

TABLE III—APPENDIX D

Cash Costs—Cow-Calf Enterprises—Alberta and Saskatchewan 1975
Canada

\$/cow

	Alberta ¹ Average 138 cows	Saskatchewan ² Average 50 cows, Straw-Grain
Winter Feed Costs	103.88	78.10
Hired Labor	.30	.30
Interest on Operating Capital	8.79	8.25
Other Cash Costs	30.23	25.60
Cost per cow	143.20	112.25
Cost per calf (85% calf crop)	168.40	131.99
Cost per cwt of calf produced (450 lb calf)	37.42	29.33
Average Alberta and Saskatchewan	\$33.37	

In order to support the Canadian average figures from Agriculture Canada, two independent studies were consulted from Alberta and Saskatchewan. Based on 1975 data the Alberta cash costs are very close to the Canadian average while Saskatchewan costs are slightly lower. This data was the best available from both Alberta and Saskatchewan and there is a wide variation in the final cash costs. In discussing these figures with their authors it became clear that Saskatchewan is using much stricter assumptions for costs than Alberta. This exemplifies the problems of comparing costs from region to region. The average of these two major beef producing provinces is \$33.37/cwt of calf produced which is above the Canadian average of \$31.50 for 1975 and well above the American average of \$20.86/cwt of calf produced.

¹Alberta Agriculture, Cow-Calf Production Costs and Returns 1970-1976, Production Economics Branch, Edmonton, Alberta, August, 1976

²Saskatchewan Department of Agriculture, Estimated Beef Calf Production Costs, Marketing and Economics Branch, Regina, Saskatchewan, June, 1977