## Dugout Sizing Worksheet



## Dugout Sizing Worksheets

Note: To use the dugout sizing exercise on-line, go to http://www.agr.gc.ca/nlwis/ and navigate through "Tools" and select "Quality Farm Dugouts".
Completing this exercise can potentially save you thousands of dollars in construction costs. It is designed to enable producers to size their farm dugout, and determine if the runoff area will supply sufficient water to the dugout. The following tables and calculations are based on the assumption that all four sides of the dugout have a slope ratio of $\mathbf{1 . 5}$ :1. If it is not possible to excavate to these specifications, contact a local water specialist for assistance.

Enter all information calculated step by step in the recording section below as follows:

| Step 1 | Annual Water Supply Inventory |  | million Imperial gallons (mIg) |
| :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: |
| Step 2 | Annual Water Requirement | Yes, or | million Imperial gallons (mIg) |
| Step 3 | Sustainability of Water Sources |  | No |
| Step 4 | Water Required From New Source |  | million Imperial gallons ( mIg ) |
| Step 5 | Evaporation Zone Number |  |  |
| Step 6 | Dugout Capacity |  | million Imperial gallons ( mIg ) |
| Step 7 | Volume of Excavation |  | cubic yards |
| Step 8 | Dugout Depth |  | feet |
| Step 9 | Dugout Width |  | feet |
| Step 10 | No Data Recorded |  |  |
| Step 11 | Dugout Length |  | feet |
| Step 12 | Runoff Area Required |  | acres/mIg |
| Step 13 | Total Runoff Area Required |  | acres |

## Store your completed information in the pocket at the back of this manual.

## STEPS TO SIZE YOUR DUGOUT

Step 1 Complete the Annual Water Supply Inventory Worksheet, and calculate the total volume of water available from all existing farm and non-farm sources for the purpose intended - wells, other dugouts, pipelines, canals, springs, rivers, and hauling, etc. To calculate the Expected Annual Volume Supplied by each well, multiply its well production in gpm x 8 hours per day x 60 minutes per hour x 365 days per year. For existing dugouts and other sources determine the expected annual volume supplied, based on past use and experience with these sources. The table provided in Step 2 can be used to calculate the water requirements for various farm uses. Convert gallons to million Imperial gallons and round to the nearest 0.1 mIg .

Step 2 Estimate the volume of water required from the dugout by using the Annual Water Requirement Worksheet, and fill in accurate data for your existing operation or planned expansion. Convert gallons to million Imperial gallons and round to the nearest 0.1 mIg .

Step 3 Complete the Sustainability of Water Sources Worksheet provided to determine if the supply, construction materials, and water quality will last. Start by subtracting the Annual Water Supply Inventory in Step 1, from the Annual Water Requirement in Step 2, to determine either a water surplus or deficit. Based on all your responses in the worksheet, are your sources sustainable?

Step 4 Complete the Water Required From New Source Worksheet by totalling only the water uses you plan to supply from this new water source. Use the totals or subtotals you calculated for the various farm water uses in Step 1. Convert gallons to million Imperial gallons and round to the nearest 0.1 mIg .

Step 5 Determine your Evaporation Zone number by locating your farm on the Evaporation Zones Map.
Step 6 Use the Required Dugout Capacity table for this step. Locate the Water Required From New Source as determined in Step 4, in the first column of the Required Dugout Capacity table. Then read across to your Evaporation Zone number as determined in Step 5, and choose either a 15, 18, or 21 foot dugout depth. The figure in the chosen column represents the necessary Dugout Capacity in millions of Imperial gallons. It is important to understand that this number designates the recommended two-year supply of water, and allows for evaporation losses and ice.

Step 7 Multiply the Dugout Capacity determined in Step 6 by $\mathbf{1 , 0 0 0 , 0 0 0}$ to convert it to gallons and then divide by 169, which is the number of Imperial gallons in a cubic yard. The resulting number is the Volume of Earth to be Excavated.

