

Beef finishing ranked by total economic margin, per head of output

Beef finishing: cost of production		2022 Beef finishing			2023 Beef finishing			2024 Beef finishing		
		Top 25%	Middle 50%	Bottom 25%	Top 25%	Middle 50%	Bottom 25%	Top 25%	Middle 50%	Bottom 25%
Key performance indicators	Cost of production (£/kg)	2.20	2.38	4.38	2.26	2.70	2.95	2.51	2.64	3.18
	Daily liveweight gain (kg/day)	0.86	0.91	0.78	0.65	0.84	1.20	0.77	0.88	0.69
	Mortality (%)	0.89	0.56	0.35	0.70	0.49	0.34	0.63	0.70	0.45
Enterprise details	Number sold/transferred/retained at closing	162	186	26	269	181	58	135	249	126
	Total forage area allocated to enterprise (ha)	44.32	42.58	18.70	38.71	33.02	29.98	56.59	25.43	42.36
	Number of weeks housed (weeks)	31	23	14	41	25	25	28	41	27
Technical performance	Age of opening and incoming cattle (days)	348	388	428	476	414	376	261	529	422
	LW of opening and incoming cattle (kg/hd)	354.05	379.74	364.06	437.15	419.17	424.80	293.46	432.78	453.72
	LW of sold/transferred/retained at closing (kg/hd)	542.29	542.42	512.69	570.02	574.80	632.77	490.63	579.73	605.46
	Weight produced per forage hectare (kg/ha)	677	700	205	902	842	400	465	1,408	444
	Non-forage feed fed DM (kg/hd)	1,233.57	617.04	607.81	908.40	650.34	746.96	234.34	1,029.15	392.18
	Harvested forage fed DM (kg/hd)	827.73	607.65	796.89	605.19	366.32	837.26	606.30	572.44	683.81
Income (£/head of output)	Total income	1,385.62	1,141.18	1,223.11	1,459.79	1,461.34	1,450.41	1,394.60	1,545.83	1,767.48
Variable costs (£/head of output)	Vet and medicine	9.04	10.97	18.69	7.57	7.02	15.92	10.10	6.97	7.14
	Bedding	16.48	27.08	12.32	14.10	30.34	32.98	32.62	24.05	28.06
	Total variable costs exc feed	863.13	867.12	993.95	1,001.80	1,055.56	1,071.68	857.25	1,136.55	1,432.00
	Purchased feed including minerals	95.37	135.29	233.09	61.57	158.42	164.36	61.96	92.85	75.33
	Purchased forage	4.12	11.99	12.14	0.99	5.33	3.72	25.91	5.38	0.00
	Homegrown forage variable costs	17.88	12.80	25.04	13.71	18.95	29.98	18.37	18.69	20.79
	Total feed and forage costs	118.47	189.40	270.76	142.37	233.44	246.50	119.80	184.42	130.01
Overheads (£/head of output)	Total labour	67.58	79.34	404.84	51.56	94.61	214.54	87.97	75.15	113.50
	Total machinery and equipment	69.36	63.66	196.98	40.50	81.32	125.77	68.35	65.10	89.44
	Total property and energy costs	19.68	24.58	130.54	10.97	28.11	69.68	14.95	16.74	39.02
	Total administration costs	13.07	16.55	76.14	10.48	17.23	37.31	24.66	20.40	28.49
	Total overheads	211.82	233.20	982.15	142.94	262.41	551.26	253.83	207.81	365.45
Cost of production & margins (£/head of output)	Full economic cost of production	1,193.42	1,289.72	2,246.86	1,287.11	1,551.40	1,869.44	1,230.88	1,528.78	1,927.45
	Full economic net margin	192.19	-148.54	-1,023.74	172.68	-90.07	-419.03	163.72	17.06	-159.97