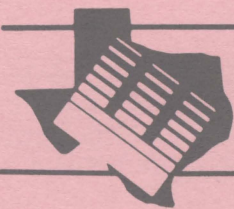


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Texas Agricultural Extension Service

# Cow/Calf Production Record Software



Jerry Cowley  
Extension Livestock Specialist

L.R. Sprott  
Extension Beef Cattle Specialist

Bruce B. Carpenter  
Extension Assistant in Beef Cattle

Greg Clary  
Extension Economist-Management

Gerald C. Cornforth  
Extension Economist-Management

Jeff Johnson  
Former Stiles Farm Program Coordinator

Joe Paschal  
Extension Livestock Specialist

Steve Hammack  
Extension Beef Cattle Specialist

Ken Stokes  
Extension Economist-Management

Joe Pena  
Extension Economist-Management

Steve Amosson  
Extension Economist-Management

Nelson Adams  
Extension Livestock Specialist

Stan Beavers  
Extension Economist-Management

The Texas A&M University System

This review of selected software packages is a collection of the authors' observations pertaining to the characteristics and functions of each program. Its purpose is to provide interested cattlemen with a format for assessing software that can be used in cow/calf record keeping. The review does not include all programs either commercially or privately available.

Cow/calf producers who use computers to record and monitor herd production details have a wide array of record keeping software packages to choose from. Software is available from both private and public vendors. In choosing software, producers should know what specific information they need to help them accomplish their production objectives. Hardware memory capabilities are an important consideration. Some software programs require a large amount of memory to store data. At some point producers may decide to expand the types of information they maintain. A software package which allows for flexibility, record sorting and data manipulation may be essential for future record keeping capabilities.

Some software is highly flexible and allows producers to tailor the program to meet specific needs. Other software is not so flexible and allows for very few modifications. This structured software is sometimes designed for a single purpose.

Cattlemen raising registered animals have critical, specific needs to keep performance and pedigree information to help in marketing. Some programs are designed to record and produce this type of information. On the other hand, cattlemen raising commercial animals are interested in the reproductive and calf raising performance of their herds, and want to identify open cows and those taking longer than 1 year to produce a

calf. Some programs focus on this type of productive information.

Most production record packages provide for the basic information such as animal identification, birth date, weaning and yearling weight, calving date, sire, sex of calf, dam and pregnancy status. Some packages allow for individual performance comparisons by calculating weaning and yearling weight ratios, average daily gain and most probable producing ability (MPPA) of the dams. Other packages provide specific classifications, such as embryo transfer calves, donor cows, recipient cows and calves from artificial insemination.

Highly flexible packages with record sorting capabilities can produce listings of animals by desired categories such as age, pasture location, herd group, sire or dam. These packages also can rank animals by level of performance. Other packages keep worksheet histories for each animal on which to record dates of vaccinations, weaning, branding and other necessary treatments. Because various programs have different designs, more than one type of package may be needed to satisfy all record keeping requirements. Few packages, by themselves, are all encompassing. A cattleman raising registered and commercial cattle may need a different program for each enterprise.

Software is normally priced according to its flexibility and its ability to manipulate and store data. Older software is often inflexible, but adequate for a user's requirements.

Producers should not be enamored with computer use simply because it is trendy or glamorous. Computers simplify information storage, handling, sorting, retrieval and reporting. They are particularly ad-

vantageous when dealing with large volumes of records that are otherwise too cumbersome to maintain on a tablet or in a notebook. In this case, a computer and production record software can be invaluable.

## Pre-purchase Advice

- 1. Have in mind the ranch and cattle management goals.** Based on goals, the types of information to be kept can be determined. Shopping for software is much easier with a definite idea of the input and output data requirements.
- 2. The extent to which the computer operator will learn about computer use and software programs is critical.** Some programs require the knowledge of a spread sheet program. Others require more intense computer skills. Will the computer operator put in the time and effort to learn about computers and software use?
- 3. Buying a computer and software will not solve the problem of being a poor recordkeeper, nor will it substitute for good management decisions.** Cattle record keeping software can facilitate the use of records and information by cattlemen who already record information. Knowledge of the use of records and the decision making process in management are not included in any cattle record keeping program. These must be an integral part of the cattleman's managerial ability.
- 4. Find someone who is using the program.** Ask the software company for names, addresses and telephone numbers of cattlemen in your area who use the program. Then make arrangements to visit these users. You will gain some insights about the program that are not otherwise available.

The following ideas should be given attention, since the review authors were not able to ascertain these considerations for every program.

- 5. Determine if program calculations are based on calendar year production.** Some programs make all calculations based on calendar year production information. Producers who calve in the fall and wean in the spring may find such programs useless or less useful than do producers who calve in the spring and wean in the subsequent fall.
- 6. Determine if the program can store historical data.** Some programs do not store or analyze information from more than one production year.
- 7. Determine if the report generator has a screen display option as well as a print out option.** Screen display option is very useful for editorial purposes prior to print out.
- 8. Determine memory capabilities of the program.** Inadequate memory capabilities make some programs unsuitable for large herds or for producers requiring large amounts of information.

