



Suckler calf production costs 2017/18



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pence per kg liveweight	All farms (average)	Bottom third (high cost)	Top third (low cost)
Feed and forage	50	72	30
Veterinary and medicines	13	18	10
Other	16	22	9
Total variable costs	80	112	49
Herd replacement	18	19	12
Paid labour	8	13	4
Power and machinery	64	79	50
Finance and general farm costs	53	72	36
Rent	7	12	3
Total fixed costs	133	176	93
Total costs	230	305	154
Own/spouse labour	60	55	61
Unpaid labour	18	17	20
Physical data summary			
Herd size - head	43	50	43
Weight of beef produced (weaned calves) - kg	12,189	12,674	13,223
Weight of beef produced per cow - kg	283	256	305
Suckler calf enterprise returns			
Enterprise returns (p/kg liveweight)	189	178	197
% total costs covered by enterprise returns	82	58	128

Data relates to financial year 2017/18, farms ranked by margin/kg. Based on 44 suckler herds. Data not comparable with last year due to a different sample basis. Suckler calf production covers suckler cow and calf costs up to weaning.

*Data source:
 The Farm Business Survey in Wales*