Step 8 From the Dimensions and Capacity tables, select the Dugout Depth chart you have chosen in Step 6 (15, 18, or 21 foot chart).
Step 9 Using the chosen Dugout Depth chart from Step 8, select the desired Dugout Width from the top row of the table. As a rule of thumb for dugouts with a side slope ratio of $\mathbf{1 . 5}$ :1, the width should be at least four times the depth. This is a good starting point, although further adjustment may be required to include factors created by topography, road setbacks, water courses, and construction equipment. Steps $\mathbf{9}$ and $\mathbf{1 0}$ may have to be repeated to finalize your dimensions.

Step 10 From your selected Dugout Width in Step 9, read down to find the required volume in cubic yards as determined in Step 7.
Step 11 From the volume number selected in Step 10, read back across to the far, left-hand column to obtain the required length of the dugout.

Note: Now that you have sized the dugout (length, width, depth, and capacity), you need to determine if the runoff area will supply sufficient water to the dugout.

Step 12 Locate your farm on the Runoff Map. This map allows you to determine the number of acres of land area required to collect each million Imperial gallons of dugout capacity. Acres required is given as a range of values as indicated in the legend to the left of the map. Use an average value of the range in your calculation or use the higher value for increased confidence.

Step 13 Multiply the Number of Acres Required determined in Step 12, by the Dugout Capacity Required in millions of Imperial gallons as determined in Step 6. The resulting number is the total Runoff Area for the dugout.

## Note: The calculated runoff acreage or watershed obtained in Step 13 represents the land area needed to supply sufficient water to this dugout. A field trip will be needed to confirm that the dugout site or sites you have chosen actually receive the expected runoff. If a particular watershed is too small to provide enough water, you have three choices: <br> - find another watershed <br> - find an additional watershed and build a second dugout <br> - find another water source.

For further assistance on dugout and watershed sizing, contact a local water specialist.

## Step 1 Annual Water Supply Inventory Worksheet

Existing Wells

| Purpose | Land Location | Date Constructed | Depth <br> (feet) | Casing Diameter <br> (inches) | Well Production <br> (gal/min) | Expected Annual <br> Volume Supplied (gal) |
| :--- | :--- | :--- | :--- | :--- | :--- | :--- |
| 1. |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| 2. |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| 3. |  |  |  |  |  |  |
|  |  |  |  |  |  |  |

## Existing Dugouts

| Purpose | Land Location | Date <br> Constructed | Length <br> (feet) | Width <br> (feet) | Depth <br> (feet) | Capacity (million <br> Imperial gallons) | Expected Annual <br> Volume Supplied (gal) |
| :--- | :--- | :--- | :--- | :--- | :--- | :--- | :--- |
| 1. |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| 2. |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| 3. |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |

Other Existing Water Sources and Their Limitations (springs, creeks, rivers, and hauling, etc.)

| 1. |  |  |  |
| :--- | :--- | :--- | :--- |
| 2. |  |  |  |
| 3. |  |  |  |
|  | Other Subtotal C |  |  |

## Step 2 Annual Water Requirement Worksheet

This worksheet can be used to estimate the total annual farm water requirement, and assist producers in sizing farm dugouts. The water requirements are based on typical average outside or in-barn temperatures experienced throughout the year. Livestock water consumption is much higher on hot summer days and pumping capacity requirements must be considered when designing farm water systems.

