

*AgriProfit\$*

**2013**

**Cost and Return Benchmarks  
for Crops and Forages**

**Peace Region**

**Grey Wooded Soil Zone**

*Alberta*   
Government



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# OVERVIEW

## 2013 Peace Region Grey Wooded Soil Zone

The *AgriProfit\$* Business Analysis and Research Program provides a provincial overview of costs and returns for field crops and forages. The Economics Branch collects cost of production information annually from Alberta producers to generate regional benchmarks. Producer participants are critical to providing a financial representation of Alberta's cropping industry.

*AgriProfit\$* cropping benchmarks are analyzed by soil zone group, top third producers, and owned land versus rented land where available. Top third averages are calculated from fields that have the highest return to equity. Analyzing crops by owned versus rented also provides insight into differences in management.

Benchmarks allow for comparison of individual crop costs and returns to other farms in a similar production area. Benchmarks should not replace individual cropping and financial records. There is a risk of over or underestimating costs and returns if basing them on regional benchmarks and forecasts. Strategic planning is more effective when individual costs are used. Managing unit costs of production is one of the most significant strategies to ensure profitability in a mature commodity market.

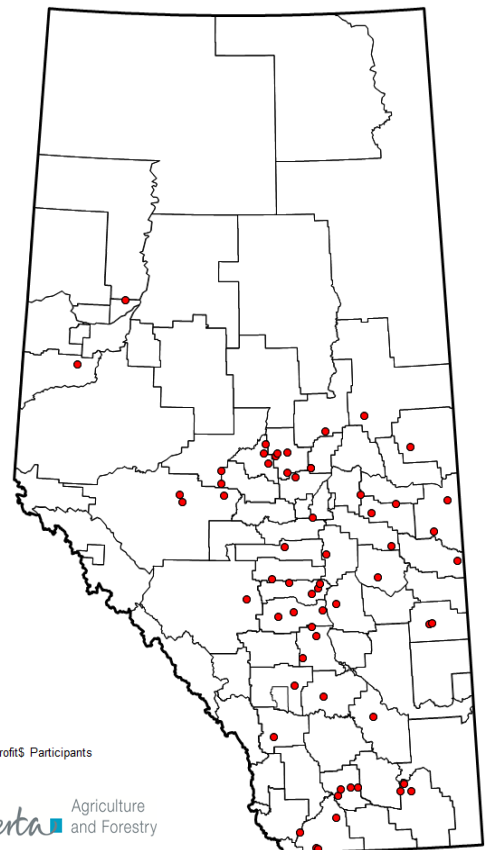
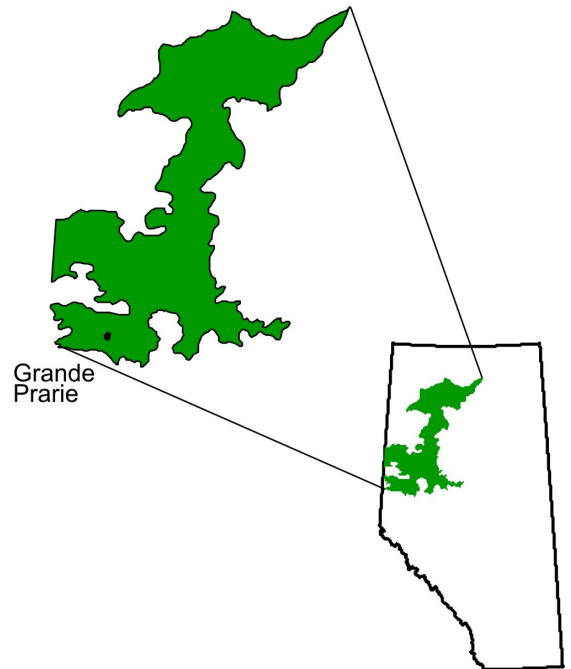
The top map shows the Peace Region in Alberta; this is the soil grouping method used for this study. Please note that farms highlighted within these zones may contain characteristics of neighbouring soil zones. The map on the bottom shows the distribution of the 2013 participants.

### Questions or Comments:

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2013 AgriProfit\$ Participants



## 2013 Crop Enterprise Analysis

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**Crop:** Spring Wheat - All  
**Soil Zone:** All - Dryland  
**Unit:** Bushel