- 9. Determine if the program will handle your cattle identification scheme.** Some programs may not interpret certain characters in an animal's identification, such as slashes or letters.

## Using Integrated Software Programs

As an alternative to purchasing a cow/calf record program, a few simple records can be kept using the data base within an integrated software program. Such programs usually contain a word processor, a spread sheet and a data base. Each component is less powerful than a dedicated program that performs only one of these functions. New computer owners with an interest in developing their own programs may want to start with integrated software and purchase dedicated programs only after one of the components of the integrated software proves inadequate. A list of integrated software includes Microsoft® Works™, PFS First Choice™ and Tandy DeskMate™.

Developing a cow/calf record system using an integrated package requires a clear idea of what information is to be collected. The best way to satisfy this requirement is to have kept hand written production records for several years. The appeal of using the data base within an integrated program is the ability to keep records in a very similar manner to the familiar hand-written one.

The second requirement is a willingness to learn the program by reading the instruction manual. While manuals are written with a computer novice in mind, do not expect to understand the instructions on the first, or even second reading. With PFS First Choice™, 4 to 6 hours of study time is required to get started.

There are almost no limits on the records that can be stored and the types of reports that can be generated. If the cattleman has the time and inclination, he could develop a cow/calf record system to meet his own specific needs. The user should purchase a data base or spread sheet program if a great deal of information is to be stored, or if many detailed calculations are needed. The user would then learn the new program and develop his own record keeping application.

## Review of Selected Programs

The following review of selected software packages by no means covers all available packages, nor does it intend to promote one over another. This review simply compares a few programs as to their flexibility, function and hardware requirements. The accompanying table contains information relating to the types of records maintained by each program and the associated calculations. Programs may have other capabilities (not evident to the reviewers) which are not indicated in the table.

## **COWCALF**

Bulletin Room  
Colorado State University  
Ft. Collins, CO 80523  
(303)491-5245

The COWCALF computer program is a simple-to-use, LOTUS 1-2-3® spread sheet template designed to maintain cow/calf performance records. The program comes with three worksheets: Cowcalf, Input and Sample (56-head example). The program can handle medium size to large herds, but will probably be more attractive to small operators who are also users of the Lotus 1-2-3® spread sheet software package. The program can handle records for more than 500 cows, depending on the amount of random access memory (RAM).

The COWCALF template makes extensive use of spread sheet macros to facilitate data sorting, creating reports and printing the results. The program does not, however, calculate MPPA.

The program's advantages are the simplicity of data entry, sorting and printing reports. A knowledgeable LOTUS 1-2-3® spread sheet user could tailor the program for specific needs.

Disadvantages of the program are that it is a 1-year program and that it works within a calendar year basis. Program calculations are done only for calves born and weaned in the same year. Although the cow data can be saved and reused, the calf data must be re-entered every year based on the current year's calf crop. Another limitation is that calculations are based on the assumption that all calves are weaned on the same day, which limits application by some users. Portions of the user's manual and screen explanations are not quite clear. However, the example software simplifies the learning process.

## **Herd Performance Evaluation**

Extension Mail Room  
Montana State University  
Bozeman, MT 59717  
(406)994-0211

The Herd Performance Evaluation program was designed to calculate information on individual calf performance and herd management. Adjusted weights, their ratios and average daily gains (ADG) are produced for calves. Good summaries of information and calculations are made for the herd, sires and sexes.

The program is a spread sheet template. The user should be familiar with spread sheet software to effectively use the program. While some operations are automated with spread sheet macros, the user must find his own way through the program, especially when entering data. Information is entered in tabular form. Column headings may be off the computer screen as the user enters information, thereby increasing the possibility of error.

The program uses typical performance information and does appropriate calculations. Averages are also produced by calf sex and sire. No historical information is maintained other than saving the template. Records for different herds should be placed on separate template files. Default maximum herd size is 146 head (adjustable by spread sheet manipulation). The program is suited to spread sheet users who keep production records on smaller commercial herds.

## **Beef Cattle Weaning Weight Adjustments**

Extension Software  
108 Atanasoft  
Iowa State University  
Ames, IA 50011  
(406)994-0211

This program calculates adjusted 205-day weaning weights and weight ratios for a group of calves. The program also calculates several pieces of herd information. The user can modify the cow age adjustment factors (2, 3, 5-10, 11 years or older) for bull, steer and heifer calves, and the birth weight adjustment factors for male and female calves if birth weights are not taken. Adjustments to the weaning weight, age of dam and sex of calf are those recommended by the Beef Improvement Federation. This program is strictly a computational and storage package for calculating 205-day adjusted weaning weights and associated weight ratios for one group of calves. A separate template is needed to handle each group of calves. The program was developed to help beef producers select young bulls and replacement heifers based on 205-day weight information. By closely inspecting the output, a cattleman could use this program as an aid to evaluating cow performance.

The program is a spread sheet template which does little beyond the calculation of adjusted 205-day weights and their ratios. Its input and output is in tabular spread sheet form. This program is most appropriate for spread sheet users who desire only to calculate 205-day information for a given set of calves.