| Household Use |  | No. of People |  | Gallons Per <br> Day (gpd) | No. of Days | Gallons Per Year | Totals |
| :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: |
| People |  |  | x | 60.0 gpd |  |  |  |
| Livestock Use | Animal Size | No. of Animals |  | Gallons Per Day (gpd) | No. of Days | Gallons Per Year | Totals |
| Beef |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| Feeder (on silage) | 550 lb . |  | x | 4.0 gpd | x |  |  |
|  | 900 lb . |  | X | 7.0 gpd | x |  |  |
|  | 1250 lb . |  | X | 10.0 gpd | x | = |  |
| Cows with Calves <br> Dry Cow (on pasture or hay) Calves | 1300 lb . |  | X | 12.0 gpd | x | = |  |
|  | 1300 lb . |  | x | 10.0 gpd | x | $=$ |  |
|  | 250 lb . |  | x | 2.0 gpd | x |  |  |
|  |  |  |  |  | Sub Total A gallons per year |  |  |
| Swine |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| Farrow to Finish |  |  | x | 18.0 gpd | x | = |  |
| Farrow to Late Wean | 50 lb . |  | x | 6.5 gpd | x | = |  |
| Farrow to Early Wean | 15 lb . |  | X | 5.5 gpd | x | = |  |
| Feeder | $50-250 \mathrm{lb}$. |  | x | 1.5 gpd | x | $=$ |  |
| Weaner | 15-50 lb. | - | x | 0.5 gpd | x | $=$ |  |
|  |  |  |  |  | Sub Total B gallons per year |  |  |



## Step 3 Sustainability of Water Sources Worksheet

(a) To determine if the supply is sustainable:


## For wells:

Is your groundwater supply depleting, as indicated by a steady drop in non-pumping water levels over a period of months or years?
For dugouts:
Is the water level in your dugout(s) continuing to drop over a period of years?
Has your dugout(s) lost considerable volume and depth due to sediment deposition?
For other sources:
Are these sources sustainable?
(b) To determine if the construction materials will last:

For wells:
Does your well(s) have metal casing and/or liner? The life expectancy of this is about 20 years. $\qquad$ Yes, or $\qquad$ No

Do you notice more sediment being pumped from your well(s)? This can result from rusted well casing or liner. $\qquad$ Yes, or $\qquad$ No
(c) To determine if the water quality is sustainable:

Is it becoming increasingly difficult to maintain the water quality in your well or dugout by regular maintenance treatments such as shock chlorination for well(s) and algae and weed control in your dugout(s)?

Based on your previous experience with your water sources and your responses to (a), (b), and (c), in your opinion are your existing water sources sustainable for the next 5 year period?
$\qquad$ Yes, or $\qquad$ No
$\qquad$ Yes, or $\qquad$ No
$\qquad$ Yes, or $\qquad$ No
$\qquad$ Yes, or $\qquad$ No


正 $\qquad$
$\qquad$ Yes, or $\qquad$ No
$\qquad$ Yes (No new water source is required - stop here!)
$\qquad$ No (A new water source is required, go to Step 4)

## Step 4 Water Required From New Source Worksheet

Add together only the water uses to be supplied from this new water source.