		----- \$/Acre -----		---- \$/Bushel ----	
		Average	Top 1/3	Average	Top 1/3
<b>(A)</b>	1. Crop Sales	320.20	344.92	5.89	6.28
	2. Crop Insurance Receipts	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
	3. Other Receipts	0.07	0.00	0.00	0.00
	<b>Gross Receipts</b>	<b>320.27</b>	<b>344.92</b>	<b>5.89</b>	<b>6.28</b>
<b>(B)</b>	<b>Cost Items</b>				
	1. Seed	17.75	16.57	0.33	0.30
	2. Fertilizer	70.12	69.32	1.29	1.26
	3. Chemical	29.80	33.27	0.55	0.61
	4. Hail/Crop Insurance Premium	4.33	2.78	0.08	0.05
	5. Trucking and Marketing	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
	6. Fuel	16.67	12.48	0.31	0.23
	7. Irrigation Fuel and Electricity	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
	8. Repairs - Machinery	10.36	10.16	0.19	0.19
	9. Repairs - Buildings	2.06	0.31	0.04	0.01
	10. Utilities and Miscellaneous	10.21	4.18	0.19	0.08
	11. Custom Work	3.92	4.43	0.07	0.08
	12. Operating Interest Paid	2.22	2.40	0.04	0.04
	13. Paid Labour	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
	14. Unpaid Labour	11.17	9.84	0.21	0.18
	<b>Variable Costs</b>	<b>178.61</b>	<b>165.74</b>	<b>3.29</b>	<b>3.02</b>
<b>(C)</b>	1. Cash/ Share Land Rent	18.39	28.19	0.34	0.51
	2. Taxes, Water Rates, License & Ins.	5.70	2.43	0.10	0.04
	3. Equipment and Building: a) Depreciation	43.99	32.60	0.81	0.59
	b) Lease Payments	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
4. Paid Capital Interest	3.05	3.20	0.06	1.21	
	<b>Capital Costs</b>	<b>71.12</b>	<b>66.42</b>	<b>1.31</b>	<b>2.36</b>
<b>(D)</b>	<b>Cash Costs</b>	<b>(B+C-B14-C3a)</b>	<b>194.57</b>	<b>189.71</b>	<b>3.58</b>
<b>(E)</b>	<b>Total Production Costs</b>	<b>(B+C)</b>	<b>249.73</b>	<b>232.16</b>	<b>4.60</b>
	<b>Gross Margin</b>	<b>(A-D)</b>	<b>125.71</b>	<b>155.21</b>	<b>2.31</b>
	<b>Return to Unpaid Labour</b>	<b>(A-E+B14)</b>	<b>81.72</b>	<b>122.60</b>	<b>1.50</b>
	<b>Return to Investment</b>	<b>(A-E+C4)</b>	<b>73.60</b>	<b>115.96</b>	<b>1.35</b>
	<b>Return to Equity</b>	<b>(A-E)</b>	<b>70.55</b>	<b>112.76</b>	<b>1.30</b>

### Investment

Buildings	191.78	132.45
Machinery	353.21	261.13
Irrigation Machinery	0.00	0.00
<b>Total (incl. Land)</b>	<b>1115.12</b>	<b>578.39</b>

### Management

Average Yield	(Bushel/acre)	54.33	54.90
Expected Market Price	(\$/Bushel)	5.89	6.28

## 2013 Crop Enterprise Analysis

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**Crop:** Spring Wheat - Own  
**Soil Zone:** All - Dryland  
**Unit:** Bushel

		----- \$/Acre -----		---- \$/Bushel ----		
		Average	Top 1/3	Average	Top 1/3	
<b>(A)</b>	1. Crop Sales	269.71	--	4.97	--	
	2. Crop Insurance Receipts	0.00	--	0.00	--	
	3. Other Receipts	0.13	--	0.00	--	
	<b>Gross Receipts</b>	<b>269.84</b>	<b>0.00</b>	<b>4.97</b>	<b>0.00</b>	
<b>(B)</b>	<b>Cost Items</b>					
	1. Seed	20.34	--	0.37	--	
	2. Fertilizer	66.73	--	1.23	--	
	3. Chemical	23.79	--	0.44	--	
	4. Hail/Crop Insurance Premium	9.41	--	0.17	--	
	5. Trucking and Marketing	0.00	--	0.00	--	
	6. Fuel	22.61	--	0.42	--	
	7. Irrigation Fuel and Electricity	0.00	--	0.00	--	
	8. Repairs - Machinery	9.75	--	0.18	--	
	9. Repairs - Buildings	3.81	--	0.07	--	
	10. Utilities and Miscellaneous	16.80	--	0.31	--	
	11. Custom Work	2.03	--	0.04	--	
	12. Operating Interest Paid	2.58	--	0.05	--	
	13. Paid Labour	0.00	--	0.00	--	
	14. Unpaid Labour	12.92	--	0.24	--	
	<b>Variable Costs</b>	<b>190.76</b>	<b>0.00</b>	<b>3.51</b>	<b>0.00</b>	
<b>(C)</b>	1. Cash/ Share Land Rent	0.00	--	0.00	--	
	2. Taxes, Water Rates, License & Ins.	11.08	--	0.20	--	
	3. Equipment and Building:	a) Depreciation	49.67	--	0.91	--
		b) Lease Payments	0.00	--	0.00	--
	4. Paid Capital Interest	2.25	--	0.04	--	
	<b>Capital Costs</b>	<b>63.01</b>	<b>0.00</b>	<b>1.16</b>	<b>0.00</b>	
<b>(D)</b>	<b>Cash Costs</b>	<b>191.19</b>	<b>--</b>	<b>3.52</b>	<b>--</b>	
<b>(E)</b>	<b>Total Production Costs</b>	<b>253.77</b>	<b>--</b>	<b>4.67</b>	<b>--</b>	
	<b>Gross Margin</b>	<b>78.65</b>	<b>--</b>	<b>1.45</b>	<b>--</b>	
	<b>Return to Unpaid Labour</b>	<b>28.98</b>	<b>--</b>	<b>0.53</b>	<b>--</b>	
	<b>Return to Investment</b>	<b>18.32</b>	<b>--</b>	<b>0.34</b>	<b>--</b>	
	<b>Return to Equity</b>	<b>16.06</b>	<b>--</b>	<b>0.30</b>	<b>--</b>	