## **Cow Herd Record Systems**

Computer Applications and Services Department  
Mississippi Cooperative Extension Service  
P.O. Box 5446  
Mississippi State, MS 39762  
(601)325-3226

Cow Herd Record Systems will maintain records for contemporary calf groups, sires and dams. However, nearly all historical data must be viewed by printout. Screen viewing is not an option in most cases. The user may find hardware incompatibility problems. For example, if an 80-column printer is used, it must be set on condensed mode since the program default is for 132 columns. On the other hand, data entry is quick and simple.

Dam and sire data must be entered before calf data because calf data is managed by contemporary group. In order for parent performance to be calculated, the current contemporary calf group must be erased from memory. Therefore, contemporary calf group data should be recorded on a printout before erasure. This feature can help safeguard against mixing contemporary calf groups. Historical production data is maintained for both parents and can be accessed at any time. Adjusted 205-day weaning weights are stored, but actual weaning weights are not. This program can track production records for herds with up to 400 cows.

### **Cow-Calf®**

Field Service Section  
College of Vet. Medicine  
Texas A&M University  
College Station, TX 77843  
(409)845-9135

The Cow-Calf® program was developed by the Texas A&M University College of Veterinary Medicine and has the option to record health related information in addition to other cattle records. This is accomplished with codes, of which there are many. The program produces a number of useful reports and several different worksheets. Some of the output layouts are excellent in depicting the information, such as the palpation summary and the projected calving pattern. The user can also define his own reports.

Reports are of varying widths and printed lines may wrap around. While adjustments can be made to correct this, the procedures for doing so may not be evident to the computer novice. The same is true of the default screen colors. A computer novice may find changing them to be an interesting experience. Having a knowledge of the DOS operating system and the internal workings of microcomputers is not required, but can be very helpful.

Beginning computer users may find this program challenging to master. Simple mistakes or oversights can easily frustrate the user even though errors can be corrected. The program will work for all types of herds and records information on an individual animal basis.

### **Herd Soft®**

Herd Management Systems, Inc.  
8918 Tesoro Dr. Suite 106  
San Antonio, TX 78217  
(512)824-8004

Herd-Soft® is designed to be used by either the commercial cattleman or the registered breeder, including those involved with embryo transfers. The program keeps many pieces of data important to registered herds and embryo transfer work; however, these entries are optional and can be skipped if the user desires. The program can generate a report of all significant events happening to a specific animal over a specified time period. For a cow, these events would include estrus,

breeding, palpation, health, treatment, birth, weaning and other activities.

Animals can be referenced five different ways. This allows the tracing of an animal by any identification (ID) handy at the time. This makes the entry of ID critical. Sorting of information is done by ID and the sort routine has a special order of characters. This requires care and planning when entering ID's.

A number of reports are possible, including many for registered cattle or embryo transfer activities. Printing works best on a 132-column printer. An additional companion program allows for development of customized reports. Other program modules do six-generation pedigrees, maintenance and billing and mailing list management.

### **BEEFUP**

St. Benedict's Farm  
Box 366  
Waelder, TX 78959  
(512)540-4814

BEEFUP is a production and herd management program emphasizing cow productivity and calf growth. The program uses a relatively small amount of input and calculates a comparatively large amount of output. The program has enough flexibility to handle and report much additional information through the comments entry and the character string sorting function.

The program requires a special cow ID which may not be the same as an animal's ranch ID. There is scant sire information. Herd reports are very useful, but limited by the information entered for cows and calves. This program creates a good variety of working herd management lists.

BEEFUP requires practice to become familiar with the program. The user need not know computer programming, but such knowledge would be helpful. The program is very efficient in its use of RAM memory. BEEFUP is a stand-alone program which can be used by commercial or registered cattlemen regardless of herd size.

### **PEDIGREE**

St. Benedict's Farm  
Box 366  
Waelder, TX 78959  
(512)540-4814

PEDIGREE is a stand-alone program developed to generate a five-generation pedigree tree. The program allows the recording of the common, barn or ranch name for an animal, as well as the registered name and registration number. Animals are linked by registered names. The program also allows four lines of comments to be carried for each animal.

A sorting feature sorts animals by name, registry number, barn name or date of birth. The program has a feature to help the user analyze the interrelationships of

individuals. It uses a priority selection procedure which expedites the sorting of records first by individuals and then by ancestors.

Limits can be set on the search range of the selection procedure based on the desired input category. With a special "direct matching" feature, search limits also can be set based on particular phenotype for animals with closely related parentage.

This selection procedure will produce the entire five-generation pedigree or one of 18 subsets. The program also can look for repeated factors. Pedigree also calculates the inbreeding coefficient, which is useful in line breeding. The program distinguishes between inbreeding and line breeding.

The program's general design is very similar to BEEFUP. While the program works very well, setting it up and becoming familiar with it can be challenging for a non-computer user. Pedigree is a good program for ranchers needing a five-generation pedigree and analysis.