## Step 5 Evaporation Zones Map



## Step 6 Required Dugout Capacity

| Additional <br> Annual <br> Water <br> Required | Zone 1 |  |  | Zone 2 |  |  | Zone 3 |  |  | Zone 4 |  |  |
| :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: |
|  | Capacity for a depth of 15 feet | Capacity for a depth of 18 feet | Capacity for a depth of 21 feet | Capacity for a depth of 15 feet | Capacity for a depth of 18 feet | Capacity for a depth of 21 feet | Capacity for a depth of 15 feet | Capacity for a depth of 18 feet | Capacity for a depth of 21 feet | ```Capacity ) for a depth of 15 feet``` | Capacity for a depth of 18 feet | Capacity for a depth of 21 feet |
| 0.20 | 0.79 | 0.65 | 0.58 | 0.94 | 0.73 | 0.64 | 1.08 | 0.81 | 0.70 | 1.35 | 0.94 | 0.78 |
| 0.25 | 1.00 | 0.81 | 0.73 | 1.19 | 0.92 | 0.80 | 1.35 | 1.01 | 0.87 | 1.69 | 1.17 | 0.97 |
| 0.30 | 1.21 | 0.98 | 0.87 | 1.43 | 1.10 | 0.96 | 1.63 | 1.21 | 1.04 | 2.04 | 1.40 | 1.16 |
| 0.35 | 1.42 | 1.15 | 1.02 | 1.68 | 1.29 | 1.12 | 1.91 | 1.42 | 1.21 | 2.38 | 1.64 | 1.35 |
| 0.40 | 1.63 | 1.32 | 1.17 | 1.93 | 1.49 | 1.28 | 2.19 | 1.63 | 1.38 | 2.73 | 1.87 | 1.54 |
| 0.45 | 1.84 | 1.49 | 1.32 | 2.18 | 1.68 | 1.45 | 2.46 | 1.83 | 1.56 | 3.07 | 2.11 | 1.74 |
| 0.50 | 2.06 | 1.67 | 1.47 | 2.43 | 1.87 | 1.61 | 2.74 | 2.04 | 1.73 | 3.42 | 2.35 | 1.93 |
| 0.60 | 2.48 | 2.01 | 1.77 | 2.93 | 2.25 | 1.94 | 3.30 | 2.46 | 2.08 | 4.11 | 2.82 | 2.32 |
| 0.70 | 2.91 | 2.36 | 2.08 | 3.43 | 2.64 | 2.27 | 3.87 | 2.87 | 2.44 | 4.81 | 3.29 | 2.70 |
| 0.80 | 3.34 | 2.71 | 2.39 | 3.93 | 3.03 | 2.61 | 4.43 | 3.29 | 2.79 | 5.50 | 3.77 | 3.09 |
| 0.90 | 3.77 | 3.05 | 2.69 | 4.43 | 3.42 | 2.94 | 4.99 | 3.71 | 3.14 | 6.20 | 4.25 | 3.48 |
| 1.00 | 4.20 | 3.40 | 3.00 | 4.94 | 3.81 | 3.27 | 5.56 | 4.13 | 3.50 | 6.90 | 4.73 | 3.87 |
| 1.20 | 5.06 | 4.11 | 3.62 | 5.95 | 4.59 | 3.94 | 6.69 | 4.97 | 4.21 | 8.29 | 5.68 | 4.65 |
| 1.40 | 5.92 | 4.81 | 4.24 | 6.97 | 5.37 | 4.62 | 7.82 | 5.81 | 4.92 | 9.69 | 6.64 | 5.43 |
| 1.60 | 6.79 | 5.52 | 4.86 | 7.98 | 6.16 | 5.29 | 8.96 | 6.66 | 5.63 | 11.09 | 7.60 | 6.22 |
| 1.80 | 7.66 | 6.22 | 5.49 | 9.00 | 6.94 | 5.97 | 10.09 | 7.50 | 6.35 | 12.49 | 8.56 | 7.00 |
| 2.00 | 8.53 | 6.93 | 6.11 | 10.02 | 7.73 | 6.65 | 11.23 | 8.35 | 7.07 | 13.90 | 9.53 | 7.79 |
| 2.20 | 9.36 | 7.61 | 6.72 | 11.00 | 8.49 | 7.30 | 12.32 | 9.17 | 7.76 | 15.24 | 10.45 | 8.54 |

Note: The shallower the dugout, the larger its surface dimensions must be. A larger surface area produces increased losses to evaporation and water tied up as ice and unavailable during the winter. In Zone 4, for example, the surface dimensions of a 15 foot deep, dugout must be 45 percent larger than an 18 foot deep, dugout and 80 percent larger than a 21 foot, deep dugout.