**Investment**

Buildings	215.11	--
Machinery	406.11	--
Irrigation Machinery	0.00	--
<b>Total (incl. Land)</b>	<b>1859.25</b>	<b>--</b>

**Management**

Average Yield	(Bushel/acre)	54.29	--
Expected Market Price	(\$/Bushel)	4.97	--

**DEFINITIONS AND ALLOCATIONS**

**I INCOME**

- A Imputed Value of Production** – total of estimated yields/acre X estimated final prices
- B Crop Insurance Receipts** – added regardless of when payment is received
- C Miscellaneous Receipts** – such as patronage dividends or input rebates
- D Government Program Receipts** – allocated to all cropped acres equally
- E Straw/Aftermath Grazing Revenue** – value of straw + imputed value of grazing

**II EXPENSES**

- A Crop Specific Inputs** – allocated by producer to each crop as documented on the survey form
  - 1. **Seed**
  - 2. **Fertilizer**
  - 3. **Chemical**
  - 4. **Hail and Crop Insurance**
  - 5. **Custom Work and Specialized Labour**
  - 6. **Land Rent** – cash rent or crop share (converted to a cash basis)
- B Allocated Crop Inputs** – allocation ratios based on research from AAFRD
  - 1. **Irrigation to Dryland Ratio** – allocated to crops at a 3:1 ratio
  - 2. **Trucking and Marketing** – allocated to specific cropping acres by producer
  - 3. **Fuel** – Summerfallow – allocation of 0.3:1 compared to crop acres; Sugar beets – allocation of 2.96:1 compared to other irrigated crop acres
  - 4. **Irrigation Fuel** – allocation based on total pumping hours for each crop
  - 5. **Machinery Repairs** – allocated equally to all acres except summerfallow (0.3:1) and special crops (as specified by producer)
  - 6. **Building Repairs** – allocated to all acres equally except for special crops buildings
  - 7. **Operating Interest** – interest paid on operating loans allocated equally
  - 8. **Paid Labour** – based on allocations between crops as specified by producer
  - 9. **Unpaid and Operator Labour** – operator - \$10/hour, other unpaid labour - \$7.50/hour
  - 10. **Land Taxes** – allocated equally to all owned cropped acres
  - 11. **Water Rates** – allocated equally to all owned irrigated acres
  - 12. **Water Rates** – allocated equally to all owned irrigated acres
  - 13. **Equipment Depreciation** – imputed at 8.5% for power equipment, 11% for non-power, based on current market value

- 14. **Insurance and Licenses** – allocated to all cropped acres equally
- 15. **Building Depreciation** – imputed at 5% on the current market value
- 16. **Paid Capital Interest** – allocated to all owned cropped acres equally except summerfallow (0.25:1)

**III CAPITAL INVESTMENT**

- A Land** – producer estimate of bare land value for both irrigated and dryland owned acreage
- B Buildings** – allocated equally to all acreage except special crops buildings (allocated to the crop)
- C Equipment**
  - 1. **General Use** – allocated to all acres equally, except summerfallow (0.3:1)
  - 2. **Crop Specific** – allocated by producer to each crop based on percentage of use
  - 3. **Irrigation** – allocated according to pumping hours as specified by producer

**IV SUMMARY CALCULATION**

- A Gross Return** = imputed value of production + crop insurance receipts + miscellaneous receipts + government program payments + straw/grazing revenue
- B Variable Costs** = seed + fertilizer + chemicals + crop insurance + trucking and marketing + fuel + machinery and building repairs + utilities + miscellaneous overhead + custom work + operating interest + paid and unpaid labour
- C Total Capital Costs** = land rent + land taxes + water rates + insurance + depreciation + paid capital interest
- D Cash Costs** = variable costs + capital costs – unpaid labour – depreciation
- E Total Production Costs** = variable costs + total capital costs
- F Gross Margin** (returns left to cover total capital costs and operator equity) = gross return – total cash costs
- G Return to Unpaid Labour** (funds remaining after all expenses have been paid except unpaid labour) = gross return – total production costs + unpaid labour
- H Return to Investment** (shows the operation's ability to earn a return on its total assets) = gross return – total production costs + paid capital interest
- I Return to Equity** (amount remaining from operations used to provide a return to individual or shareholder equity) = gross return – total production costs