### **HFMS Beef Herd Record Keeping**

AgriTrends Research, Inc.  
Homestead Computer Services, Ltd.  
Suite 236, 6715 - 8th St. N.E.  
Calgary, Alberta T2E 7H7  
(204)284-9830

This program was reviewed through company literature and limited sample printouts.

The HFMS Beef Herd Record Keeping offers a series of software programs relating to crop, feedlot, beef herd and hog enterprises. It also offers accounting and mortgage programs. The beef herd enterprise program is a production record keeping system that allows tracking of herd performance and facilitates culling decisions. The program maintains individual animal records and a five-generation pedigree. The program's report generator offers adequate record sorting capabilities with user friendly selection criteria based on 23 information categories. Record sorting constraints are coded by function rather than by menu selection.

### **COWBOSS**

Department of Animal Science  
University of California  
Davis, CA 95616  
(916)752-1279

COWBOSS is a complete cow/calf record keeping package. Because entering data is simple, a beginning computer user should be able to quickly start the program and enter data on a herd. Calculation capabilities of the program allow a manager proficient with computers to derive additional herd information from minimal data on cows, sires and calves.

Because of the program's functions and its size, a hard disk is required. The program requires 2 megabytes of space and data files may require at least

2 additional megabytes of space. A further limitation to some users will be the inability of the program to calculate MPPA's.

The program is flexible and will perform well for either small or large cattle herds. The amount of information required on each animal is small.

Historical calf data is stored in a separate file for further use and is used in determining cow and sire performance information. The authors of the program suggest other methods of using these data to perform extensive research on past calf crops. Replacement heifers can be marked and transferred to the cow file.

The program maintains several canned reports such as a basic cow report, dam progeny report and a herd summary, among others. COWBOSS also allows users to define their own reports. Although probably not of interest to most producers, the program will calculate descriptive statistics such as means and variances, as well as perform regression and analysis of variance.

### **PC COWCARD**

Department of Ag. Communications  
Room 108 ACB  
University of Nebraska  
Lincoln, NE 68500  
(402)472-3007

PC COWCARD incorporates most of the features commercial cattlemen need for keeping herd records. The software does a fairly comprehensive job of receiving and processing production testing information and reporting it in a form usable for decision making.

Documentation is complete, well-presented and easy to follow. Several contacts are listed for support. The program comes with a 60-day return policy.

A useful feature, not commonly found in comparably priced software, is the ability to keep historical records. The program handles single or multiple sires and A.I. or natural service.

There are many options for sorting and data query. Records can be sorted by as many as four fields. Yearlings can be moved automatically to the breeding herd. One minor drawback is that the user's manual gives little help with the codes to use for certain entries. Commands are similar to spread sheet programs. Software comes with excellent instructions and sample reports. PC COWCARD is a useful program for commercial herds of any size.

### **CowBase**

IFAS Software Support,  
University of Florida  
Gainesville, FL 32611-0162  
(904)392-7853

CowBase consists of two groups of programs, one dealing with cow/calf records and the other with herd inventory records. The programs are selected from a

series of menus. Since information needs are different for each ranch, the program is designed so that information collected can be varied in relation to its anticipated use in an appropriate report. A number of utility programs are included so the system can be adapted to fit any management information requirements.

Data entry has been made as easy as possible through the integration of programs, so that data entries are made only one time. Where previous information is already recorded, the cursor can be set to appear only where new data needs to be entered.

The program comes with fairly well explained documentation. It is easily run by beginning computer users. Information can be sorted on most fields, and the program allows for standard or custom reports. Report headings are very cryptic and difficult to understand. Lifetime sire and dam reports, which list and summarize progeny data, can be obtained by sending a disk with the year's weaning data to the Florida Beef Cattle Improvement Association.

CowBase can be used for herds of most any size. Producers may find some important performance measures missing, such as MPPA and others commonly used. This program is useful for annual analysis. A major limitation is the lack of historical data retention. It will not date pedigrees for purebred breeders.

### **Range Cow-Calf Program**

Hi-Plains Systems, Inc.  
3213 South Western  
Amarillo, TX 79109  
(806)358-7101

The Range Cow-Calf program is a stand-alone program designed for large, commercial cow/calf operations. However, with very little modification it can be readily adapted to small, commercial operations.

The major advantage of Range Cow-Calf is its user friendliness. It takes very little time to learn data entry and report generation procedures. The program handles most information that commercial cattlemen would be interested in. In addition to annual summaries by a number of categories, historical analysis can be performed.

One disadvantage of the program is inflexibility. Because it is a canned computer program, it is difficult to tailor output to specific requirements not covered in the program without developing a special coding scheme. Users interested in tracking details may not find the program adequate. It does not keep track of such items as MPPA and weaning weight ratios.

### **BEEFWEAN**

Triangle Software Associates  
P.O. Box 13193  
Research Triangle Park, NC 27709

BEEFWEAN is a simple-to-run, menu-driven program. It uses Beef Improvement Federation (BIF) ad-

justment factors and these can be changed if desired. The operation manual is well written and easy to follow. It contains BIF Guidelines for Uniform Beef Improvement Programs.