## Step 7 Volume of Excavation (cubic yards)



## Step 8-11 Dimensions and Capacity (cubic yards)



Chart for 15 Foot Depth

| Width (feet) | 50 | 60 | 70 | 80 | 90 | 100 | 110 | 120 |
| :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: |
| Length (feet) |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| 60 | 700 | 900 |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| 80 | 1000 | 1300 | 1600 | 1900 |  |  |  |  |
| 100 | 1300 | 1700 | 2100 | 2600 | 3000 | 3400 |  |  |
| 120 | 1600 | 2100 | 2700 | 3200 | 3800 | 4300 | 4800 | 5400 |
| 140 | 1900 | 2500 | 3200 | 3800 | 4500 | 5200 | 5800 | 6500 |
| 160 | 2200 | 3000 | 3700 | 4500 | 5300 | 6000 | 6800 | 7500 |
| 180 | 2500 | 3400 | 4300 | 5100 | 6000 | 6900 | 7800 | 8600 |
| 200 | 2800 | 3800 | 4800 | 5800 | 6800 | 7700 | 8700 | 9700 |
| 220 | 3100 | 4200 | 5300 | 6400 | 7500 | 8600 | 9700 | 10800 |
| 240 | 3400 | 4600 | 5800 | 7000 | 8300 | 9500 | 10700 | 11900 |
| 260 | 3700 | 5000 | 6400 | 7700 | 9000 | 10300 | 11600 | 13000 |
| 280 | 4000 | 5500 | 6900 | 8300 | 9800 | 11200 | 12600 | 14000 |
| 300 | 4300 | 5900 | 7400 | 9000 | 10500 | 12000 | 13600 | 15100 |
| 320 | 4600 | 6300 | 7900 | 9600 | 11300 | 12900 | 14600 | 16200 |
| 340 | 4900 | 6700 | 8500 | 10200 | 12000 | 13800 | 15500 | 17300 |
| 360 | 5300 | 7100 | 9000 | 10900 | 12800 | 14600 | 16500 | 18400 |
| 380 | 5600 | 7500 | 9500 | 11500 | 13500 | 15500 | 17500 | 19500 |
| 400 | 5900 | 8000 | 10100 | 12200 | 14300 | 16300 | 18400 | 20500 |
| 420 | 6200 | 8400 | 10600 | 12800 | 15000 | 17200 | 19400 | 21600 |
| 440 | 6500 | 8800 | 11100 | 13400 | 15800 | 18100 | 20400 | 22700 |
| 460 | 6800 | 9200 | 11600 | 14100 | 16500 | 18900 | 21400 | 23800 |

Note: Volumes in the table are in cubic yards and side and end slopes $=\mathbf{1 . 5}: 1$

## Step 8-11 Dimensions and Capacity (cubic yards)



## Chart for 18 Foot Depth

| Width (feet) | 60 | 70 | 80 | 90 | 100 | 110 | 120 | 130 |
| :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: |
| Length (feet) |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| 60 | 900 |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| 80 | 1300 | 1700 | 2000 |  |  |  |  |  |
| 100 | 1800 | 2300 | 2700 | 3200 | 3700 |  |  |  |
| 120 | 2200 | 2800 | 3400 | 4100 | 4700 | 5300 | 5900 |  |
| 140 | 2600 | 3400 | 4200 | 4900 | 5700 | 6400 | 7200 | 7900 |
| 160 | 3100 | 4000 | 4900 | 5700 | 6600 | 7500 | 8400 | 9300 |
| 180 | 3500 | 4500 | 5600 | 6600 | 7600 | 8600 | 9600 | 10700 |
| 200 | 4000 | 5100 | 6300 | 7400 | 8600 | 9700 | 10900 | 12000 |
| 220 | 4400 | 5700 | 7000 | 8300 | 9600 | 10800 | 12100 | 13400 |
| 240 | 4800 | 6300 | 7700 | 9100 | 10500 | 11900 | 13400 | 14800 |
| 260 | 5300 | 6800 | 8400 | 9900 | 11500 | 13100 | 14600 | 16200 |
| 280 | 5700 | 7400 | 9100 | 10800 | 12500 | 14200 | 15800 | 17500 |
| 300 | 6200 | 8000 | 9800 | 11600 | 13400 | 15300 | 17100 | 18900 |
| 320 | 6600 | 8600 | 10500 | 12500 | 14400 | 16400 | 18300 | 20300 |
| 340 | 7000 | 9100 | 11200 | 13300 | 15400 | 17500 | 19600 | 21700 |
| 360 | 7500 | 9700 | 11900 | 14100 | 16400 | 18600 | 20800 | 23000 |
| 380 | 7900 | 10300 | 12600 | 15000 | 17300 | 19700 | 22000 | 24400 |
| 400 | 8400 | 10900 | 13300 | 15800 | 18300 | 20800 | 23300 | 25800 |
| 420 | 8800 | 11400 | 14000 | 16700 | 19300 | 21900 | 24500 | 27100 |
| 440 | 9200 | 12000 | 14800 | 17500 | 20300 | 23000 | 25800 | 28500 |
| 460 | 9700 | 12600 | 15500 | 18300 | 21200 | 24100 | 27000 | 29900 |

