation.
Will scanning of an electronic ID recall previously recorded management information?	Yes, retrieves and displays record for animal upon scan of IED tag.	Yes, retrieves and displays record for animal upon scan of IED tag.		Yes	Yes, Cow Sense provides the ability to use past and present data in combination to assist in management decisions while the animal is captive. For example, when a cow with EID is scanned at preg check, her current breeding data is displayed (as well as other past data recorded). Another example would be the instantaneous calculation and display of ADG and WDA once a calf is scanned and weighed. The Auto Sort function allows the user to customize and pre-assign a sort routine using previous data points in combination with current data to automatically call a sort to user defined criteria.
Grouping of Cattle and group editing	Yes	Yes		Yes	Yes
User defined data entry fields/ User customized data fields	Yes	Yes		Yes	Yes
Addition of animal photos	Yes	Yes		Yes	Yes
Business contact manager	Yes	Yes		Yes	Yes. Interfaces with Sales Manager
Pasture rotation tracking	Yes	Yes		Yes	Yes
Calendar to track upcoming events/calving	Yes	Yes		Yes	Yes
User defined comments or notes for records	Yes	Yes		Yes	Yes
Data Export					
Spreadsheet	Yes			Yes	Yes
Graphs	Yes				Yes
PDF	Yes				Yes
Word					Yes
Text					Yes
E-mail	Yes				Yes
Pedigree trees	Yes			Yes	Yes

ADDITIONAL CONSIDERATION

	Cow Sense Online	THE FIRM	CattlePro	Wolf Creek Cow/Calif Production	GEM Data	Bridging Intelligence
Does the program currently have the capability or do you plan to develop the capability to output information (e.g., to industry databases) to an animal ID database or other animal information systems that may develop in the industry?	Current interface with Cow Sense Benchmark Wizard provides for the submission of data to secure Internet site for comparative analysis and benchmarking.	Yes, can export data to Microsoft Excel.	System can interact with other databases.	System can interact with other databases.	System handles IEDs	Yes. Bridges to other databases are currently offered.
Does the program store 15-digit identifications (such as NAIS numbers) in addition to other animal identifications?	Yes.	Yes for Calif Records.	Yes.	Yes.	No.	Yes. Up to 8 set identifies plus ability for 3 client custom ID's.
Can electronic identifications be read directly into your software? Or is the purchase of companion software necessary for this purpose?	No.	No, electronic identifications must be imported from Microsoft Excel file.	Requires EID vendor software.	Requires EID vendor software.	The system can interact with other databases	Yes. Other software may be required for some devices.
Will scanning of an electronic ID recall previously recorded management information?	No.	No.	Yes.	Yes.	Yes.	Yes.
Grouping of Cattle and group editing	No	Yes.	Yes.			Yes.
User defined data entry fields/ User customized data fields	No.	No.	Yes.			Yes.
Addition of animal photos	Yes.	No.	Yes.			Yes.
Business contact manager	No.	No.	Yes.			No.
Pasture rotation tracking	No.	No.	Yes.			Yes, at group or individual level.
Calendar to track upcoming events/calving	No.	No.	Yes.			No, but management flag reminds users of tasks to be done with e-mail reminders.
User defined comments or notes for records	Yes.	Yes.	Yes.			Yes.
Data Export						
Spreadsheet	Yes.	Yes.	Yes.			Yes.
Graphs	Yes.	No.	Yes.			Yes.
PDF	Yes.	Yes.	Yes.			Yes.
Word	Yes.	No.	Yes.			Yes.
Text	Yes.	No.	Yes.			Yes.
E-mail	Yes.	No.	Yes.			Yes.
Pedigree trees	Yes.	No.	Yes.			No.

Smartphone Application and Mobile Use

CattleMax Online	Cattle Max Online for iPhone®, BlackBerry®, and Android \$9/month and up.
CattlePro	PDF reports can be sent and opened with smartphones.
Farm Works Stock	No applications, but offers mobile computers and Stock Mobile for data collection and history. Stock Mobile is windows based and will work on smartphones with Windows based operating systems.
Cow Calf 007	Windows tablets natively, iOS and Android through remote access apps. One-time only fee for an on-going subscription and data entry using mobiles remote access apps. Used in conjunction with computer program with a with remote access app for mobile devices.
CowSense	Mobile field data collection.
CowSense Online	A web-based version offering data entry and reporting to users that prefer a cloud solution. Add records, edit data, and create critical management reports for cowherds from any computer with an internet connection.
Bridging Intelligence	Mobile Access to data browser based (Chrome preferred) or mobile application. Android, iPhone/iPad/iPod, Blackberry, Microsoft - any device with access to the Internet. Go360 option allows full use outside internet range. Pricing based on herd size with no limits to number of SmartPhones accessing information and reports (add, edit, look up) branded with your logo/Brand. Go360 option for 100 cow herd is \$16.99 per month for on-going subscription. Unlimited user access.

- **All programs have on-screen or printed input forms, as well as on-screen/printed summary reports available.**
- **Almost all of the programs are designed for both commercial and registered (seedstock, pure-bred) cow herd types.**
- **Free-format comment areas (note pages) are available.**
- **User defined fields, when available, allow input of data not otherwise specified. For example, if the vendor representative indicated 'no' for 'management code,' a user-defined entry field could be added for these data.**

Other Resources

Some of the programs generate Standardized Performance Analysis (SPA) production values. Additional information on SPA is available in this OSU Fact Sheet:
AGEC-222, Cow-Calf Standardized Performance Analysis (SPA)

Helpful Web sites

Farm Financial Management Resources:
<http://www.agecon.okstate.edu/farm.asp>

Quicken materials for farm financial records:
<http://www.agecon.okstate.edu/quicken/>

Animal Science Resources:
<http://www.ansi.okstate.edu>

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; family and consumer sciences; 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 research-based information.
- It provides practical, problem-oriented education 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.

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