The program applies to any size herd. It is primarily designed for commercial herds, but can be used with registered herds. It contains a variety of printed reports that sort the records in various ways such as by sex, age of dam, calving period, month and sire.

The program calculates ratios for birth weight and weaning weight for the entire calf crop. It also calculates average daily gain and weight per day of age, and has room for comments on each calf.

One limitation is that it is a 1-year data program. MAKEPERM, a program that allows entry of one summary line per cow into a permanent herd file, can be used by BEEFWEAN. This summary does not show individual calf production, but shows a summary of total production for the cow.

### **Red Wing Cow Calf Production**

Red Wing Business Systems, Inc.  
610 Main Street  
Red Wing, MN 55066  
(612)388-1106

The Cow Calf Production program is an individual cow record system. It tracks and maintains historical information on a cow and her calves and on a bull and his progeny. Input forms are available in the manual and can be printed out by the program. Input is relatively easy and straight forward. The error check system is designed so that birth dates cannot be entered until a conception date is entered, nor can a weaning date be entered until a birth date is entered. Reports are available for individual cows, bulls and calves, for groups, and for the entire herd.

Version 1 was evaluated; version 2 is now available with a report writer which allows the user to define report formats.

### **Additional Information Sources**

Agri-Business Computer Review  
1401 E. Washington Street  
Pittsfield, IL 62363  
(217)285-2482

Ag. Software Directory  
Doane Information Services  
11701 Borman Drive, Suite 100  
St. Louis, MO 63146  
(314)569-2700

## Features and Functions of Selected Cow/Calf Record-Keeping Software Programs

Caution: The table does not imply the value or usefulness of each program. The feature indicated are those which the reviewers noted; others may exist.

COW:	COWCALF	Herd Performance	Beef Cattle Weaning	Cow Herd Record	CowCalf'	Herd-Soft'	BEEFUP	PEDIGREE	HFMS Beef Herd	COMBOSS	PC COMCARD	CowBase	Range Cow-Calf Program	BEEFMEAN	Cow Calf Production
ID	R	RA		R6	RA	RA14	R6		R	RA6	R	R	RA10	R	RA8
Name					O	O							O		O
Breed		O		R	O	O				O	O	O	O	O	O
Breed ID					O	O					O		R		
Tattoo/Inventory Number					O	R					O	O	O		O
Ear Tag/Brand Number					O	R						O	O	O	
Bang's Tag Number					O	O					O	O	R		
Date Acquired					O	O					O	O	O		
Cost						O					O				
Purchased/Raised															R
Heat Information							O	O							
Breeding Dates					O	O	O			O			O		
Number of Breedings					O	O	C								O
Average No. of Breedings							C								
Breeding Bull ID					O	O	O						O		
Pregnancy Status	O				O	O	O			O			O		O
Pregnancy Check Date					O	O	O			O			O		
Birth Date	R			R	R	R	R			R	R		R	R	R
Birth Weight					O	O	O			O	O		O		O
Calving Ease Score	O				O	O					O		O		
Dam ID				R	O	O	O			O	O		R		O
Dam Breed					O					O	O		R		
Sire ID				R	O	O	O			O	O		O		O
Sire Breed					O					O	O		O		
Weaning Weight					C	O					O		O		
205-day Weight					C	O					O		O		O
Yearling Weight					C	O					O				
365-day Weight					C	O					O				O
550-day Weight						O					O				
Weaning Weight Ratio					C	C					O				
Yearling Weight Ratio					C	C					O				
Age		R			O	C	C				C		C		
Age First Calf					C						C				
Age Last Calf					C		C				C				
Condition Score					O					O	O	O	O		
Hip Height					O	O						O			
Weight					O	O				O	O	O			O
Weight Date					O	O					O				
Teeth											O				
Color															O

A-Alphanumeric Characters  
 C-Calculated By the Program  
 O-Optional Input

R-Required Input  
 T-Traits



	COWCALF	Herd Performance	Beef Cattle Weaning	Cow Herd Record	CowCalf <sup>2</sup>	Herd-Soft <sup>3</sup>	BEEFUP	PEDIGREE	HFMS Beef Herd	COMBOSS	PC COWCARD	CowBase	Range Cow-Calf Program	BEEFWEAN	Cow Calf Production	
COW:																
Horn																R
Temperament					O	O					O					O
MPPA Score				C	C	C	C		C		O					C
Management Code					O					O		O				
Rating Score				O	C	O							C			
Calves Weaned				C	C	C				C	O					C
Calves Born				C	C	C	C			C						C
Calves Held As Yearlings						C				C						
Calving Interval					C		C			C						
Date of Last Calf				C		C	C									C
Projected Calving Date					C	C	C			C			C			
Days Open							C									
Avg. Birth Wt. of Calves					C		C			C			C			C
Avg. Br. Wt. Ratio of Cavs.										C						
Avg. Adj. Br. Wt. of Calves						C				C			C			
Avg. A. Br. Wt. R. of Cavs.										C						
Avg. Weaning Wt. of Calves					C		C		C	C			C			C
Avg. Wn. Wt. Ratio of Cavs.					C					C						C
Avg. Adj. Wn. Wt. of Calves				C	C	C	C		C	C			C			C
Avg. A. Wn. Wt. R. of Cavs.				C	C		C			C						
Avg. Year. Wt. of Calves					C				C	C						
Avg. Yr. Wt. Ratio of Cavs.					C					C						
Avg. Adj. Yr. Wt. of Calves					C	C			C	C						
Avg. A. Yr. Wt. R. of Cavs.					C					C						
Avg. Daily Gain of Calves						C			C							
Pelvic Measurements					O						O					O
Health/Vaccinations					O	O					O		O			O
Death/Disposal Cause	O				O	O				O		R		O		
Death/Disposal Date					O	O				O						
Sold To/Price					O	O										
Pasture/Location					O	O	O				O		O			
Group					C	O					O					R
User Defined Entries					4	7	Yes			4	2					
Remarks				Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes			Yes	Yes					Yes
Production Record					C	C	C				C					
Progeny Record					C	C	C				C					
Information Listing						Yes	Yes				Yes					
Embryo Transfers						Yes	Yes									
Breeder Information					O	O							O			