Note: Volumes in the table are in cubic yards and side and end slopes $=\mathbf{1 . 5}: 1$

## Step 8-11 Dimensions and Capacity (cubic yards)



## Chart for 21 Foot Depth

| Width (feet) | 70 | 80 | 90 | 100 | 110 | 120 | 130 | 140 |
| :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: |
| Length (feet) |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| 80 | 1700 | 2100 | 2500 |  |  |  |  |  |
| 100 | 2300 | 2800 | 3400 | 3900 | 4400 |  |  |  |
| 120 | 2900 | 3600 | 4300 | 5000 | 5700 | 6300 | 7000 |  |
| 140 | 3500 | 4400 | 5200 | 6000 | 6900 | 7700 | 8600 | 9400 |
| 160 | 4100 | 5100 | 6100 | 7100 | 8100 | 9100 | 10100 | 11100 |
| 180 | 4700 | 5900 | 7000 | 8200 | 9300 | 10500 | 11600 | 12800 |
| 200 | 5300 | 6600 | 7900 | 9200 | 10500 | 11900 | 13200 | 14500 |
| 220 | 5900 | 7400 | 8800 | 10300 | 11800 | 13200 | 14700 | 16200 |
| 240 | 6500 | 8100 | 9700 | 11400 | 13000 | 14600 | 16200 | 17900 |
| 260 | 7100 | 8900 | 10700 | 12400 | 14200 | 16000 | 17800 | 19500 |
| 280 | 7700 | 9600 | 11600 | 13500 | 15400 | 17400 | 19300 | 21200 |
| 300 | 8300 | 10400 | 12500 | 14600 | 16700 | 18700 | 20800 | 22900 |
| 320 | 8900 | 11100 | 13400 | 15600 | 17900 | 20100 | 22400 | 24600 |
| 340 | 9500 | 11900 | 14300 | 16700 | 19100 | 21500 | 23900 | 26300 |
| 360 | 10100 | 12600 | 15200 | 17800 | 20300 | 22900 | 25400 | 28000 |
| 380 | 10700 | 13400 | 16100 | 18800 | 21500 | 24200 | 27000 | 29700 |
| 400 | 11300 | 14200 | 17000 | 19900 | 22800 | 25600 | 28500 | 31400 |
| 420 | 11900 | 14900 | 17900 | 21000 | 24000 | 27000 | 30000 | 33000 |
| 440 | 12500 | 15700 | 18800 | 22000 | 25200 | 28400 | 31600 | 34700 |
| 460 | 13100 | 16400 | 19800 | 23100 | 26400 | 29800 | 33100 | 36400 |
| 480 | 13700 | 17200 | 20700 | 24200 | 27600 | 31100 | 34600 | 38100 |

Note: Volumes in the table are in cubic yards and side and end slopes $=\mathbf{1 . 5}: 1$

## Step 12 Runoff Map



## Step 13 <br> Runoff Area



## Number of

 Acres Required(Step 12)

acres required $/ \mathrm{mIg}$

Dugout Capacity Required $\square$
mIg