A-Alphanumeric Characters  
C-Calculated By the Program  
O-Optional Input

R-Required Input  
T-Traits

SIRE:	COMCALF	Herd Performance	Beef Cattle Weaning	Cow Herd Record	CowCalf*	Herd-Soft*	BEEFUP	PEDIGREE	HFMS Beef Herd	COMBOSS	PC COMCARD	CowBase	Range Cow-Calf Program	BEEFMEAN	Cow Calf Production
ID		R		R6	R	RA14	O3			RA6	R	R	R	O	RA8
Name						O	O			O	O		O		O
Breed		O		R		O				O	O	O	O	O	O
Breed ID				R	O	O				O	O	O			
Tattoo/Inventory Number					O	R					O	O			O
Ear Tag/Brand Number						R									
Birth Date				R	O	R				O				O	R
Birth Weight					O	O				O	O				O
Date Acquired						O					O	O			
Cost						O					O				O
Purchased/Raised															R
Breeder						O					O				
Dam ID				O	O	O					O	O			O
Dam Breed											O				
Sire ID				O	O	O					O	O			O
Sire Breed											O				
Weaning Weight					O	O				O					
205-day Weight					O					O	O				O
Yearling Weight					O	O				O					
365-day Weight					O	O				O	O				O
550-day Weight						O					O				
205-day Ratio					O	C					O				
365-day Ratio					O	C					O				
550-day Ratio											O				
Yearling WDA											O				
Yearling Scrotal Measure											O				
Age						C									
Date In Service					O	O									
Date Out of Service					O	O									O
Pre-breeding Weight					O	O				O					
Post-breeding Weight					O	O				O					
Death/Disposal Cause					O	O				O		R			
Death/Disposal Date					O	O				O					
BSE Score					O					O					
Scrotal Circumference					O	O				O		O			
Serving Capacity										O					
Average Calving Ease					C	C				C					
EPD and Accuracies						7T				C	5T				

A-Alphanumeric Characters  
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 T-Traits

	COMCALF	Herd Performance	Beef Cattle Weaning	Cow Herd Record	CowCalf*	Herd-Soft*	BEEFUP	PEDIGREE	HFMS Beef Herd	COWBOSS	PC COWCARD	CowBase	Range Cow-Calf Program	BEEFWEAN	Cow Calf Production
SIRE:															
Testing Information											0				
Health/Vaccinations					0	0					0				
Percent Pregnancy Rate					C										
Condition Score					0	0							0		
Hip Height					0	0							0		
Color															0
Horn															R
Group															R
MPPA															C
Management Code					0						0				
Calves Sired				C	C	C					C				
Calves Sired Weaned						C	C				C				
Calves Sired Yearlings						C	C				C				
Avg. Birth Wt. of Calves						C					C				C
Avg. Br. Wt. Ratio of Cavs.											C				
Avg. Adj. Br. Wt. of Calves											C				
Avg. A. Br. Wt. R. of Cavs.											C				
Avg. Weaning Wt. of Calves							C				C				C
Avg. Wn. Wt. Ratio of Cavs.					C						C				C
Avg. Adj. Wn. Wt. of Calves				C		C					C				C
Avg. A. Wn. Wt. R. of Cavs.				C							C				C
Avg. Year. Wt. of Calves											C				
Avg. Yr. Wt. Ratio of Cavs.					C						C				
Avg. Adj. Yr. Wt. of Calves						C	C				C				
Avg. A. Yr. Wt. R. of Cavs.											C				
Avg. Wt./Days Age of Calves											C				
Avg. ADG of Calves											C				
Avg. MDA of Calves						C									
Semen Inventory					Yes	Yes	Yes								Yes
Remarks				0		0				0	0				0
Progeny Record						C					C				C
List of Sires						C	C				C				C
Sire Summary					C	C	C				C				C
User Defined Entries					8	7				4					

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CALF:	COMCALF	Herd Performance	Beef Cattle Weaning	Cow Herd Record	CowCalf <sup>2</sup>	Herd-Soft <sup>3</sup>	BEEFUP	PEDIGREE	HFMS Beef Herd	COMBOSS	PC COMCARD	CowBase	Range Cow-Calf Program	BEEFMEAN	Cow Calf Production
ID	R	OA	RA5	R6	R	RA14	R4		R	RA6	R	R	R	R	RA8
Name						O		R32	O					O	
Breed				R		O				O			O	O	
Breed ID					O	O		017	O				O	O	
Tattoo/Inventory Number						R			O					O	O
Ear Tag/Brand Number						R									
Sex	R	R	R	R	R	R	R	R	R	R	O	R	R	R	R
Dam ID			O	R	R	C	O	032	O	R		R	R		RA8
Sire ID			O	R	O	C	O	032	O	O		R	R		RA8
Birth Date	R	R	R	R	R	R	R	R	R	R	R	R	R	R	R
Birth Weight	R	R	O	R	R	O	R		R	O	O	O	R	O	O
Calving Ease Score						O				O	O	O	O		O
Calving Code		O			O	O						O	O		
Calving Period			C												
Dam Age			R			C				C				C	
Management Code	O			R						O		R		O	
Weaning Date		R	R	R	R	R	R		O	O		R	R	R	R
Weaning Weight	R	R	R	R	R	O	R		O	O	R	R	R	R	O
Horn									O		O				O
Color						O					O				O
Remarks	O	O				O	O	O	O	O	O			Yes	
Hip Height						O						O		O	
Frame Score				R		O						O			O
Muscling Score				R										O	
Grade/Carcass						O								O	
Back Probe		O				O									
Body Condition												O	O		
Health/Vaccinations					O	O							O		O
Death/Disposal Cause	O	O				O				O	O			O	
Death/Disposal Date						O				O	O				
Sold To/Price						O									
Pasture/Location						O						O	R		
Adjusted Birth Weight		C								C		C	C		
Reverse Birth Weight Ratio		C													
Age In Days	C	C	C	C	C	C	C			C			C		
Average Daily Gain	C	C	C	C		C	C		C	C					
Weight Per Day of Age						C	C								

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	COMCALF	Herd Performance	Beef Cattle Weaning	Cow Herd Record	CowCalf*	Herd-Soft*	BEEFUP	PEDIGREE	HFMS Beef Herd	COMBOSS	PC COMCARD	CowBase	Range Cow-Calf Program	BEEFWEAN	Cow Calf Production
CALF:															
205-day Weight		C								C		O	O		C
Adjusted 205-day Weight	C	C	C	C	C	C	C		C	C	C	C	C		C
205-day Defaults Changeable		Yes	Yes			Yes				Yes	Yes		Yes	Yes	Yes
Age 160-205 Days															
Adjusted Hip Height															
205-day Ratio	C	C	C	C	C	C	C		C	C		C			C
Index By Sex/Group			Yes	Yes		Yes									Yes
Adjusted 365-day Weight		C			C	C	C		C	C					C
ADG 365-day		C				C				C					
Gain Ratio		C							C						
Yearling Weight		O			O	O	O		O	O	O				O
Yearling Weight Date		O			O	O	O		O	O					O
Test Weight		O													O
Test Weight Date		O													O
Yearling Ratio		C			C	C	C		C	C	O				
Other Ratios						C				C					C
Yearling Data															
Group															R
Date On Creep															O
Index By Herd															Yes
Scrotal/Pelvic Area		O-Scr.				O					O-Pel.				O
Breeding Dates						O				O					
Pregnancy Status						O				O					
Pregnancy Check Date						O				O					
User Defined Entries					3	7	Yes			4					1

A-Alphanumeric Characters  
C-Calculated By the Program  
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R-Required Input  
T-Traits

HERD:	COMCALF	Herd Performance	Beef Cattle Weaning	Cow Herd Record	CowCalf*	Herd-Soft*	BEEFUP	PEDIGREE	HFMS Beef Herd	COMBOSS	PC COMCARD	CowBase	Range Cow-Calf Program	BEEFMEAN	Cow Calf Production
Total Pounds Weaned	C	C				C						C	C	C	
Pounds Weaned Per Cow	C											C			C
Common Weaning Date	R		R			O									
Avg. Inseminations/Cow Bred							C								
Avg Inseminations/Live Calf							C								
Average Birth Weight	C	C	C		C	C	C							C	
Max./Min. Birth Weight	C	C													
Average Adj. Birth Weight		C												C	
Max./Min. Adj. Birth Weight		C													
Avg. Adj. Birth Wt. Ratio		C													
Max./Min. Adj. B. Wt. Ratio		C													
Average Weaning Weight	C	C	C		C		C					C	C	C	
Max./Min. Weaning Weight	C	C					C								
Average Days of Age	C	C	C		C							C			C
Max./Min. Days of Age	C	C													
Average ADG	C	C	C									C			C
Max./Min. ADG	C	C													
Average WDA						C									
Average 205-day Weight	C	C	C		C	C	C							C	C
Max./Min. 205-day Weight	C	C			C										
Average Hip Height						C									
Average Cow Age	C	C	C				C								C
Average Yearling Weight		C			C										
Max./Min. Yearling Weight		C			C										
Avg. Adj. 365-day Weight		C			C	C									
Max./Min.. Adj. 365-day Wt.		C			C										
Average ADG 365-day		C													
Max./Min. ADG 365-day		C													
Max./Min. Yearling Ratio		C			C										
Max./Min. Gain Ratio		C													
Averages By Calf Sex	C	C	C		C	C	C								C
Averages By Cow Age	C				C							C			C
Averages By Calf Sire		C			C	C				C					C
Averages By Management	C														C
Cows In Herd	C	C			C	C	C			C		C	C	C	C
Open Cows	C					C	C						C		C
Bred Cows	C					C	C			C			C		C
Cows Exposed	R									C		C			
Cows Added To Herd	R														
Cattle Purchased						C									
Calves Born		C													

A-Alphanumeric Characters  
C-Calculated By the Program

O-Optional Input  
R-Required Input

T-Traits

HERD:	COMCALF	Herd Performance	Beef Cattle Weaning	Cow Herd Record	CowCalf*	Herd-Soft*	BEEFUP	PEDIGREE	HFMS Beef Herd	COMBOSS	PC COMCARD	CowBase	Range Cow-Calf Program	BEEFWEAN	Cow Calf Production
Number of Nursing Calves							C								
Calves Weaned	C	C	C		C	C				C			C	C	
Calves To Be Weaned						C									
Expected Calvings						C									
Calf Crop Percent	C	C			C					C					
Percent of Cows Pregnant	C				C					C					
Length of Calving Season	C		C		C					C					
Average Calving Interval					C		C			C					
Calving Season Summary	C				C					C	C				
Health/Vaccinations Needed					C	C									
Cow Death/Disposal	C														C
Calf Death/Disposal	C						C				C				C
Yearling List					C	C					C				
Yearling Summary					C	C					C				
Potential Replacements	C														
Potential Cull Cows	C				C										
User Sort Criteria	Yes					Yes	Yes								
Sort By Index	Yes	Yes			Yes	Yes	Yes		Yes	Yes			Yes		
Sort By ID	Yes	Yes			Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes			Yes		Yes
Sort By Other	Yes	Yes			Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes			Yes		Yes
Historical Cow Performance					Yes	Yes	Yes			Yes				Yes	Yes
Pedigree Report					C	C		C	C						
Breeding Worksheet					Yes	Yes					Yes		Yes		
Preg-check Worksheet					Yes	Yes	Yes				Yes				
Herd Composition By Age	C				C										C
Conception Rates By Age	C				C										
List of Open Cows	Yes	Yes				Yes					Yes		Yes		
List of Cows Bred	Yes	Yes				Yes				Yes	Yes		Yes		
Inventory By Calf Sex						Yes	Yes		Yes						Yes
Inventory By Location						Yes									
Inventory By Sire						Yes									Yes
Inventory By Cow Age					Yes										Yes
Printed Input Form	Yes				Yes	Yes					Yes	Yes		Yes	
Screen Entry Form					Yes	Yes	Yes			Yes		Yes			
Cows Carried Forward					Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes		Yes		Yes	

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R-Required Input

T-Traits

REQUIREMENTS:	COMCALF	Herd Performance	Beef Cattle Weaning	Cow Herd Record	CowCalf*	Herd-Soft*	BEEFUP	PEDIGREE	HFMS Beef Herd	COMBOSS	PC COWCARD	CowBase	Range Cow-Calf Program	BEEFWEAN	Cow Calf Production
Computer	I	I	I	I	I	I	I	I	I	I	I	I	I	I	I
Operating System	D2+	D	D2+	D2+	D2+	D2+	D2+&C	D2+&C	D2+	D2.11+	D2+	D2+	D3+	D2+	D2+
Minimum RAM	640	640	640	64	256	256	48	48	128	640	640	384	640	384	640
Disk	F	F	F	F	F2	H	F	F	F2	H	H	F2	H	F2	F
Printer (columns required)	80	80	132	132	80	132	132	132	80	80	80	80	80	80	80
Moniter	All	All	All	All	All	All	All	All	All	All	All	All	All	All	All
Software Type	T-L	T-L,Sc	T-L	B	S	B	S	S	S	S	S	S	S	S	S
Last Updated	1/88	7/88	1989	9/87	12/89	1990	1990	1990	1986	1990	2/89	2/89	8/90	1987	1990
Cost (\$)	50	5	25	5	350	795*	300	300	250	250	150	22.5	395	87	695**
Demo Available	No	No	No	No		Yes-\$20	Yes-\$35	Yes-\$35	No	No	No	No	No	Yes-\$15	No

I-IBM Compatible  
 D-DOS Operating System  
 C-CPM Operating System  
 F-Floppy Disk Drive  
 H-Hard Disk Drive  
 T-Template  
 L-Lotus 123  
 Sc-Supercalc  
 B-Basic  
 S-Stand-alone  
 \*Base program \$295.  
 \*\*Version 2.00 with Report Writer.

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